
Docket Item:

Review Public University Tuition Approval Criteria and Process

Summary:

In December 2018, the Commission adopted the tuition criteria (appended to this document) to determine whether to approve any proposed public university resident undergraduate tuition increases greater than 5% (ORS 350.075 (3)(h)(B)). This docket item updates the Commission on progress since that meeting.

As required by HB 4141, all seven public universities have established the required tuition review committee (TRC) and all seven processes are currently underway. Six of the seven institutions (all but Southern Oregon University) have websites with information on their institution's TRC process, including lists of participants, minutes, agendas and supplemental items provided to the TRC members. This information represents substantial compliance with several of HB 4141's requirements.

Since the last meeting, HECC staff have attended tuition committee meetings at four of the seven institutions (OIT, OSU, PSU and UO), have plans to attend a meeting at WOU in the next week and are currently working to, at a minimum, listen in on meetings at EOU and SOU in the coming weeks. OIT, OSU, PSU and UO have all made substantial progress towards meeting the goals set out in the criteria for focus area 1 (Fostering an Inclusive and Transparent Tuition-Setting Process). They have increased the number of meetings and open forums they have held or plan to hold over what was previously the case prior to the adoption of HB 4141.

In the coming weeks, HECC staff will continue to monitor tuition processes at all seven institutions and consistently evaluate their compliance with the tuition review criteria. We currently anticipate all seven institutions will wrap up their tuition processes by mid to late May and that any required HECC reviews will take place at the Commission's June meeting.

Docket Material:

Tuition Criteria, as approved by the Commission in December 2018 (attached).

Staff Recommendation:

Informational item only.