

**Docket Item:**

Community College Approval: Portland Community College, Associate of Applied Science in Web Development and Design within 11.1004 Web/Multimedia Management and Webmaster.

**Summary:**

Portland Community College proposes a new Associate of Applied Science in Web Development and Design. Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) staff completed a review of the proposed program. After analysis, HECC staff recommends approval of the degree as proposed.

**Staff Recommendation:**

The HECC recommends the ad option of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Higher Education Coordinating Commission approve the following degree: AAS in Web Development and Design.



**Portland Community College seeks the Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission's approval to offer an instructional program leading to an Associate of Applied Science in Web Development and Design.**

### **Program Summary**

Prepares individuals to develop and maintain web servers and web pages at one or a group of web sites. Includes instruction in computer systems and networks, server installation and maintenance, web page design and development, information resources management, internet applications and systems security, user interfaces and usability, and relevant collaboration and communication skills.

**1. *Describe the need for this program by providing clear evidence.***

Employment in this occupation [web development] in 2017 was somewhat larger than most occupations across the state. The total number of job openings is projected to be somewhat larger than most occupations in Oregon through 2027. This occupation is expected to grow at a somewhat faster rate than the statewide average growth rate for all occupations through 2027. Typical job titles: Junior Developer, Web Developer, Java Developer, PHP Developer, Mobile Applications Developer, .Net Developer, Node JS Developer. The Employment Department projects 360 openings in Oregon annually through 2027.

This program will attract individuals who are already employed in systems administration, software testing and quality assurance, and entry-level software development positions who want to develop additional job skills and credentials; individuals who want to transition into a new career path and want to get involved in a "new collar" job.

This degree replaces the inactivated Web Design and Development AAS degree.

**2. *Does the community college utilize systemic methods for meaningful and ongoing involvement of the appropriate constituencies?***

The advisory board will meet quarterly. Initial members include the CIS department's current advisory board, which represents a number of IT industries in the area, and some additional members recruited from the now-defunct Computer Applications and Web Technologies advisory board.

**3. *Is the community college program aligned with appropriate education, workforce development, and economic development programs?***

We have talked to 55 companies in the area, and 29 of them said they would consider hiring a graduate with an AAS degree. The actual number of open job listings is in a state of flux right now, due to the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, but several companies reported that they were hiring

both contractors and full-time employees in the space. We have talked to companies in the area, and they tell us that there are jobs available for candidates with an associate's degree. Some of these companies prefer candidates with additional experience, but there are also positions available for entry-level candidates. In addition, the US Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that typical entry-level education for web development positions is an associate's degree.

**4. *Does the community college program lead to student achievement of academic and technical knowledge, skills, and related proficiencies?***

At its core a degree in computer programming, the proposed AAS in Web Development further prepares graduates for employment in adjacent sectors of software development. The degree emphasis is programming web-interfaced technologies. But the programming languages learned--JavaScript, Java, Python and C#--and the associated competencies are relevant across sectors.

**5. *Does the community college identify and have the resources to develop, implement, and sustain the program?***

Portland Community College has determined that it has the resources needed to create and maintain the program. Measures have been put in place to make sure the program remains relevant to industry over time.

***Assurances***

Portland Community College has met or will meet the four institutional assurances required for program application.

1. *Access.* The college and program will affirmatively provide access, accommodations, flexibility, and additional/supplemental services for special populations and protected classes of students.
2. *Continuous Improvement.* The college has assessment, evaluation, feedback, and continuous improvement processes or systems in place. For the proposed program, there will be opportunities for input from and concerning the instructor(s), students, employers, and other partners/stakeholders. Program need and labor market information will be periodically re-evaluated and changes will be requested as needed.
3. *Adverse impact and detrimental duplication.* The college will follow all current laws, rules, and procedures and has made good faith efforts to avoid or resolve adverse *intersegmental* and *intra-segmental* impact and detrimental duplication problems with other relevant programs or institutions.
4. *Program records maintenance and congruence.* The college acknowledges that the records concerning the program title, curriculum, CIP code, credit hours, etc. maintained by the Office are the official records and it is the college's responsibility to keep their records aligned with those of the Office. The college will not make changes to the program without informing and/or receiving approval from the Office.