
Docket Item:

ACTION ITEM: Adopt state adult attainment goal.

Summary:

Following the passage of House Bill 2311, which directed the Higher Education Coordinating Commission and the Workforce and Talent Development Board to establish a statewide educational attainment goal for adult Oregonians, the HECC and WTDB convened the Adult Attainment Workgroup. Additional background on the workgroup is contained in the accompanying docket item.

The Adult Attainment Workgroup, convened by the HECC and the Workforce and Talent Development Board, recommends to the HECC the following statewide adult attainment goal:

Oregon anticipates more than 120,000 additional jobs requiring post-secondary training or education between now and 2030. In order to meet this need, 300,000 additional adult Oregonians should earn a new degree, certificate or credential valued in the workforce during that time. Because Oregon has substantial attainment gaps among minority, low income and rural Oregonians, the state will also commit to reducing those attainment gaps by half during the decade.

While this goal is based on workforce projections developed by the Oregon Employment Department, we recognize that the broader purpose of this goal is to drive improvements in our educational and workforce systems. In order to improve the state and the lives of the people here, we need strategies that help adult Oregonians increase their skills, especially those who have been on the sidelines of the economic recovery. We also recognize that we need a broad and inclusive approach to both how people gain skills, in addition to who gains skills. The future prosperity of Oregon depends on innovative and inclusive approaches to skill and talent development for adults from all backgrounds, skill levels, and regions of the state.

Docket Material:

Attachment: [HB 2311 Implementation Summary and data table]

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends adoption of the statewide adult attainment goal:

Oregon anticipates more than 120,000 additional jobs requiring post-secondary training or education between now and 2030. In order to meet this need, 300,000 additional adult Oregonians should earn a new degree, certificate or credential valued in the workforce during that time. Because Oregon has substantial attainment gaps among minority, low income and rural Oregonians, the state will also commit to reducing those attainment gaps by half during the decade.