



# Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

## Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Office of the Executive Director

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TO: Board of Trustees, Oregon State University  
FROM: Ben Cannon, Executive Director, HECC  
DATE: January 20, 2023  
SUBJECT: 2022 Q4 Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) Updates

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This document highlights some of the recent actions and initiatives of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC). For more information on our work, initiatives, and programs, go to: [www.oregon.gov/highered](http://www.oregon.gov/highered) or [sign up for our mailings lists for email updates](#).

### HECC Prepares for 2023-25 Legislative Session and Budget Deliberations

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 workforce training, working in close collaboration with campus leaders and partners. Partners can stay updated on our testimony and presentations on our [Legislative Resources 2023 web page here](#). The HECC ARB (Agency Request Budget) was submitted September, 2022 for the Governor's consideration, and a [summary of the ARB new funding requests can be viewed with this link](#). One key goal of the HECC for the upcoming session is the continuance of the newly launched Oregon Tribal Student Grant (\$40M GF) as a permanent program.

### Early Bird Deadline Approaches for the OSAC Scholarship Application

The OSAC Scholarship deadline is quickly approaching. See our website at [www.OregonStudentAid.Gov](http://www.OregonStudentAid.Gov). Students who submit an error-free OSAC Scholarship Application by **February 15, 2023** at 5pm PST will be entered into a drawing for one of ten \$1,000 Early Bird scholarships. The final deadline is **March 1, 2023** at 5pm PST. The OSAC Scholarship Application provides Oregon students one easy application to apply for multiple scholarships at one time. Students can explore over 600 scholarships. If you need help, OSAC is hosting several upcoming [webinars and drop-in sessions](#).

### Students Can Still Apply for the Oregon Tribal Student Grant

As of November 2022, 519 students have been authorized to be awarded [Oregon Tribal Student Grant](#) for the 2022-23 academic year. The Office of Student Access and Completion is continuing to accept and review applications until funds are exhausted. The grant is expected to pay for most or all public undergraduate college-related expenses for eligible students who are enrolled members of Oregon's nine federally recognized Tribes. Current and prospective students can [learn more and apply here](#).

### NCHEMS Oregon Higher Education Landscape Study

In October, 2022, the Oregon Community College Association (OCCA) and Oregon Council of Presidents (OCOP) jointly released the [NCHEMS "Oregon Higher Education Landscape Study"](#), a study to inform Oregon's statewide vision for higher education and increase partners' understanding of what is needed to effectively serve current and future students and the state and its various regions. At its November public meeting, the HECC received a briefing on the report. [Read more about the process here](#). View the [presentation to the Commission here](#).

### Future Ready Oregon Receives Input on Framework for Industry Consortia

Future Ready Oregon has begun planning for statewide Industry Consortia in the healthcare, manufacturing, and technology sectors. Industry Consortia will be designed to define and respond to Oregon's persistent

workforce challenges by providing consistent supply/demand data, identifying skills standards, publishing information on stackable credentials, negotiating solutions to licensure barriers and other policy-related workforce bottlenecks, and other roles.

## Future Ready Oregon Grants Awarded to 19 Public Institutions to Expand Credit for Prior Learning

After receiving applications from Oregon community colleges and public universities to expand Oregon's Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) Program, all 19 institutions that applied were awarded Future Ready Oregon funds totaling \$10 million. This investment is one-time funding to increase opportunities for students from priority populations to receive academic credit for prior experience or skills gained outside of traditional higher education institutions. View the full list of recipients in the [CPL grantee document attached here](#). [Learn more about Future Ready Oregon here](#).

## Where are they now? New Infographic Highlights Education Pathways in Oregon

In a new visual summary published by the [Oregon Longitudinal Data Collaborative \(OLDC\)](#), the *Where are they now? Educational Pathways in Oregon* Infographic, shows the journey of the nearly 50,000 students who entered high school in 2006-07, following student pathways as they leave high school, through postsecondary and into the workforce. Questions on this research-based infographic may be sent to: [hecc.oldc@hecc.oregon.gov](mailto:hecc.oldc@hecc.oregon.gov).

## HECC Convenes New Leadership Council for Equity

The HECC is revamping its Leadership Council for Equity (LCE), a council of community partners who help raise state awareness about the inequities that affect historically marginalized and underserved students. The new LCE is comprised of membership from culturally specific community-based organizations and philanthropic foundations which promote equitable access to postsecondary and workforce opportunities. Partners with questions on how to best stay connected with HECC are more than welcome to contact [Rudyane Rivera-Lindstrom](#), director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

## Key Performance Metrics Show Trends in Access, Affordability, Completion, and Earnings

All executive branch agencies have Legislatively approved key performance measures (KPMs) that relate to the mission of the agency. HECC's Office of Research and Data recently presented a summary of the 2022 Key Performance Metrics for the HECC. The HECC has 16 KPMs related to tracking progress toward the State's educational attainment goal for young adults (40-40-20). [See the summary presentation here](#).

## New Oregon Student Aid Website

The HECC Office of Student Access and Completion has launched a newly designed Oregon Student Aid website at [OregonStudentAid.gov](http://OregonStudentAid.gov). The site features a mobile-friendly, accessible design and updated sections on financial aid applications, state grants, over 600 scholarships, ASPIRE mentoring program, outreach opportunities, and other college and career planning resources. Students can complete, submit, and follow up on applications using the site. Students and those who support them can also attend webinars on a variety of career and college readiness topics. Practitioners can access the partner portal to learn about workshops, order publications, and request presentations.

## Student Loan Help for Oregonians

Oregon now has a Student Loan Ombuds, located in the Department of Consumer and Business Services. Oregon's Student Loan Ombuds can help borrowers resolve disputes with their loan servicer, and make sure loan servicers are in compliance with the law. The [Student Loan Help](#) web page also includes links to recent news and resources related to student loan forgiveness and other topics.