
Docket Item:

Public University Evaluations and Financial Health Assessment (EOU, Oregon Tech, SOU, WOU) (in accordance with ORS 352.061)

Summary:

The Higher Education Coordinating Commission is required to submit to the Legislative Assembly an evaluation of public universities listed in ORS 352.002. Each public university must be evaluated in the manner required by this section once every two years. The purpose of this evaluation is to assess the contributions of each institution to State objectives for higher education as articulated in statute and in the HECC's Strategic Plan and Roadmap for Oregon Postsecondary Education and Training.

The evaluations rely on a combination of accreditation reports, self-assessments conducted by the universities on criteria jointly developed with the HECC, and state and federal data. The evaluations signal areas of key interest to the HECC that support the objectives of the State of Oregon: student success as measured by degree completion; access and affordability as measured by equity across socioeconomic, racial/ethnic, and regional (urban/rural) groups; academic quality and research; financial sustainability; and continued collaboration across universities in support of the State's mission for higher education. Additionally, the financial metrics section was expanded in order to provide an enhanced contextual understanding of an institution's financial condition. The revised analysis now includes additional data along with financial ratios. Lastly, this report describes how the institutions boards of trustees' have operated since their formation.

For the 2021 university evaluation period, the HECC evaluated Oregon's Technical and Regional Universities (TRUs):

- Eastern Oregon University (EOU)
- Oregon Institute of Technology (Oregon Tech)
- Southern Oregon University (SOU)
- Western Oregon University (WOU)

Docket Material:

Attachments:

- Financial Condition Analysis background presentation (Powerpoint)
- Two-page summaries and full evaluation reports:
 - Eastern Oregon University (EOU)
 - Oregon Institute of Technology (Oregon Tech)
 - Southern Oregon University (SOU)
 - Western Oregon University (WOU)

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of the reports, with HECC staff authorized to finalize, edit for fact, and submit to the Legislature prior to February 28, 2022.