

Summary of University of Oregon Tuition and Mandatory Enrollment Fees Increase in Excess of 5%:

The following is a summary of the University of Oregon's (UO) efforts associated with its tuition increase related to topics the commission wishes to focus on: Affordability, Student Involvement and Cost Controls/Cuts. The UO is proposing an overall increase in resident undergraduate tuition and fees of 10.9%. As prescribed by Oregon law, HECC excludes certain fees from its calculation of the same increase, resulting in a rate of 11.5%, in excess of the 5% review threshold.

Affordability:

The University of Oregon will undertake the following efforts to ensure continued student affordability:

- 10% of the revenue generated from the tuition increase will go to fee remissions¹. Total fee remissions are estimated to be over \$42 million (some graduate remissions are included but graduate employee tuition and fee remissions are excluded) in the upcoming academic year².
- For the new technology fee (\$50 per term), 10% of the total revenue collected during the academic year will be set aside to help students pay this fee (estimated at \$300K).
- The Pathway Oregon program⁴, which currently provides full tuition and fees for 2,000 resident Pell-eligible undergraduates, is a key component of UO's affordability strategy. 36% of all resident first-year undergraduate students are in the Pathway program. Students in this program receive both financial and academic support and graduate at a rate that is 13 percentage points higher than other Pell-eligible undergraduates. The program will continue to support new Pell-eligible resident students who enter the UO with a minimum 3.4 high school GPA. These students will not incur any of the tuition cost increases.

Student Involvement, Input and Impact:

The University of Oregon relies on a Tuition and Fees Advisory Board (TFAB)⁵ to help recommend all tuition and fee increases (other than incidental fees, which are approved by the student government). The TFAB consisted of five students (including student government leaders) and representatives from faculty and staff. The TFAB held seven public meetings from November to February. Two student forums were also held, one of which was early in the process and provided information about cost drivers and budget pressures and facilitated student discussion and feedback. The second forum was hosted by the Associated Students of the University of Oregon (ASUO) after the tuition recommendations was released. TFAB members participated in both of these forums and members of the Board of Trustees were present for the final student tuition forum. In addition, the UO launched a new tuition website this year (<http://uoregon.edu/tuition>) which helped to inform students about specific cost drivers and associated affordability efforts, as well as the TFAB meeting schedule, materials, and analyses.

Student involvement informed the tuition recommendation as follows:

- Student comments contributed to the TFAB decision to recommend additional fee remissions associated with the new Technology Fee.
- Student comments led to the UO's decision to propose a tiered tuition increase that would decrease should PUSF exceed the GRB by set thresholds.

¹ <https://trustees.uoregon.edu/sites/trustees2.uoregon.edu/files/full_bot_notice_agenda_materials_030217.pdf> Page 26

² Ibid page 41.

³ Ibid page 35.

⁴ <<https://uoregon.edu/tuition>>

⁵ <http://ir.uoregon.edu/tuition_fee_board>

⁶ <https://trustees.uoregon.edu/sites/trustees2.uoregon.edu/files/full_bot_notice_agenda_materials_030217.pdf> page 26

⁷ <<https://uoregon.edu/tuition>>

- Student involvement in TFAB provided for an opportunity for student voices to be heard throughout the process.

Institutional Cuts and Cost Controls:

As part of the process in determining the UO’s budget for the upcoming fiscal year, UO is proposing \$8.8 million in cuts to its operating budget⁶. The specific cuts that may be made are yet to be determined but may include staff layoffs, reductions in support to campus services (including student services and programs), cuts to the graduation incentive grant program, reductions in deferred maintenance budgets, as well as reductions in outward and community facing programs. Since 80% of the UO’s budget is related to personnel expenses, any cuts will almost necessarily involve layoffs. Last year, UO cut 2% of its administrative budget and redirected those funds to academic priorities⁷.

Tuition increases Based on PUSF Levels:

The University of Oregon elected to base its tuition increase on the final PUSF level as follows⁸:

PUSF Funding Level	Recommended Resident Tuition Increase Per SCH	Recommended Tuition Increase Rate
GRB	\$21/SCH	10.6%
GRB + \$20 Million	\$19/SCH	9.6%
GRB + \$40 Million	\$17/SCH	8.6%
GRB + \$60 Million	\$14/SCH	7.1%
GRB + \$80 Million	\$12/SCH	6.1%
GRB + \$100 Million	\$10/SCH	5.1%

⁸ <https://trustees.uoregon.edu/sites/trustees2.uoregon.edu/files/full_bot_notice_agenda_materials_030217.pdf> Page 33