

COMMUNITY COLLEGE STEP CONSORTIA PROJECT

- ♦ Community College STEP Consortia (Oregon's SNAP 50/50 Employment and Training program) is a statewide project, with PCC leading a consortium of community colleges.
- ♦ SNAP 50/50 is a reimbursement, third-party match grant, administered federally by Food and Nutrition Services and in Oregon by the Department of Human Services. Colleges are reimbursed for 50% of their expenses to expand, enhance, or create new services for SNAP recipients.
- ♦ The goal of the project is to increase equitable opportunity and economic mobility for SNAP students.
- ♦ STEP is designed to increase resources and support available to SNAP recipients, so they can advance in their college and career pathway. Success coaching and student support funding (for tuition, tools, and books) is available to support students as they build their skills, complete their GED, increase English communication fluency, earn college CTE certificates and degrees, and access internships and jobs.
- ♦ Community colleges are part of multiple alliances, those operating at the local level with DHS and other STEP providers, and those with the other community colleges in the state. This positions the project as a meaningful resource and partner in the continuum of services to increase economic mobility and reduce poverty. All 17 community colleges are on track to be part of the Consortia by 2019, to ensure that all low-income Oregonians have access to the resources and support to build their skills, earn college credentials, and connect to family wage careers.

Fiscal year 2017 funding

6 colleges

Budget of \$2.393 million, with reimbursement of \$1.196 million

Targets to serve

484 individuals in

787 unduplicated activities

Fiscal year 2018 funding

9 colleges

Budget of \$3.144 million, with reimbursement of \$1.572 million

Targets to serve

780 individuals in

1,155 unduplicated activities

Fiscal year 2019 funding

14 colleges

Budget of \$5.06 million, with reimbursement of \$2.53 million

Targets to serve

1,131 individuals in

5,402 unduplicated activities



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The **Community College Consortia** uses **Oregon's Community College Career Pathways framework and a skills-based approach** to support SNAP recipients as they access education and training, build skills, earn credentials, and enter into careers that offer economic mobility. The project includes new, enhanced, and expanded services that increase SNAP recipients' opportunities to **enter and advance in a career pathway**. Participants complete an in-depth assessment to identify what services, skills, and resources are needed. Students also complete a College and Career Plan. Services are described below.



Career coaching: individualized success coaching and case management, educational guidance and career advising, college navigation, and wrap-around support for equitable college and career success.



Vocational training: high-quality education resulting in a credential that prepares students for in-demand career opportunities; focus and priority is for students starting on their career pathway and progressing towards a stackable Career Pathways certificate, but is also open to others needing support in a Career and Technical Education or workforce program that leads to an industry-recognized credential, certificate, or degree.



ABE/GED/ESL/remediation: GED, ESL, on-ramps, and skill building courses and services that builds skills needed to enter and progress in college and the workforce.



Job search and job search training: support, workshops, and services designed to help participants find the right career path, prepare for and find jobs that will offer pathways out of poverty and into living wage careers.



Work experience. Work-based learning opportunities and connection with employers; job shadow, internship, co-op education, and externship placement.

Students can be enrolled in multiple components at one time, depending upon their individual plan. Existing resources and workforce development services in each community will be leveraged, with opportunities to align programs and services to best serve the participant.

Outcomes

The CC Consortia is tracking the federally required outcomes: job placements (subsidized and unsubsidized); GED/HS completions; credential completion; demographic information; and component engagement/completion. To better measure the impact and return on investment, each community college in the Consortia is also tracking additional outcomes to quantify student success. The Consortia aligned these metrics with CLASP's Alliance for Quality Career Pathways metrics and WIOA measures, to look at skills attainment, progression, and college completion.

This information can be used to analyze the value of Oregon's Career Pathways Initiative and other investments that support college completion and career advancement for under-skilled and underserved populations.

National Attention

The use of Oregon's Community College Career Pathways framework and model, the consortia structure and alliances between community colleges and local partners, and our development of additional metrics and outcomes has garnered national attention from leading policy groups and FNS. We have also been providing technical assistance to numerous states, community colleges, and national entities.

For more information about the Community College STEP Consortia, contact Kate Kinder, skinder@pcc.edu.

For more information about STEP services at Lane Community College, contact Rosa Lopez, Career Pathways Coordinator, lopezr@lanec.edu