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### C. REFERENCES: ORS and OAR

This section provides the Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) and Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) that undergird HECC's program proposal requirements. These requirements are met through a thorough and substantive submission of information as outlined. (A full list of amended Oregon Administrative Rules required to implement the new baccalaureate degrees is found in **Appendix F.**)

**Per OAR 589-006-0100 (7)-(9):** A request for approval to offer an applied baccalaureate program shall be made according to the policies, process, timeline, and criteria outlined in this Applied Baccalaureate Policy Guide, which is intended to be established as a separate section associated with the Oregon Community College Policy and Planning Guide.

**Per OAR 589-006-0100 (9),** the Commission must determine that the proposed AB program meets or exceeds the Commission's approval standards and criteria, including:

1. Requires no more than 180 total credits for degree completion.
2. Has a program design that accommodates first time students as well as returning students who may already possess a relevant AAS or have made significant progress toward a relevant AAS or AS degree.
3. Demonstrates an occupational focus and is designed to help fill a specific need within a targeted professional or technical field, with industry professionals that assist in the program's design.
4. Has a recognizable core of general education, or related instruction (with identified outcomes in the areas of communication, computation, and human relations) that align with and support program goals or intended outcomes. Related instruction components may be embedded within program curricula or taught in blocks of specialized instruction, but either approach must have clearly identified content and means to assess learning required for the baccalaureate level of study.
5. Meets or exceeds the community college's board of education approval standards for programs, and meets or exceeds the Commission's program approval standards.

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**Per ORS 352.002:** The Higher Education Coordinating Commission's has a statutory obligation to approve or disapprove any significant change to the academic program of a community college. This obligation requires HECC to determine that the criteria listed under **ORS 350.075 (3)(g)**, are satisfied. These criteria ensure that programs:

1. Are consistent with the mission statement of the community college or public university;
2. Do not unnecessarily duplicate academic programs offered by Oregon's other community colleges or public universities;
3. Are not located in a geographic area that will cause undue hardship to Oregon's other community colleges or public universities; and,
4. Are allocated among Oregon's community colleges and public universities to maximize the achievement of statewide needs and requirements.

**ORS 341.013** authorized the HECC to adopt Oregon Administrative Rules to implement the requirements for community colleges to submit to HECC for its review of each new applied baccalaureate degree. This statute specifically notes this information must be provided as part of each new applied baccalaureate proposal:

1. A description of the program to be offered;
2. The method by which the program will be created, including any necessary accreditation by the relevant accrediting agency;
3. Documentation of local unmet workforce needs that would be addressed by offering the program; and
4. Documentation that the community college has the expertise, resources and student interest necessary to make the program successful.
5. The commission determines that the criteria set forth in ORS 350.075(3)(g) are satisfied.

**Although not listed here, AB program proposals are also expected to meet the Approval Standards for CTE programs (Need, Collaboration, Alignment, Design, and Capacity) found in the Oregon Community College Handbook & [Planning Guide](#).**<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> URL: <http://handbook.ccwdwebforms.net/handbook/program-approval/state-board-of-education-approval-standards>

## APPENDIX F: OAR Amendments to Enable New AB Degree Level

HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING COMMISSION  
 Approved May 14, 2020

OAR Division Description	OAR	Revision Description
General Provisions	589-001-0300	Defines exception for more than two-year full-time attendance to enable AB degree program in community colleges.
Comm College Funding	589-002-0110	Specifically excludes FTE for upper division courses in AB program from CCSF reimbursable FTE.
Comm College Funding	589-002-0120	Specifically excludes upper division courses included in AB programs from CCSF reimbursement.
Comm College Course Approval	589-006-0050	Updates and adds definitions related to AB programs and degree name. Adds description of two new Associate Transfer degrees.
Comm College Course Approval	589-006-0100	Updates approval requirements to include details for applied baccalaureate programs.
Comm College Course Approval	589-006-0150	Updates Community College responsibilities to include baccalaureate degree level + other updates.
Comm College Course Approval	589-006-0200	Update to include Office's authority to approve upper and lower division courses (as req'd by AB).
Comm College Course Approval	589-006-0300	Update to include AB program in approval of Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses & programs.
Comm College Course Approval	589-006-0350	Includes AB programs in criteria by which community colleges maintain program approval.
Comm College Personnel Policies	589-008-0100	Adds details relevant to faculty teaching upper-division courses to guidelines for CC personnel policies.