

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 legislation and funding, and what they may expect during the coming biennium.

## Oregon Education Reform Landscape

Never has education been more important to the lives and well-being of Oregonians and their communities. Reforming education and improving outcomes for students has been a goal of Oregon for many decades, yet performance now trails most states. In 2011, the Oregon Legislature established the Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB) to address this challenge.

In January 2013, the OEIB released its Strategic Plan which outlined the board’s objectives for the 2013-15 biennium:

1. Complete the design and implement the P-20 structure
2. Design and implement high-impact, cost-effective initiatives that improve achievement of all students
3. Assess, write, and respond to policies needed to accomplish student achievement initiatives and to create the “loose/tight” direction of Oregon Learns
4. Create an outcome-based budget, aligned to initiatives
5. Work to build an informed, motivated and engaged public

Reform Legislation: major elements of reform legislation during the 2012 session:

- Establishment of achievement compacts between the OEIB and all public K-12 districts, education service districts, community colleges, the Oregon University System and each state university. The OEIB has defined the content and process for developing the compacts with completed compacts due to the OEIB annually.
- Clarification of roles and responsibilities between the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) and the OEIB. The HECC serves under the OEIB and may give advice and recommendation to the OEIB on issues such as budgets, achievement compacts, student success, access and others. However, the HECC has no authority to direct colleges to implement any specific recommendations.

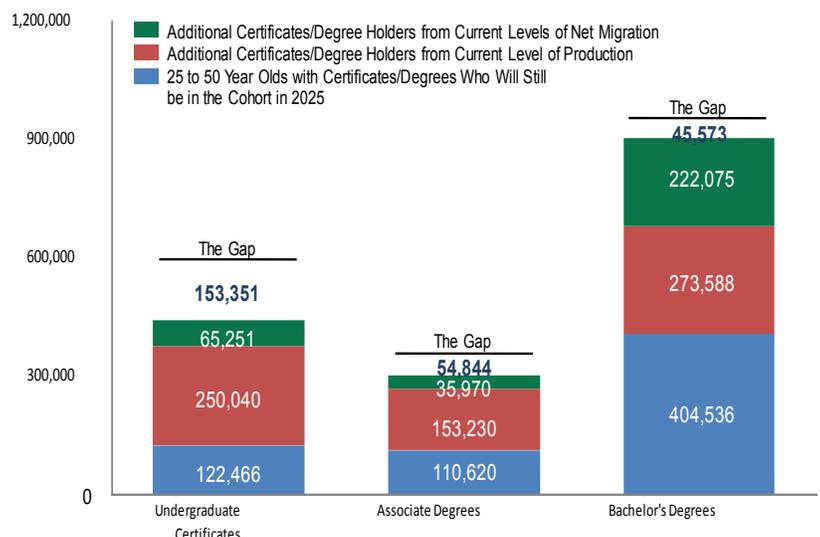
## Educational Attainment

In 2011, the Oregon Legislature adopted the mission of all higher education is to achieve by 2025: 20% of residents with a high school diploma, 40% with a post-secondary credential or associate’s degree, and 40% with a bachelor’s degree or higher.

However,

- Only about half of Oregon high school graduates head to college – ranking our state 47th in the nation.
- Oregon’s current generation of young adults – ages 25-34 – is less educated than their parents’ generation as well as less educated than the national average with only about 46 percent of young Oregonians possessing a postsecondary degree or certificate.

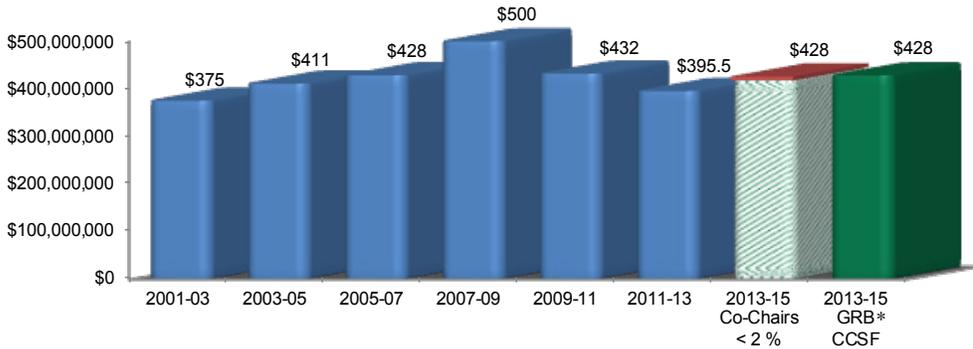
**The GAPS - Additional Certificates and Degrees Needed by 2025 to Meet the 40-40-20 Goal**



Source: Analysis conducted by NCHEMS; using data from the National Center for Education Statistics and the U.S. Census Bureau (2007 American Community Survey)

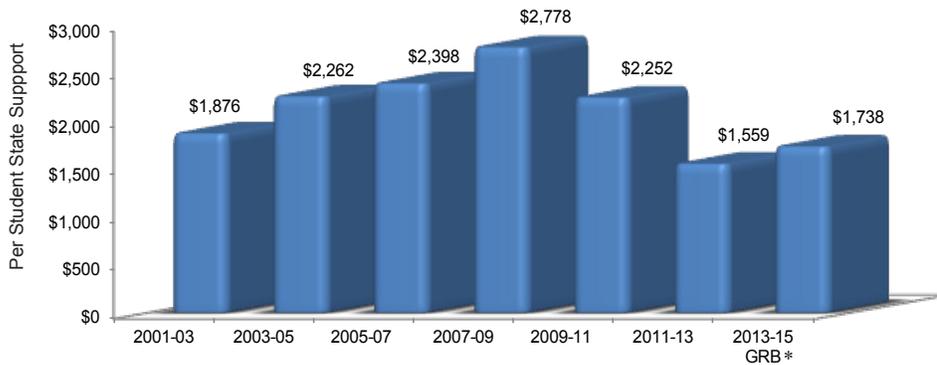
## What's been happening with funding?

**State Appropriations to Community Colleges**  
(in millions)



State appropriations to Oregon's community colleges grew in the mid-2000s however given the recent "great recession", state funding fell over \$100 million from 2007-2012. The CCWD request for community college funding for the 2013-15 biennium is \$440 million and budgeted at \$428 million by both the Governor and the Legislature.

**State Support per Student FTE**

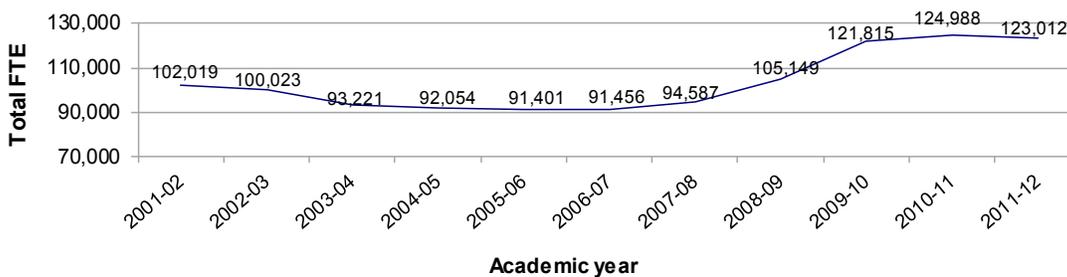


State funding per full-time equivalent student is the lowest it has been in over a decade. This defunding of community colleges has forced a greater share of the cost of education to be placed on the students. Student tuition is now over 40 percent of community college revenue statewide.

\* GRB = Governor's Recommended Budget

## How does this affect enrollments?

**Community College Full-time and Part-time Enrollment (FTE)**



In 2008-09, over 60 percent of Oregon undergraduates attending public institutions were enrolled in community colleges.

*Source: National Center for Educational Statistics*

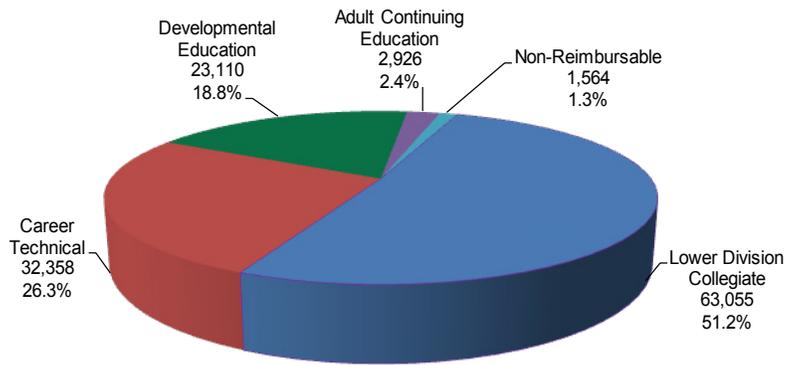
Community colleges are the key access point for Oregonians seeking a post-secondary education. They provide **opportunity** for students to advance their education levels and acquire new skills regardless of their starting point.

## What does this mean for educational attainment in Oregon?

The \$395.5 million allocated to community colleges for the 2011-13 biennium provided essential operating revenue to support current program offerings. Colleges have built and re-tooled over 300 career and technical programs over the past four years. One trend that has been growing for the past decade is enrollment in Lower Division Collegiate programs. As this chart displays, Lower Division Collegiate programs now account for more than 51 percent of community college enrollments, a 10 percent increase since 2001-02.

### Oregon Community Colleges Enrollment by Program Area

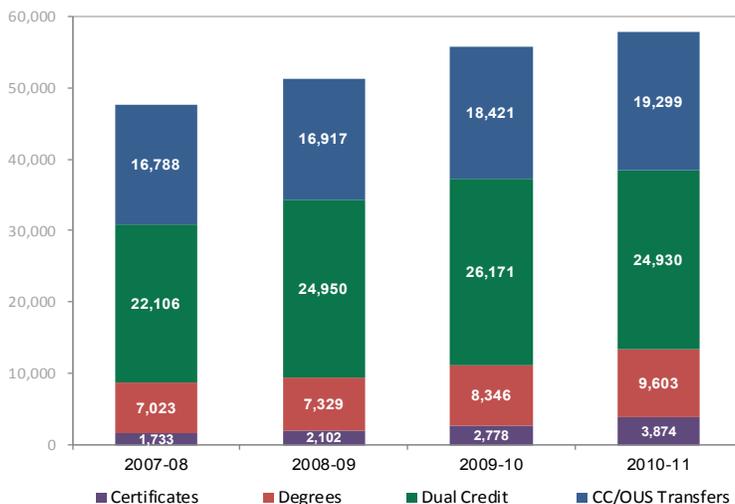
Total: 123,013



(Source: OCCURS)

## Student Success

### Community College Completions



(Source: OCCURS)

The value of student success goes beyond meeting individual educational goals - it ensures the civic benefits of an educated citizenry as well as economic growth and vitality. The focus of Oregon community colleges on the enhancement of student academic progression and completion is the critical piece if Oregon is to achieve the "middle 40" of the 40-40-20 goal. This focus includes an intentional shift from simply an 'access to education' mantra to a focus on education outcomes that provide access to life success.

## What is the impact on community college tuition?

Oregon community colleges currently (2011-12) have the third highest tuition in the 15 western states. Tuition and fees for 2012-13 at Oregon community colleges rose to \$4,381 statewide, an increase of nearly 30 percent in five years. According to the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education (June 2011), 68 percent of community college students report that they chose their college because of costs. Another important factor impacting student enrollment and retention is financial aid. In 2011-12, there were 112,701 community college students eligible for the Oregon Opportunity Grant; only a mere 13.4 percent actually received those grant funds.

### Average Annual In-District Tuition and Fees



Source: Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)

## What's going on with capital construction?

Since 2005, the Oregon Legislature has approved over \$221 million in Article XI-G and Lottery bonds to finance community college capital construction and deferred maintenance projects at all 17 community colleges. Article XI-G bonds must be matched dollar for dollar by local revenues. Lottery bonds, however, do not have a local match requirement. Bonds and local matching funds must be dedicated to community college capital construction, renovation and deferred maintenance.

The Community Colleges' Capital Construction 2013-15 Year Plan identifies the projects and anticipated requests of all 16 community colleges. The lists were developed in response to the capital needs of the colleges.

The agency's requested budget contains \$108,581,600 in Article XI bonds for 16 Capital Construction projects:

- **Klamath Community College:** requested \$7,850,000 (Article XI-G bonds) for construction of a Student Success Center (to include a library, 8 classrooms, faculty offices and TRiO program space), and an addition to the Career Technical Center to focus on auto and diesel mechanics programs and construction management.
- **Linn-Benton Community College:** requested \$8 million (Article XI-G bonds) to construct a new facility close to healthcare providers & education centers to house the Nursing/Allied Health Programs, and repurposes vacated campus space.
- **Southwestern Community College:** requested \$8 million (Article XI-G bonds) to construct Health and Sciences Technology building, a science experiment garden, and community science lab for area schools and home school students.
- **Rogue Community College:** requested \$8,000,000 (Article XI-G bonds) to construct or remodel additional science and health facilities in Jackson/Josephine counties.
- **Chemeketa Community College:** requested \$8 million (Article XI-G bonds) to construct new and remodel Applied Technology facilities for welding, fabrication & machining on main campus, and refurbish IT server room facility.
- **Treasure Valley Coast Community College:** requested \$2,830,250 (Article XI-G bonds) to construct new CTE program facility for welding shop, construction trades shop, natural resources lab, computer lab, two classrooms, six offices and support areas.
- **Umpqua Community College:** requested \$8 million (Article XI-G bonds) to construct steel structure to house automotive, manufacturing, construction and welding technology programs.
- **Blue Mountain Community College:** requested \$3,331,350 (Article XI-G bonds) to construct classroom and office building, indoor/outdoor arenas, hay barn, horse pens and mare motel, tack storage lockers, round pens and pasture area.
- **Clackamas Community College:** requested \$8 million (Article XI-G bonds) to construct two to three story building to house technical training labs, horticulture program, general classroom space and partner space.
- **Lane Community College:** requested \$8 million (Article XI-G bonds) to remodel 94,700 s.f. of basement and three floors and add 8,300 s.f. to first floor of commons.
- **Columbia Gorge Community College:** requested \$7,320,000 (Article XI-G bonds) to acquire property adjacent to Hood River Campus, construct classroom building and parking to house instructional spaces, lecture hall, administrative & storage space, tutoring and common areas.
- **Central Oregon Community College:** requested \$5,260,000 to acquire Cascades Hall from OUS/OSU Cascades. The primary uses of Cascade Hall strategically expand student progress and completion, elements critical to student success.
- **Clatsop Community College:** requested \$7,990,000 (Article XI-G bonds) to construct new Health and Wellness Center housing new allied health programs, physical and community education and health/wellness programs.
- **Tillamook Bay Community College:** requested \$2 million (Article XI-G bonds) to construct new facility to house classrooms, laboratories, office and meeting spaces.
- **Portland Community College:** requested \$8 million (Article XI-G bonds) to purchase and renovate property adjacent to Sylvania Campus, modernize data center, enhance voice/video/data services, expand distance learning capacity, centralize logistics of technology hardware and software delivery.
- **Mt. Hood Community College:** requested \$8 million (Article XI-G bonds) to relocate and consolidate all student service functions, remove asbestos, conduct seismic upgrades, improve accessibility and improve indoor air quality.

*Oregon Statute requires that the state "should maintain a policy of substantial state participation in community college building costs." ORS 341.009 (14)*

*This general policy guideline has resulted in the submission of requests for state general fund investments in community college capital projects for every budget cycle in the last decade except 2001 when all efforts centered on securing funds for student-based funding.*

*The 2005-06 biennium was the first time in 25 years Oregon's community colleges received Article XI-G bonds from the state.*

For additional information please contact Dr. Camille Preus, Commissioner  
Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development  
503-947-2433 or [camille.preus@state.or.us](mailto:camille.preus@state.or.us)