

Overarching Roles and Responsibilities of the HECC¹

Area of Responsibility	Specific Action	Citations
Providing one strategic vision for Oregon higher education planning, funding, and policy	Developing state goals for the postsecondary system, including community colleges, public universities, and student access programs	ORS 350.075
	Adopting a strategic plan for achieving the state's postsecondary goals	ORS 350.075
	Developing a comprehensive, biennial higher education budget request linked to the strategic plan	ORS 341.626, 350.075, 350.090, 350.095, 352.089
	Advising the Governor, Legislative Assembly, institutions, and other governmental entities on higher education policy issues.	ORS 350.075
Establishing methodologies for distributing public funding to community colleges, public universities, students, workforce boards, and other partners	Adopting formulas for the distribution of state funding to community colleges and, separately, public universities.	ORS 350.075
	Developing, awarding, and monitoring grants and contracts for the distribution of state and federal funding to higher education and workforce partners.	ORS 350.075
	Adopting methodologies for the distribution of state financial aid to Oregon students	ORS 348
Coordinating postsecondary degrees, programs, and academic pathways	Approving mission statements for public universities	ORS 350.085, 352.089
	Approving new certificate and degree programs at public universities and community colleges	ORS 341.465, ORS 350.075
	Approving statewide transfer pathways, a common course numbering system, and policies and procedures related to the movement of students between community colleges and public universities	ORS 350 and TBD when 2021 public laws are codified
	Authorizing degrees for some private and out-of-state schools	ORS 348.594 to 348.615
	Managing licensure and teacher registration for private career schools	ORS 345.010 to 345.450, 341.440, 342.197, 348.070, 687.011
	Developing dual credit standards and credit for prior learning standards	ORS 340.310, 341.430, and 350.110
	Approving resident tuition increases greater than 5% for public universities	ORS 352.102

¹The Higher Education Coordinating Commission may exercise only powers, duties and functions expressly granted by the Legislative Assembly, and powers that are implied by these express authorities, provided they do not infringe on statutorily granted express or implied authorities of public post-secondary institutions. (ORS 350.075).

Administering key Oregon financial aid, workforce, and other programs	In conjunction with the Oregon Workforce Investment Board and the Oregon Employment Department, managing state implementation of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)	ORS 660
	Operating a youth employment program, youth-oriented conservation corps programs, and federal service programs through the HECC's Office of Workforce Investments	ORS 418.653 to 418.658, 458.555 to 458.575 and 660
	Administering the Oregon Opportunity Grant, the Oregon Promise, ASPIRE, and other student success programs through the Office of Student Access and Completion	ORS 348, ORS 341.522
Evaluating and reporting the success of higher education efforts	Conducting data collection, analysis, research, and reporting across all sectors of higher education	ORS 350.075
	Conducting biennial evaluations of public universities	ORS 352.061
Overseeing the HECC agency	Appointing, evaluating, and overseeing an Executive Director	ORS 350.065