

DRAFT Summary Points
Oregon State University Institutional Evaluation
December, 2016

ORS 352.061 requires the HECC to conduct annual evaluations of public universities in Oregon according to specific statutory criteria. Overall, the HECC's approach is to assess the university's contributions to statewide goals for higher education. We do not purport to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the university against its own mission. A summary of key findings follows:

1. **Accreditation:** OSU is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), and is fully on track with the 7-year NWCCU cycle for accreditation. During its last review (Year 3 Evaluation) in 2014.
2. **Economic impact:** A 2015 ECONorthwest report estimates the economic impact of OSU in 2014 was \$2.37 billion to the global economy and \$2.32 billion to the state's economy.
3. **Student access and student success:** After a decade of significant enrollment increases driven especially by growth in its non-resident student population, Fall 2016 saw continued enrollment growth from the previous fall across the board: for non-residents (5.7%), residents (1.1%), and overall (2.9%). The number of underrepresented minority students enrolled at OSU continues to increase, and is up almost 60% since 2010. OSU also maintains an increasing trajectory in the number of degrees awarded. While graduation rates for Pell Grant recipients and underrepresented minority students lag the institutional average by 2-13 percentage points, OSU is making year-over-year increases in the number of degrees awarded to underrepresented minority students.
4. **Affordability:** For 2016-17, OSU's resident undergraduate tuition increased by 2.56%, and the estimated total cost of attendance increased by 3.71% to \$25,434. For OSU students who leave the university with debt, the average debt load is \$23,000.
5. **Academic Quality and Research:** In addition to maintaining in good standing with its regional accreditor, OSU is the state's only institution to hold both the Carnegie Foundation's top designation for research institutions and its prestigious Community Engagement classification. For FY 2013, OSU reported total research expenditures of \$263 million.
6. **Collaboration:** OSU contributes to a host of collaborative activities with other post-secondary institutions. Significant efforts include the Oregon Forest Science Complex with UO, the Oregon Medical Physics Program with OHSU and the Agriculture and Natural Resource Program at EOU. About 35.8% of OSU's undergraduates are transfer students, many of them from an Oregon community college.
7. **Shared administrative services:** OSU participates in several of the services offered by the University Shared Services Enterprise (USSE), and has opted out of one: capital asset accounting.

8. **Financial metrics:**

Oregon State University Ratios				
Ratio	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	Benchmark
Viability Ratio	107.70%	90.50%	76.20%	>125%
Primary Reserve Ratio	43.30%	42.00%	26.80%	>40%
Net Operating Revenues Ratio	-3.00%	2.30%	-9.10%	>4%
Return on Net Assets Ratio	6.00%	10.10%	-1.00%	>6%
Debt Burden Ratio	3.00%	3.20%	3.10%	<5%

Displayed benchmarks for public universities from NACUBO publications.

9. **Board of Trustees:** In 2016, the OSU Board of Trustees appears to have met its legal responsibilities for providing public notice, accessibility, and records. In 2016, the Board exercised many of the powers reserved for it under law, including presidential oversight, budget adoption, tuition adoption, debt issuance, and program approval (for HECC consideration).