Docket Item: 5.4 - **ACTION ITEM:** Portland State University: Artificial Intelligence, Bachelor of Science (B.S.)

Summary

Portland State University (PSU) requests Commission approval to offer a new program leading to a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Artificial Intelligence. The proposal has been endorsed by all required university committees, received unanimous support from the Statewide Provosts Council, and was approved by the Portland State University Board of Trustees.

At the April 9, 2026 Commission meeting, this item was removed from the consent agenda to allow for additional follow-up regarding how the proposed program addresses data bias and related ethical considerations in artificial intelligence. PSU submitted additional information describing how these topics are addressed throughout the curriculum, and that response is attached as supplemental material. HECC staff reviewed the supplemental response and determined that the response addresses the Commission's question and does not alter staff's conclusion that the proposed program satisfies the applicable statutory review criteria.

Pursuant to ORS 350.085, HECC staff reviewed the proposal against the statue's four criteria and verified that the program:

a. Is consistent with the mission statement of the respective public university;
b. Does not unnecessarily duplicate academic programs offered by other public universities;
c. Is not located in a geographic area that will cause undue hardship to Oregon's other public universities; and
d. Is allocated among the public universities to maximize the achievement of statewide needs and requirements.

HECC staff also confirmed that the institution has a clear and feasible pathway to obtain and maintain accreditation. Having found the proposal fully compliant with statutory requirements, staff recommends that the Commission approve the program as proposed.

HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING COMMISSION
May 7, 2026
Docket Item #:5.0

Material

5.0a – New Program Proposal : Portland State University B.S. in Artificial Intelligence

5.0b – PSU's response to HECC Request for Additional Information

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends the Commission approve B.S. in Artificial Intelligence at Portland State University.

Recommended Motion

Move to approve the program as presented.