

Docket Item:

House Bill 2681 “Community College Course Placement” Legislative Report

Summary:

The final HB 2681 report is due for submission to the legislature by HECC and the State Board of Education on or before September 15, 2016. This report provides an overview and compilation of the activities undertaken and information gathered by the HB 2681 workgroup and agency staff in support of the prior recommendation for community colleges to move toward using a system of multiple measures for placing students in community college coursework.

The report begins with demographic data on student enrollment in developmental education in Oregon community colleges. A spotlight focus on English Language Learners highlights the share of this demographic group who enrolled in developmental education; the value of multiple measures as a means to better serve English Language Learners is discussed.

In addition to a focus on the use of the statewide summative assessment in placement, other measures discussed in the report include the use of other standardized test scores, high school information, and new measures including the new GED, writing Work Samples, and noncognitive measures. Results of a placement processes and policies survey administered to community colleges are provided.

The report concludes with recommendations regarding data collection and research to evaluate the effectiveness, impact, and costs of community college placement reform efforts.

Staff Recommendation:

Based upon anticipated approval and recommendation for adoption by the Student Success and Institutional Collaboration Subcommittee, staff recommend the Commission adopt the report and approve it for co-submission with the State Board of Education to the Oregon legislative assembly.