

Second Special Session 2020 Outcomes for Postsecondary Education and Workforce Budget

August 11, 2020

The Oregon Legislature's Special Session adjourned August 11, 2020, and the state postsecondary education and training funding in the HECC budget was reduced by over \$9.2 million (excluding bond sale changes to capital construction projects). Notably, the major operating funds for the community colleges and universities (Public University Support Fund and Community College Support Fund) were *not* reduced. The largest impacts were felt in the following areas:

- **Financial Aid Programs Administered by HECC-OSAC**
 - Oregon Promise was reduced by \$3.6 million. This required eliminating eligibility for the Oregon Promise for new applicants with expected family contributions of \$22,000 or greater, and revoking approximately 1,000 awards that were previously announced.
 - Oregon National Guard Tuition was reduced by \$2.5 million. This reduction can be absorbed by the program, and will not adversely affect awardees.
 - A portion of Oregon Opportunity Grant expenses (\$10 million) were shifted onto Other Fund tax credit revenues to save General Fund dollars. Students will not be impacted by this change this biennium, but it may increase the variability of OOG and could affect future awarding strategies.
- **Public University Programs:**
 - Outdoor School Program was reduced by \$2.27 million.
 - Public University State Programs were reduced by \$824,000.
 - OSU Agricultural Experiment Station was reduced by \$1.9 million.
 - OSU Extension Services was reduced by \$1.4 million.
 - OSU Forest Research was reduced by \$285,000.
 - OHSU's Rural Health and Child Integrated Dataset Programs were reduced by \$330,000.
- **HECC Agency Operations:**
 - Five vacant positions in the HECC agency were eliminated for a total of \$578,366.
 - \$142,659 funds were shifted from General Fund to Federal Funds.
 - Services and Supply budget was reduced by \$584,648.

The Legislature also authorized the following bond sales to support capital projects at public universities:

- OIT: Boivin Hall Rehabilitation (\$1.015 M XI-G; \$18.27 M XI-Q)
- OSU: Arts and Education Complex (\$35.0 M XI-G)
- PSU: Science Building 1 (\$7.5 M XI-G; \$52.5M XI-Q)
- UO: Heustis Hall Renovation (\$6.36 M XI-G; \$50.88 M XI-Q)
- UO: Shake Alert (\$7.5 M XI-Q).

Bonding authority was removed for Blue Mountain, Mt. Hood, and Umpqua Community Colleges due to lack of constitutionally required matching funds.