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# FACT SHEET: 2025-27 GOVERNOR’S RECOMMENDED BUDGET (GRB), Higher Education Coordinating Commission

*Last updated December 11, 2024. All information is based on preliminary unaudited budget reports and the GRB narrative summary and will be updated as more information becomes available.*

The Oregon Governor’s Recommended Budget (GRB), announced on December 2, 2024 is available here: [Governor’s Recommended Budget 2025-27](#). The Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) budget includes funding for: Oregon’s 17 community colleges; Oregon’s seven public universities and Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU); state financial aid and student access programs; capital bonding authority for the public institutions; Oregon’s nine Workforce Investment Boards; Future Ready Oregon investments; OregonServes; and HECC agency operations. The funding for all postsecondary education and workforce entities represented in the HECC budget totals \$4.39 billion, including all fund types (General Fund, Lottery Fund, Other Fund, and Federal Fund); this is an increase of 6.4 percent from the 2023-25 Legislatively Approved Budget (LAB) and a 14.6 percent increase from Current Service Level (CSL). General Fund (GF) and Lottery Fund total \$3.41 billion, a 10.0 percent increase from the LAB.

## GRB STATE INVESTMENTS IN POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Abbreviations: Legislatively Approved Budget (LAB), Current Service Level (CSL), Governor’s Recommended Budget (GRB), Total Funds (TF) including General Fund (GF), Lottery Funds (LF), Federal Funds (FF), and Other Funds (OF)

	2023-25 LAB	2025-27 CSL	2025-27 GRB	GRB Change from 2025-27 CSL	GRB Change from 2023-25 LAB
<b>HECC Total</b>	<b>\$4.12B TF including:</b> \$2.90B GF \$201.0M LF \$164.0M FF* \$859.5M OF*	<b>\$3.83B TF including:</b> \$3.16B GF \$202.2M LF \$170.3M FF* \$298.5M OF*	<b>\$4.39B TF including:</b> \$3.22B GF \$190.2M LF \$170.1M FF* \$807.0M OF*	+14.6%	+6.4%
<b>OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE SUPPORT FUND (CCSF)</b>	<b>\$814.5M TF including:</b> \$803.5M GF \$11.0M OF	<b>\$870.7M** including:</b> \$859.3M GF \$11.4M FF	<b>\$870.4M including:</b> \$859.0M GF \$11.4M OF	0.0%	+6.9%
<b>PUBLIC UNIVERSITY SUPPORT FUND (PUSF)</b>	<b>\$1.03B TF including:</b> \$1.03B GF	<b>\$1.07B TF including:</b> \$1.07B GF	<b>\$1.08B TF including:</b> \$1.08B GF	0.0%	+5.4%
<b>OREGON OPPORTUNITY GRANT (OOG)</b>	<b>\$308.4M TF including:</b> \$166.3M GF \$101.5M LF \$40.6M OF	<b>\$329.4M TF including:</b> \$250.3M GF \$75.3M LF \$3.7M OF	<b>\$354.2M TF including:</b> \$275.2M GF \$75.3 LF \$3.7M OF	+7.5%	+14.9%

\*FF and OF include limited and non-limited.

\*\*Note: this was the published total, but there was a technical error that was corrected to \$870.4M.

## FINANCIAL AID AND ACCESS PROGRAMS

- **The Oregon Opportunity Grant (OOG):** The OOG, Oregon’s longstanding need-based financial aid program serving low-income Oregonians with grants toward postsecondary expenses, is funded at \$354.2 million in Total Funds, **an increase of \$25 million above CSL**. OOG is a need-based grant awarded to Oregon residents of all ages who are pursuing their first associates degree or bachelor's degree at an eligible public or private institution. The grant provides funding to more than 30,000 Oregon resident students each year.
- **The Oregon Promise:** Oregon’s grant program to support tuition at Oregon community colleges for recent high school graduates and GED® recipients is funded at CSL, which is \$47.3 million in General Fund.

- **Oregon Tribal Student Grant:** This program is funded at \$28.5 million, which is an increase of \$2.5 million above CSL. The program, launched in 2022, provides funding for eligible Oregon tribal students to offset the cost of attendance at eligible Oregon colleges and universities.
- **Oregon National Guard State Tuition Assistance Grant (ONGSTA):** ONGSTA is funded at \$6.6 million, which is an increase of \$1.1 million in General Fund above CSL. This program provides funding for tuition at Oregon community colleges and public universities for current members of the Oregon National Guard.
- **The Oregon Student Child Care Grant** is funded at CSL. This program assists postsecondary education student parents with child care expenses.
- **ASPIRE** program is funded at CSL. This program helps educate Oregon students to become career and college ready by offering education, resources, and mentoring.
- **Behavioral Workforce Scholarships (NEW):** The GRB includes a Behavioral Workforce Investment of \$5 million for a new scholarship program to support behavioral health students.
- **Educator Administrator Scholarship Program:** The GRB includes \$3.1 million transferred from the Oregon Department of Education for a scholarship program for educator administrators. This program was previously administered by the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission.
- **One-time funding from 2023-25 that is phased out in the GRB:**
  - One-time funding of \$5 million for college access programs is phased out; this includes \$1 million each for ASPIRE, TRIO, GEAR UP, College Possible, and AVID.

## COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND PUBLIC UNIVERSITY OPERATING FUNDS

### OREGON'S 17 COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- **Community College Support:** This fund supports educational and operational expenses at the 17 community colleges. The GRB funds the Community College Support Fund (CCSF) at \$870.4 million in Total Funds. This is a CSL investment and is a 6.9 percent increase from the 2023-25 LAB. This includes the Sabin-Schellenberg and Margaret Carter Skills Centers, grants to colleges to support students who are first generation and historically underserved, and funding for Career Technical Education.

### OREGON'S 7 PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

- **Public University Support Fund (PUSF):** This fund supports educational and operational expenses at the public universities. The GRB funds the PUSF at \$1,079.9 million (\$1.08 billion) in Total Funds. This is a CSL investment plus a technical adjustment to carry forward \$11.1 million in unspent portions of the 2023-25 "Regional University Planning and Support Fund" into 2025-27. This is a 5.4 percent increase from the 2023-25 LAB.

## OTHER UNIVERSITY FUNDING

- **Public University State Programs:** The Public University State Programs are funded at \$67.2 million in General Fund, a 32.9 percent decrease from the 2023-25 LAB, due to the phase-out of numerous one-time projects.
- **Statewide Public Service Programs (the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station, Extension Services and Forest Research Laboratory):** The GRB funds this program unit, which includes Oregon State University's Agricultural Experiment Station, Extension Services and Forest Research Laboratory, at \$240.7 million in Total Funds, a 7.8 percent increase from the 2023-25 LAB. This supports educational programs and research projects in agricultural, biological, social and environmental sciences.
- **Sports Action Lottery:** The GRB includes \$19.6 million in Lottery Funds for the Sports Action Lottery program, a 7.0 percent increase from the 2023-25 LAB. This fund is dedicated primarily to scholarships for underrepresented and women's intercollegiate athletes and graduate student scholarships.
- **Funding from 2023-25 that is not in the GRB:**
  - \$5.6 million in funding dedicated to Benefit Navigators at community colleges and public universities is not continued (although state law would still require them to maintain the positions).

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- One-time semiconductor programming funding that went to numerous institutions is phased out.
- One-time funding for college in prison courses is phased out.

## OREGON HEALTH & SCIENCE UNIVERSITY (OHSU):

- **OHSU:** The GRB funds OHSU at \$146.5 million in General Fund, a four percent increase from the 2023-25 LAB. This supports the schools of Medicine, Dentistry, and Nursing; the Office of Rural Health; the Area Health Education Centers; the Child Development and Rehabilitation Center; and the Oregon Poison Center.

## WORKFORCE INVESTMENTS

- **Behavioral Health Workforce Investments (NEW):** The GRB includes a new \$25.7 million investment to expand education and training pathways to enhance the behavioral health workforce. This includes OSAC-administered grants/scholarships (\$5 million) and grants to education/training providers (\$20 million). Funding for three new HECC staff is also included.
- **Pre-apprenticeship Investments (NEW):** The GRB includes a new \$5 million General Fund investment in pre-apprenticeship programming in the construction and housing fields.
- **Future Ready Oregon:** The GRB includes reauthorization of \$62.5 million in Other Funds<sup>i</sup> transferred to HECC from federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to continue the administration of obligated grant funding for HECC Future Ready Oregon grants through 2026. Future Ready Oregon is a historic investment package passed by the Oregon Legislature in 2022 that supports the education and training Oregonians need for family-wage careers. All funding appropriated for Future Ready Oregon in 2022 (General Fund and ARPA) must be spent by the end of 2026. Funding for community college postsecondary career pathways programs and statewide sector-specific industry consortia are included in HECC agency CSL.
- **Oregon's Workforce Development System:** The GRB sustains CSL from the General Fund to support regional workforce development activities directed by Oregon's nine local workforce development boards. In addition, the GRB sustains the General Fund investment to support operations and activities of the Workforce and Talent Development Board.
- **Youth Workforce Development:** The GRB continues CSL for the Oregon Youth Employment Program and the Oregon Youth Corps. These programs provide paid work experiences to young Oregonians, in conjunction with workforce training and career exposure.
- **Funding from 2023-25 that is not in the GRB:**
  - One-time General Fund funding for the Oregon Conservation Corps, provided both in 2021-23 and again in 2023-25, is phased out in the 2025-27 GRB.
  - Numerous components of Future Ready Oregon would phase out in the 2025-27 biennium without additional state funding, given the extent of temporary ARPA funds supporting the program, including:
    - HECC staff to support existing Future Ready Oregon grantees after 2026;
    - Additional Workforce Ready Grants (though grants awarded in 2023-25 will continue into 2025-27); and
    - Additional Prosperity Program funds awarded to local workforce development boards (though grants awarded in 2021-23 and 2023-25 will continue into 2025-27, and WIOA funding will continue).
  - Funding was eliminated for the National Career Readiness Certification (NCRC) program.

## HECC AGENCY FUNDING

- **HECC Agency Operations Total:** The GRB for HECC's agency office operations in general sustains its work as the statewide coordinating agency for postsecondary education and workforce development. The GRB includes \$95.3 million in Total Funds for HECC operations, a 15.7 percent change from the LAB. It adds a total of five new positions for a total of 201 positions (187.7 FTE). For HECC agency operations, the GRB generally conforms to CSL. However, because of the significant infusion of one-time funding into HECC during the last two biennia, a largely CSL approach for 2025-27 will still have impacts on the agency.

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- **IT Modernization Project:** The GRB includes \$5.8 million in Q-bond funding and \$2.2 million in General Fund for the completion of the Modernization Project. The General Fund portion includes four positions (included in the totals above) and related debt service payments.
- **Funding for HECC agency programs from 2023-25 that is phased out in the GRB:**
  - ASPIRE expansion (described in Financial Aid and Access section)
  - Oregon Conservation Corps (described in Workforce section)
  - Portions of the Future Ready Oregon initiative (described in Workforce section)

## CAPITAL BONDING AUTHORITY

- **Public University Capital Construction:** The Governor's budget includes \$422.5 million in bonding authority. This includes bond proceeds for the Portland Center for the Performing Arts project with \$200 million for the capital improvement and renewal program benefitting all public universities.
- **Community College Capital Construction:** The Governor's budget includes \$20.0 million in bonding authority for community college capital construction projects at Clackamas CC, Klamath CC, and Mt. Hood CC.
- **Debt service:** The budget also provides General Fund and Lottery Funds debt service for previously approved projects for the public universities, community colleges, and the Oregon Health and Science University.

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<sup>i</sup> ARPA funding comes to the HECC from DAS and not directly from the federal government, so it is labeled OF not FF