

Government to Government Tribal Education Update

February 2026

Higher Education Coordinating Commission - Quarter One Updates

The Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) honors the sovereignty of Oregon's Tribes and seeks to collaborate on all postsecondary initiatives that may have an impact on their communities. In this quarterly agency report to the Government to Government Tribal Education Cluster, we report on our ongoing work and new initiatives to support Oregon learners and communities. Tribal partners can find previous quarterly updates, as well as other information on work and initiatives, in the [Coordination with Tribes section](#) of our website.

OREGON TRIBAL STUDENT GRANT APPLICATION OPEN FOR 2026-27

We thank the tribes for their hard work and cooperation in making the 2025-26 year another record-breaking year for the OTSG. The application for 2026-27 is now open. Please see full updates in the Supporting Affordable Access section of this report.

HECC LAUNCHES ACTIVITIES DRIVEN BY ITS NEW FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

The HECC's [Strategic Plan, adopted in October 2024](#), describes the vision, mission, goals, and strategies that the Commission intends to guide its work over the next three to five years. In recent months, the agency has initiated numerous activities to advance toward these goals. Updates on implementation of the strategic plan are provided at [public meetings of the HECC](#). The most recent public documents on the strategic plan implementation, presented at the February 12, 2026 public HECC meeting, are also available below. The agency launched eight new and changed activities in mid-2025. An additional set of recommendations is under consideration, and agency leadership is in the final stages of determining which recommendations will be acted upon.

About the Higher Education Coordinating Commission

About Our Work: *The Higher Education Coordinating Commission is a state commission and agency working to drive postsecondary access and success for all Oregonians, meet workforce needs, and strengthen Oregon's collective future. The HECC envisions a future where all people benefit from the economic, civic, and cultural impact of high-quality postsecondary education, training, and workforce development. Learn more at www.oregon.gov/highered.*

Contacts: **Ben Cannon**, Executive Director; **Rudyane Rivera-Lindstrom**, Tribal Liaison, Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access, rudyane.rivera-lindstrom@hecc.oregon.gov, 503-689-4309. To sign up for other updates and newsletters, [join our mailing list](#).

Upcoming Meetings: *Higher Education Coordinating Commission Public Meeting: April 9, 2026. For other upcoming public meetings of the HECC and affiliated boards (WTDB, others), [see our website here](#). For email notices of upcoming public meetings, [join our mailing list](#).*

Funding Opportunities: *See [Grant and Contract Opportunities](#).*

- [Strategic Plan Implementation Update \(Q1, 2026\)](#)
- [HECC Strategic Plan Implementation Report Q1, 2026](#)

Among other priorities in HECC's [current strategic plan](#), we have prioritized a goal of **belonging**, focused on elevating learner voices, and supporting inclusivity and belonging in postsecondary education settings. To inform this work, we are pleased to announce that HECC has partnered with [Oregon's Kitchen Table](#) (OKT) to invite Oregonians across the state to share what helps create a sense of belonging for them and learners in their communities, with a focus on students and learners. These conversations are intended to generate actionable insights to strengthen inclusivity and belonging across Oregon institutions. This spring, OKT will share numerous opportunities to hear about Oregonians' needs and aspirations related to college and training programs across the state. Please stay tuned for more news from HECC and OKT on ways to participate!

OREGON LAUNCHES PROCESS TO REDESIGN STATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION GOAL

The HECC has started a collaborative process to develop a proposal for a new approach to Oregon's postsecondary educational attainment goals, aiming for a new draft goal for consideration by June 2026. We are excited to announce that in November, Oregon joined 12 other states in [Lumina Foundation's State Attainment Collaborative](#) effort to help Oregon update its state postsecondary attainment goal. For more than a decade, Oregon has been working toward [two state education goals](#): the ambitious statewide 40-40-20 goal for young adults, and the more recently adopted adult attainment goal, focused on credential attainment. In addition, there are numerous other goals in Oregon statute for the HECC related to economic, workforce, cultural, civic, and community goals. The HECC and partners plan to revisit current statutory goals, and to develop a proposal to replace Oregon's current 40-40-20 education attainment goal, which has a target date of 2025.

In addition to benefiting from the multi-state collaborative, the HECC has recently convened an Oregon steering committee to advise staff on Oregon's new goal. The committee includes representatives from the Oregon Legislature, community colleges, universities, K-12 education, workforce partners, economic development leaders, business and community leaders, partner agencies, and others. The steering committee and Lumina work will continue through spring 2026 as the HECC works toward a proposal.

HECC REPORTS ON SPENDING AND EFFICIENCY AT OREGON PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

On January 6, the HECC voted to adopt a report on [Spending and Efficiency in Oregon Public Universities](#) and transmitted its findings to the Oregon Legislature for the 2026 session. [A summary of the report can be found in our recent press release](#). The report analyzes trends in student costs, university spending, staffing, and efficiency across Oregon's seven public universities and proposes targeted recommendations to help ensure long-term vitality and affordability. The report responds to a directive to the HECC from the Oregon Legislature to assess cost efficiency at the universities in conjunction with the passage of the 2025-27 biennium higher education budget bill (Senate Bill 5525, 2025). In a [letter to the Commission on January 2, 2026](#), Governor Tina Kotek cited challenging budget realities and encouraged the HECC to provide clear and coordinated leadership to Oregon colleges and universities. The Commission emphasized five actions for legislative consideration that would significantly improve efficiency while protecting access and student success.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

2026 Session: During each legislative session, the HECC presents to legislative committees and advises the Oregon Legislature and the Governor on topics of critical concern to Oregon postsecondary education and training. On our [legislative resources web page](#), you can stay informed on HECC legislative activity in the 2026 legislative session, which began February 2 and may run through March 8.

While the February revenue forecast was more favorable than expected, the state continues to face budget constraints, and we expect that legislators will focus this session on any adjustments to the current biennial budget. In addition, HECC tracks and advises on the impact of higher education and training-related legislation. There have been a little fewer than 300 bills introduced. A summary of bills HECC is tracking in the short session, as well as their status as of February 9 is available in our [recent legislative report to the Commission](#). Among other bills pertaining to higher education, HECC is closely following House Bill 4124, which relates to recommendations of the HECC’s “Spending and Efficiency in Oregon’s Public Universities.” HECC provided [testimony on HB 4124](#) in the House Education Committee on February 4 and [presented the findings of the Spending and Efficiency report to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education](#) on February 10.

Planning for 2027 Session: HECC has been collecting and generating proposals to address needs of the higher education and workforce system, and is considering plans for 2027 legislative concepts and budget proposals. [An update on the 2027 legislative and budget process was provided at the February public meeting](#). Under guidance that HECC staff received from the Governor’s office on February 10, 2026, forthcoming budget instructions for 2027-29 will likely establish that executive branch agencies must offset any request for new resources with reductions from within the agency’s budget, and that policy and budget items be cost neutral. The Commission will provide additional information at its public meeting in April, once the Governor’s budget instructions are implemented and initial staff consideration occurs.

PREPARING FOR THE WORKFORCE PELL GRANT IN OREGON

With recent federal changes, Oregonians pursuing short-term workforce training programs to prepare for high-demand jobs could qualify soon for financial assistance through an expansion of the federal Pell Grant called the Workforce Pell Grant. The federal government is expanding the existing Pell Grant program to support individuals pursuing short-term, industry-recognized workforce education programs. We are pleased to report that HECC staff and the Workforce and Talent Development Board (WTDB) are working on guidance for Oregon program eligibility for the Workforce Pell in accordance with federal requirements. Workforce Pell became law as a part of the federal budget reconciliation bill, H.R. 1, on July 4, 2025. Federal regulations and state processes that are essential to program implementation are still being finalized. Under the provisions of H.R. 1, each state’s Governor, in consultation with the State Workforce Board—which, for Oregon, is the WTDB—is expected to determine the programs that meet the following Workforce Pell eligibility criteria:

- Be aligned with requirements of high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand occupations or industries;
- Meet the hiring requirements of employers of those occupations or in those industries;
- Lead to an industry-recognized credential; and
- Be stackable and portable.

After states determine eligible programs, based on final federal rules, the U.S. Department of Education will validate state program approvals. Programs will need to meet a number of additional eligibility criteria; the process of determining that eligibility is still being clarified at the federal level. HECC staff are developing definitions for program eligibility criteria for the WTDB to consider for approval at its March 2026 meeting, and if approved, to recommend to Governor Kotek. Public comments are welcomed at public meetings of the HECC and WTDB.

MONITORING FEDERAL CHANGES

While we assess the potential impact of federal directives, HECC remains committed to our mission to advance equitable access and success in postsecondary education and training, meet workforce needs, and strengthen Oregon's collective future. We have a web page where partners can keep informed on [HECC's work in relation to federal changes](#).

Supporting Affordable Access

OREGON TRIBAL STUDENT GRANT UPDATES

2025-2026: OSAC received over 900 viable applications for 2025-2026, and we have approved over 700 students to receive the Oregon Tribal Student Grant (OTSG). As of February 2026, schools have disbursed OTSG funds to well over 600 students for the Fall 2025 quarter/semester. Quarter-based schools will submit Winter 2026 quarter information between February 16 – 27, 2026. Semester-based schools will be reporting Spring 2026 semester information between March 16 – 27, 2026. Please keep in mind that 2025-2026 includes the terms/semesters of Fall 2025, Winter 2026, and Spring 2026. Funds for Summer 2026 will NOT be available, and students are encouraged to work with their school's financial aid office for alternative aid sources if they plan to attend Summer 2026. If students have questions, they should email Jake Logan, the Tribal Student/Learner Access Analyst, at jacob.logan@hecc.oregon.gov.

2026-2027: The 2026-2027 Oregon Tribal Student Grant application opened December 1, 2025! Students are encouraged to apply now for the 2026-2027 academic year (Fall 2026, Winter 2027, Spring 2027). Students will need to complete the 2026-2027 OTSG application. Once they submit their application, they will be prompted to complete the Tribal Enrollment Verification form which is required for each academic year. Students will also need to complete the 2026-2027 FAFSA or ORSAA. As of February 25, 2026, OSAC has received 546 applications for the upcoming 2026-2027 academic year.

About the OTSG: The OTSG, first launched in 2022 and codified in statute in 2023, bolsters the opportunity for tribal members to achieve their postsecondary education goals, whether they have just graduated from high school or are adults wanting to start or return to college. To date, the OTSG has served students pursuing all levels of postsecondary education, including certificates, associate degrees, bachelor's, master's, PhDs, MDs and JDs. To be eligible for the program, students must be an enrolled member in one of the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon. Students must also be enrolled or accepted for enrollment at an Oregon-based college or university and complete a valid FAFSA or ORSAA. Additional eligibility information can be found on the [Oregon Tribal Student Grant web page](#).

OTHER STATE FINANCIAL AID AND AFFORDABILITY UPDATES

FAFSA/ORSAA: To be eligible for most types of financial aid, students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the Oregon Student Aid Application (ORSAA). Resources on financial aid form completion can be found using the links below.

- [OSAC: Introducing FAFSA/ORSAA](#)
- [OSAC: FAFSA and ORSAA Information](#)
- [Federal Student Aid FAFSA page](#)

OSAC Scholarships: Students can explore more than 600 scholarships through the [OSAC Scholarship Application](#). The application is open November to March each year.

Below is a list of the Native-focused scholarships within our current OSAC Catalog:

- Fund 892: Ann C. Thornton Memorial
- Fund 897: Howard Vollum Scholarship
- Fund 885: Cambia Health Foundation/Paula A. Jones
- Fund 898: Verl and Dorthy Miller
- Fund 933: Chinn Family Scholarship

Please contact our Student Application email with any questions at SA.Feedback@hecc.oregon.gov.

Chafee Education and Training Voucher Program: The 2025-2026 Chafee Education and Training Voucher Program application is now open.

Oregon Promise Grant: [Visit the Oregon Promise Grant here](#) for all information on eligibility and applications, including frequently asked questions. The deadline for the Spring 2026 GED Cohort is March 10, 2026, at 11:59 PM. This applies to students who earned their GED between October 1, 2025, and February 29, 2026. For a new Spring Cohort OPG student to be fully considered for an Oregon Promise Grant award for the Spring 2026 term, students must submit:

- The Oregon Promise Grant application, and
- The 2025-2026 FAFSA or ORSAA application.

Oregon Tribal Student Grant: The 2026-2027 Oregon Tribal Student Grant application opened December 1, 2025. Students can now and are encouraged to apply for the 2026-2027 academic year (Fall 2026, Winter 2027, Spring 2027).

Tribal Access to Oregon Tuition and Fee Waiver: HECC-OSAC continues to be available to ensure eligible tribal foster youth and youth experiencing houselessness have access to the Oregon Tuition and Fee Waiver program. The Tuition and Fee Waiver ensures remaining tuition and fees are waived after other public grants and any school aid are applied. Eligible students can start receiving the waiver for the equivalent of four years of undergraduate studies until they turn 25. Learn more about eligibility at www.oregonstudentaid.gov. OSAC representatives would be pleased to help any tribal staff help eligible young people receive the waiver. Please contact Selena.Galindo@hecc.oregon.gov.

OREGON OPPORTUNITY GRANT CHANGES FOR 2026-2027

The HECC Office of Student Access and Completion recently announced updates to the Oregon Opportunity Grant (OOG), pursuant to the passage of House Bill 3025, which was signed into law during the 2025 legislative session. These changes aim to make college more affordable and accessible for Oregon students and will go into effect starting in the 2026–2027 academic year.

Key Changes Under HB 3025 (2025):

- Flexibility in Award Amounts: The Oregon Opportunity Grant will have the flexibility to award amounts at the per-credit level, better meeting students' financial needs. Previous award amounts were required to be awarded at full-time and half-time amounts.
- The restriction for minimum enrollment at half-time has been removed.
- Clearer Definitions: The law clarifies eligibility requirements, including residency, which is now defined as 12 months prior to enrollment. It also clarifies that an academic program that is less than a year in length is eligible for OOG.

By simplifying the process and expanding eligibility, the HECC is removing barriers and creating pathways for students to succeed. Please visit the [OOG webpage](#) for additional information and eligibility requirements.

OREGON TEACHER SCHOLARS PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION OPEN

The Oregon Teacher Scholars Program (OTSP) Grant provides funding for eligible candidates who have experience with diverse populations and are in the last two years of their preliminary licensure program for teaching, school counseling, social work, and school psychology. Students who are entering or currently enrolled in an approved Oregon teacher preparation program are encouraged to apply for the 2026–2027 cycle. Application deadlines vary. For more information or to apply, please visit the [OTSP webpage](#).

OSAC OUTREACH AND SUPPORT

OSAC offers the FAFSA Plus+ program for schools, community-based organizations, and other sites that work with a specific student population. Becoming a FAFSA Plus+ site allows an organization to upload a roster of students and then be able to see the FAFSA filing status for those students. Learn more and [sign up to become a FAFSA Plus+ site](#) for free.

OSAC continues our outreach and presentations across the state. Go online to [request support from OSAC](#) at an upcoming event or in a classroom, or to provide training to your students and communities. OSAC outreach is available to students, families, and career/college access staff across Oregon to provide support and guidance. [You can also sign up to receive our e-newsletters here.](#)

- [Free OSAC Publications and Posters](#): Order or download free posters and brochures here, including the OSAC Poster—a quick reminder for students to apply for financial aid, including the FAFSA/ORSAA, grants, and scholarships. English and Spanish versions are available.
- [OSAC Webinars](#): OSAC hosts a variety of webinars throughout the year for students, parents, and career/college practitioners. Our webinars provide up-to-date information about programs we administer.

ASPIRE PROGRAM

The ASPIRE program helps educate Oregon students to become career and college ready. ASPIRE offers education, resources, and mentoring opportunities for all students. Student supports include 1:1 and group mentoring, activities that focus on career exploration, career and college research, admissions applications, scholarships, and financial aid. Tribes are welcome to join ASPIRE. [Learn more about ASPIRE here.](#)

Fostering Learner Pathways and Equitable Opportunity

ACADEMIC PROGRAM ACTIONS

Approvals

The Commission approved the following new academic programs at its February public Commission meeting. Details can be found in the [February 12 meeting materials](#).

Community College New Programs

- Columbia Gorge Community College: CNC and Additive Manufacturing, Associate of Applied Science (AAS); Fabrication and Additive Manufacturing, Associate of Applied Science (AAS)
- Portland Community College: Accounting, One Year Certificate of Completion (CC1); Emergency Medical Services – Paramedic, One Year Certificate of Completion (CC1); Fire/Paramedic, Associate of Applied Science (AAS); Healthcare Pathways, Less Than One Year Certificate of Completion (CC)
- Rogue Community College: High School CTE Teaching License Preparation, Less Than One Year Certificate of Completion (CC)

Public University New Programs:

- Oregon Institute of Technology: Artificial Intelligence, Bachelor of Science (BS)
- University of Oregon: Child Behavioral Health, Bachelor of Education (BEEd); Cybersecurity, Master of Science (MS); Data Science, Master of Science (MS)

Notifications - Phase Two of Process

In addition, at its February 12 public meeting, the Commission received notification that Klamath Community College has submitted a Notice of Application for a Bachelor of Applied Science, Business Management – Salon Emphasis. This submission is Phase Two of a three phase process. Details are available in the [February 12 meeting materials](#).

WITH GRANT SUPPORT, YOUTH WILL HELP SHAPE THE DESIGN OF A DIRECT ADMISSIONS PROGRAM FOR OREGON

The HECC was charged by the Oregon Legislature with launching a statewide direct admissions program, and agency staff are [working closely with partners to design and ultimately implement the direct admissions program statewide](#). The HECC announced in a [recent press release that the agency has been awarded a grant from Meyer Memorial Trust](#) to support youth engagement in the design of Oregon’s statewide direct admissions program. **Open Doors Oregon** (and in Spanish, **Abriendo Puertas Oregon**) will ultimately be the program names that students and families see when they receive news of Oregon’s direct admissions opportunity. The grant will ensure that the design of Oregon’s future direct admissions program is shaped by the young people it is designed to serve. The grant project, including the convening of the Youth Advisory Council and opportunities for wider student and community input, will be led by Mariana Zaragoza, direct admissions academic policy specialist in the HECC Academic Policy and Authorization office. The HECC will recruit and support a council of 12 high school students from across Oregon, with a focus on underserved and underrepresented student populations in higher education. Please feel free to contact Mariana.Zaragoza@hecc.oregon.gov for more details.

OREGON JOINS NATIONAL EFFORT TO EXPAND EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE PATHWAYS FOR JUSTICE-IMPACTED INDIVIDUALS

The HECC, in partnership with the Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC) and the Oregon Employment Department (OED), [recently announced in a press release](#) that Oregon has officially joined the inaugural cohort of Jobs for the Future’s (JFF) [Fair Chance to Advance \(FC2A\)](#) State Action Networks, a new initiative to help states expand high-quality postsecondary education and workforce pathways for individuals with histories of incarceration. As part of this partnership, the HECC will receive up to \$2.1 million in funding to increase access to education and training in correctional facilities.

[As one of four states selected for the initial cohort](#), Oregon’s cross-agency team, led jointly by HECC, DOC, and OED, will bring together leaders in Oregon who will work with JFF’s Center for Justice & Economic Advancement to address persistent barriers that limit economic opportunities for Oregonians with

records and their families. Oregon plans to unify interagency data systems to guide decisions, strengthen reporting, and expand education to employment pathways, including sustaining and growing in-prison WorkSource Oregon reentry centers as a core bridge from custody to community.

HIGHER EDUCATION AND K-12 SUPPORT A JOINT VISION FOR COLLEGE CREDIT IN HIGH SCHOOL

At its December public meeting, the HECC voted to commit to a [state vision for college credit in high school in Oregon](#). In close partnership with the Oregon Department of Education, the vision was created with engagement statewide, including a survey that received more than 600 responses from teachers, faculty, program coordinators and community members, among others. With this vote, Oregon commits to prioritizing equitable access to college credit opportunities for all high school students. The vision was [presented by HECC and ODE staff](#) as part of their work on a two-year policy development project through the [College in High School Alliance](#). Oregon is one of seven states in this multi-state initiative working to advance state-level policy.

FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL CTE MONTH

In February, HECC and our Career Technical Education (CTE) partners across Oregon have joined in recognizing the achievements of CTE learners and providers. The HECC Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development partners with the Oregon Department of Education to coordinate postsecondary CTE programs. CTE programs help Oregon K-12 and postsecondary students gain the skills, technical knowledge, academic foundation, and real-world experience needed to prepare for high-skill, high-demand, high-wage careers. Learn more about [postsecondary CTE and the Oregon CTE State Plan](#).

TRANSFER UPDATES: NEW VISION STATEMENT AND NEW APPROVALS

The HECC and public institutions, through the Transfer Council, are working together to [streamline the transfer of credits](#) between Oregon's 17 community colleges and seven public universities. We are working to ensure that transferring between colleges is simple, clear, and fair for students. In December, the Commission approved and submitted to the Oregon Legislature its [annual report on postsecondary transfer, available here](#). Also at its December Commission meeting, the **HECC approved a public-facing vision statement for transfer that is intended to guide the next phase of transfer work** in Oregon and affirm the HECC's commitment to a seamless student-centered transfer system. In addition to the vision statement, the Commission reviewed a proposed four-phase work plan to operationalize this vision.

In addition to the approval of the new vision statement for transfer, 10 courses were recently approved for Common Course Numbering in Biology, Chemistry, and Spanish. With the recent approvals, Oregon now has a total of 50 common lower division courses that are aligned and approved for Common Course Numbering to help students transfer credits.

- Institutions can find details on these agreements, including effective dates and catalog requirements, on our [CCN web page](#).
- Students can learn how to take advantage of active agreements under [Tools for Transfer here](#). Students can easily identify available CCN courses in catalogs because they all end in a Z.

Responding to Workforce and Community Needs

TRIBAL PARTNERSHIP INVESTMENTS FOR REENGAGEMENT/WORKFORCE TRAINING

Oregon Youth Works, housed in the HECC, and Youth Development Oregon (YDO) continue to advance the Partnership for Tribal Workforce and Reengagement through an interagency agreement that established a pathway for collaboration with Tribal Sovereign Nations. For the 2025-2027 biennium, over one million dollars is available for tribes opting to participate. **We are pleased to report that many tribes are now engaged, and this opportunity will remain open.** HECC/YDO staff are currently meeting with tribes to connect with staff around allowable costs, upcoming trainings, and to share feedback on this agreement model. We also welcome input on whether a shared communication platform for resources, such as studies, trainings, and grant opportunities would be of value. **HECC/YDO staff are available for in-person programming visits later this spring, summer, or fall, and look forward to spending time with partners.** Primary Contact: Jeremy Ahola, call or text: 503-689-6662, or email Jeremy.w.ahola@hecc.oregon.gov.

INDUSTRY CONSORTIA: RECENT ACTIVITIES

The Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), in partnership with the [Workforce and Talent Development Board](#), continues to convene statewide Consortia in three of our state's key industry sectors—healthcare, manufacturing, and technology. Each Consortium convenes quarterly for public meetings. During the first quarter of 2026, the Consortia convened to discuss their work plans and priorities for 2026-28, as well as to hear findings from the fourth annual [Future Ready Oregon Report](#), delivered by the HECC Office of Research and Data. You can find more information, including public meeting materials and occupation profiles and wage data, [on our Industry Consortia web page](#).

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE OREGON TALENT SUMMIT ON MAY 19, 2026

Oregon's Workforce and Talent Development Board (WTDB) and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) will be hosting the [2026 Oregon Talent Summit](#) on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. in person at the Salem Convention Center.

- [Register now for the Talent Summit](#)
- Join the [Talent Summit mailing list](#)

Since 2018, the Oregon Talent Summit has convened leaders to explore implications and consider actions on critical trends, challenges, and solutions in workforce and talent development. We invite participants from Oregon tribes, business, the Oregon Legislature, workforce development, community-based organizations, postsecondary education, local workforce boards, economic development, and state agencies. The 2026 Summit theme is *Bridging Vision and Action: Forging Oregon's Path Forward*. [Registration for the Talent Summit is free and now open](#). This year's in-person Summit focuses on turning strategy into action through collaboration, data, and practical solutions. A core focus of the Summit is presenting the findings of the *2026 Oregon Talent Assessment* – the biannual analysis of Oregon's workforce that identifies in-demand industries and occupations, evaluates supply-demand alignment, assesses job quality, and provides regional and equity insights.

New Reports and Other Updates

RECENT REPORTS TO THE OREGON LEGISLATURE

Future Ready Oregon Report

The HECC Office of Research and Data has prepared the [fourth annual report on Future Ready Oregon](#). This report provides a comprehensive evaluation of the ongoing implementation and impact of all eight Future Ready Oregon programs. The report includes findings on participation, workforce program completion, and participants' employment outcomes; compares participation and outcomes to statewide economic and education trends; and makes recommendations for the coming years. Overall, the findings are positive. In its first three years, Future Ready Oregon has served 27,434 participants and offered more than 82,670 services, which include workforce education and training programs and support services that reduce barriers to participation. Virtually all participants are low-income, and 90 percent also identified as a member of one or more additional priority populations identified in [Senate Bill 1545 \(2022\)](#) (among those who reported their identities). The report concludes with key findings and recommendations to continue providing wraparound support services, improve outreach to Oregonians 40 years and older, improve participant data collection, and use Future Ready Oregon strategies as a model for future investments in equitable and innovative workforce development.

Transfer Report

The HECC has released its [annual report on postsecondary transfer](#). ORS 350.395 through 350.432 direct the HECC, in collaboration with Oregon's community colleges and public universities, to simplify transfer pathways and improve statewide alignment of coursework. The 2025 Postsecondary Transfer Report details progress on aligning curricula through Core Transfer Maps (CTMs), Major Transfer Maps (MTMs), and Common Course Numbering (CCN).

Administrative Rules report

The HECC has published its [annual report on Oregon Administrative Rules](#). ORS 183.403 directs state agencies to provide a report to the Legislative Assembly that details the number of permanent rules that the agency has adopted, amended, or repealed, and describes the need for any temporary rules that were adopted, amended, or suspended during the preceding calendar year. In 2025, the HECC permanently adopted, amended, or repealed 44 rules and temporarily adopted, amended, or suspended seven rules.

Key Performance Metrics Report

For each executive branch agency, the Legislature approves key performance metrics (KPMs) related to the agency's mission. The [HECC has 16 KPMs](#) that address the factors underlying the state's educational attainment goals. They include college-going, affordability, outcomes, and attainment of postsecondary education and training. The Office of Research and Data calculates these measures and tracks their progress.

Other HECC News

OTHER HECC PUBLICATIONS

- [HECC Collaborations newsletter, January Issue](#)
- [Oregon Longitudinal Data Collaborative \(OLDC\) Welcomes its New Director and Other 2026 News](#)
- [Oregon Promise Updates, February](#)
- [Oregon High School Equivalency Newsletter, February](#)
- [OSAC Monthly Newsletter, February](#)
- [Future Ready Oregon Update, January](#)

- [Transfer Hub, January](#)
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