

Docket Item:

Performance Measures Dashboard

Summary:

The Office of Research and Data has compiled the attached summary of higher education in Oregon for the Commission's consideration. The purpose of this summary is to provide the Commission with an annual update on the status of higher education in Oregon and of progress toward its improvement. As a dashboard, these measures provide a high-level overview of higher education; they necessarily miss many complexities. The intention here is to provide regular information about how Oregon higher education is improving, rather than a detailed analysis of causes and consequences.

The Commission saw a similar version of this dashboard at its August 2017 meeting. The dashboard has been updated and slightly refined since that time. The measures draw from our revised agency key performance metrics and from the statewide higher education snapshot being released this month (see Docket Item 8.1).

The dashboard is oriented around a major route through higher education, from high school through higher education and into the paid labor force. We use five aggregate-level rates as the indicators of higher education status:

- the college-going rate of recent high school graduates
- the rate of students facing unaffordable net costs
- the retention rate of students after their first year
- the completion rate
- earnings five years after graduation

We calculate each of these rates from Oregon student information records. The college-going rate draws on high school students' records and is provided to us by the Oregon Department of Education. The other rates reflect the experiences of students in Oregon's seven public universities and 17 community colleges. Where data are available, we show each of these measures over time to assess progress. Because equity is an indicator of both the status and progress of higher education, we show the rates for the state as a whole and separately by students' race/ethnicity.

We conclude with an examination of progress made toward the state's educational attainment goal, 40-40-20.

Docket Material

See attached.

Staff Recommendation

Informational item only. We invite Commissioners' discussion and comments on this dashboard and how it might be revised to answer different or additional questions.

HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING COMMISSION

February 8, 2018

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