

What's going on with capital construction?

The Community College Capital Construction policy package includes **projects for fourteen community colleges**.

A dollar-for-dollar match is required. Dollar-for-dollar match requirement means that each community college must raise half of the money locally through fundraising or local bonding.

Each community college has submitted a prioritized list of its capital needs. The parameters were that no more than three projects could be submitted by any one college and the list could not include projects that were statutorily prohibited (including dormitories and athletic facilities for spectator sports) and must fit with the current administrative rule.

In collaboration with the community college presidents, CCWD has also applied guiding principles in determining the ranking of projects with the budget. These principles are:

- Structural integrity and safety issues
- Connections and partnerships with the Oregon University System and P-12
- Economic development and high demand occupations

The State Board of Education has adopted rule that sets the following criteria for ranking capital construction projects :

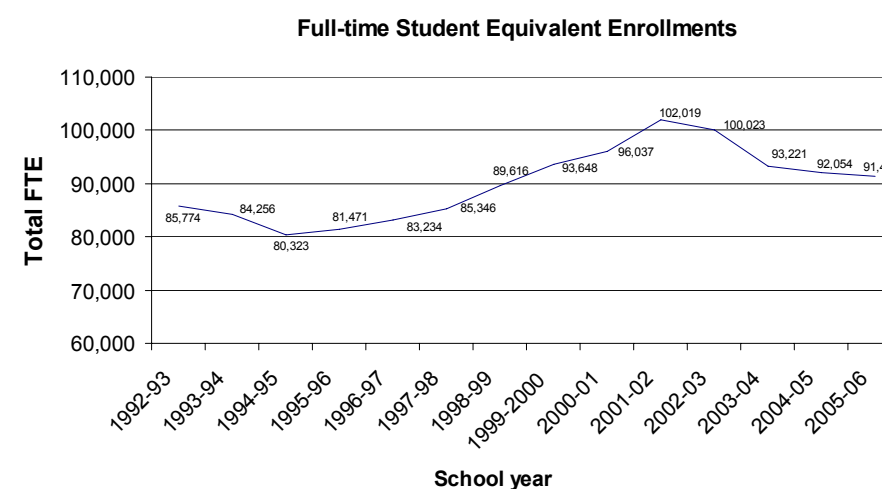
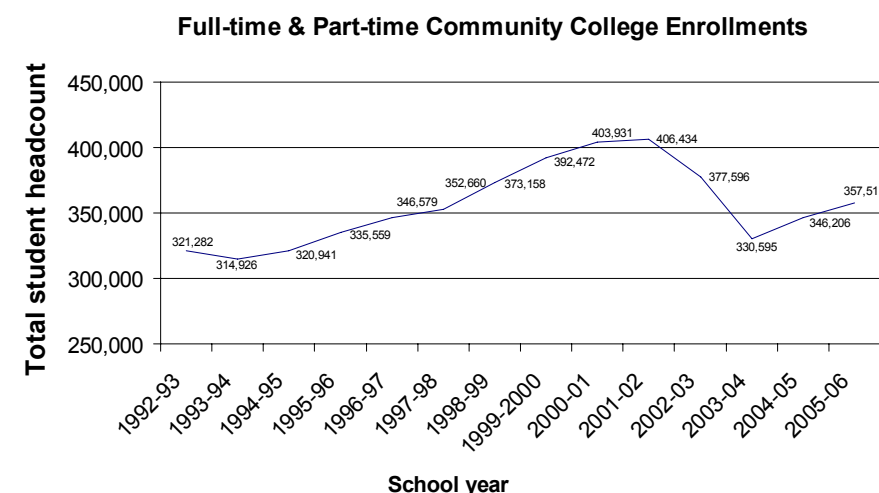
- Clearly serve an instructional purpose
- Clearly meet an important demonstrated service need of the college
- Clearly meet a facilities need that cannot be adequately addressed through alternative, interim, or existing facilities
- Clearly serve to complete a comprehensive community college facility
- Clearly meet an important and articulated objective of the college
- Clearly reflect evidence of local planning and needs assessment

The Legislatively Approved Budget appropriated \$40 million in Article XI-G bonds to provide matching funds for capital construction at eight community colleges, including Central Oregon Community College, Chemeketa Community College, Clackamas Community College, Lane Community College, Linn-Benton Community College, Mt. Hood Community College, Oregon Coast Community College and Portland Community College.

For additional information please contact:
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The following information is presented by the Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development to help local college board members and their constituents understand what has been happening to community college funding and what they may expect during the coming biennium.

What's been happening with enrollments?



- Community college enrollments, both in terms of headcount and full-time equivalent students, have remained relatively flat over the last three years in response to reductions in State appropriations from 2002 to 2004.
- In 2005-06, Oregon community colleges served 357,511 students; a decline of nearly 49,000 since 2001-02.
- Budget cuts that occurred over the second half of the 2001-03 biennium continue to have significant impacts on enrollments. This decrease in enrollment can be attributed to a number of factors, including decreased course availability and tuition increases of 12-25% per year.
- The slowing of enrollment in community colleges is not unexpected. A study completed by Community College Institutional Researchers in 2005 predicted slow growth without new state investment.

Community colleges are the key access point for Oregonian's seeking a post-secondary education. They provide **opportunity** for students to advance their education levels and acquire new skills regardless of their starting point.

Community colleges are the **leading choice** for high school graduates seeking a post-secondary education. The Oregon University System's recently released study, "Where Have Oregon's Graduates Gone?", reports nearly half of all Oregon high school students who enrolled at an in-state post-secondary institution chose a community college.

