

Docket Item:

University Program Approval for a New Location: Oregon State University, Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)/Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Economics.

Summary:

Oregon State University proposes a new location in Bend, Oregon at the OSU-Cascades Campus to offer its existing program leading to B.A./B.S. in Economics. Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) staff completed a review of the proposed program. After analysis, HECC staff recommends approval of the program as proposed.

Staff Recommendation:

The HECC recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Higher Education Coordinating Commission approve the following program:

Oregon State University B.A./B.S. in Economics may be offered at the OSU-Cascades Campus in Bend, Oregon



Proposal for Delivery of an Existing Program to a New Location

1. Program Description

a. Program title, level, and delivery sites.

BA and BS in Economics is currently delivered at only the OSU Corvallis campus. This proposal seeks to extend the program to OSU Cascades.

b. Department and school/college that would offer the program. Include the name of the institution program coordinator.

The program is offered by the School of Public Policy in the College of Liberal Arts at Oregon State University – Corvallis and Cascades campuses. The program coordinator for both locations currently is Dr. Todd Pugatch.

c. Briefly describe the academic program. List all course titles, including number of credits.

The Economics undergraduate degree has options in general economics, managerial economics, law, economics and policy, and mathematical economics. The BA/BS degree in Economics will prepare students for careers in public sector roles, financial analysis, investment analysis, graduate studies, and a variety of other paths upon which students will be prepared to embark utilizing the breadth and depth of knowledge gained in the BA/BS in Economics.

Economic Core Curriculum - 28 credits

ECON 201, Introduction to Microeconomics

ECON 202, Introduction to Macroeconomics

ECON 311, Intermediate Microeconomic Theory or ECON 411, Advance Microeconomic Theory

ECON 315, Intermediate Microeconomic Theory or ECON 415 Advanced Microeconomic Theory

ECON 423, Pre-Econometrics or ST 351, Introduction to Statistical Methods

ECON 427, Introduction to Econometrics with Calculus or ECON 424, Introduction to Econometrics

ECON 428, Introduction to Economic Research or ECON 439, Public Policy Analysis

Required Option – 23 credits

Select at least one option for a minimum of 23 credits

Baccalaureate Core and General Electives – 129 credits

Total Credits: 180

- d. Indicate in what ways the proposed program at the new location(s) will differ from the on-campus program.**

The proposed program at OSU-Cascades will not differ from the program at OSU-Corvallis.

- e. List any special requirements or prerequisites for admission to the program at the new location(s).**

None

- f. Is there an accrediting agency or professional society that has established standards for this program? If so, is the program currently accredited? If accredited, what steps would be needed to accredit the program at the proposed new location(s)?**

N/A

- g. Provide evidence of consultation with other public universities regarding non-duplication of similar programs offered in the same region, or ones that will cause undue hardship to another public university.**

An Early Alert notification was on the April 2021 agenda for the Statewide Provost's Council. As a result of that process, we are not aware of any undue hardship to another public university.

2. Demand

- a. List any similar programs offered at the proposed or nearby location(s).**

All public institutions in Oregon with a comprehensive liberal arts program offer a degree in Economics: University of Oregon, Eastern Oregon University, Southern Oregon University, Western Oregon University, and Portland State University. The synergy created by the Economics degree programs in the state of Oregon will provide accessible educational opportunities for all regions of the state. The Economics programs at these institutions are complimentary as regional schools as well as state institutions contribute to health of their regional economies and communities.

- b. Provide evidence of need for the program at the new location(s).**

The central Oregon region has one of the fastest population growth rates in the country. The extension of the BA/BS in Economics to OSU-Cascades will meet the increasing educational demands of the region. Freshman who attend public universities typically do so within 50 miles of home. The creation of the BA/BS in Economics degree at Cascades will expand accessibility to higher education and serve a greater number of first-generation students, under-served students, and adults seeking career advancement. These students are most often place-bound and seek higher education closer to their current residence and employment.

- c. Estimate enrollment and number of graduates over the next five years. Will any enrollment limitation be imposed? If so, how will those to be enrolled be selected?**

Anticipated Enrollment

Anticipated Graduation

1 st Year	2 nd Year	3 rd Year	3 rd Year	4 th Year	5 th Year
10	15	20	25	42	51
1 st Year	2 nd Year	3 rd Year	3 rd Year	4 th Year	5 th Year
15	24	33	33	42	51

The estimate of enrollment was completed using data from trends in completions from Hanover Research. The estimate of the first five years of enrollment was also based on historical growth trends for new programs at OSU-Cascades.

3. Personnel

a. List qualifications of faculty (regular and/or adjunct) who will be involved in delivering the program to the proposed location(s).

Current faculty at OSU Cascades are vetted for their credentials by the OSU Corvallis faculty. Faculty are required to hold a minimum of a master's degree with a PhD preferred.

A part-time instructor will be hired to teach three courses in the major and act as initial program coordinator. In 2023, a search will be conducted for a full-time 9-month instructor to take on the role of Cascades program coordinator for Economics and will teach 5-6 course in the program.

The full complement of courses needed to complete the Economics major can be fulfilled with a full time and limited number of part-time faculty. The program coordinator will assist the Dean of Academic Affairs in rolling out courses and hiring additional faculty.

b. Estimate the number and type of support staff needed to provide the program at the new location(s).

0.5 FTE academic advisor
No other support staff needed

4. Other Resources

a. Describe facilities (e.g., buildings, labs, equipment) necessary to offer the program at the new location(s).

Library, space, and facilities have been deemed to be adequate by the appropriate OSU library staff and OSU Space Management.

b. Indicate how library needs will be met.

The OSU-Cascades library is staffed by a library technician under the guidance of the OSU-Cascades Assistant Dean and OSU-Cascades Library Program Lead. The OSU-Cascades library is an extension of the OSU-Corvallis Valley

Library and operates in close collaboration. Library services at OSU-Cascades are specifically tailored to the needs to the OSU-Cascades campus faculty and students. Students have access to all the physical collections and digital resources curated by the Valley and Guin Libraries, as well as the Summit, Interlibrary loan programs managed by the OSU-Corvallis Valley Library. The Economics program is well-established at OSU-Corvallis and the resources available to OSU-Cascades students are adequate to support the program at that location.

- c. Indicate how students at the new location(s) will receive student services (e.g., academic advising, financial aid assistance, course registration, access to book/text purchases).**

Students in the Economics major at OSU-Cascades have access to existing services such as: academic advising, financial aid, course registration, textbook purchases, career development, veteran's support services, experiential learning access, tutoring and student support services, disability services, and mental and health counseling. Where appropriate, OSU-Cascades students have access to the on-line services provided by the OSU Corvallis campus such as the Writing Center and technology support services.

5. Alternative Delivery Methods/Formats

- a. Are alternative delivery methods being used (e.g., distance learning or technology-enhanced)? Please describe.**

N/A

- b. Will this program be delivered in an alternative format (e.g., weekend, evening, on-site)? Please describe.**

This program will not be delivered in an alternative format.

6. 40-Mile Radius Rule

“Significant change” to a university’s academic program includes, but is not limited to, any new undergraduate or graduate degree program, or any existing undergraduate or graduate degree program that will be offered more than 40 miles from the site at which it is currently offered. “Significant change” to a university’s academic program does not mean a new undergraduate or graduate certificate program, new minor, or a new name for an existing degree program.

Source: Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 715-013-0020(1)

Revised May 2016