



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

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TO: Board of Trustees, Oregon State University
FROM: Ben Cannon, Executive Director, HECC
DATE: April 5, 2024
SUBJECT: 2024 Q1 Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) Updates

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 or [sign up for our mailings lists for email updates.](#)

HECC Launches a Redesigned Agency Website at www.oregon.gov/highered

The Higher Education Coordinating Commission recently announced the launch of our redesigned agency website at www.oregon.gov/highered. The new website is designed to be more accessible, mobile responsive, and user-friendly. [Read more about the redesign here.](#) We are particularly enthusiastic about new, interactive dashboards that allow users to explore student and institutional data related to enrollment, completion, affordability, and employment. [Explore the new site here.](#)

New Study on the Semiconductor Workforce Landscape Calls for Closer Coordination Among Education and Industry Partners

In a [February press release](#), the HECC announced Oregon's first [Semiconductor Workforce and Talent Assessment](#) providing an overview of the semiconductor industry and workforce landscape. This study recommends strengthening education pathways and diversifying the workforce in order to address the talent needs of Oregon's growing semiconductor industry. The assessment, developed for the HECC by ECONorthwest, arrives as the sector prepares for \$40 billion in capital investment expected to result from historic incentives and support in the federal CHIPS and Science (CHIPS) Act and in Oregon's own CHIPS Act passed last year. [Read more.](#)

Senate Appoints Two New Members of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Jennifer Procter Andrews and Theresa Martinez

On February 8, 2024, the Oregon Senate confirmed Governor Tina Kotek's appointments of two new Higher Education Coordinating Commission members, Jennifer Procter Andrews and Theresa Martinez. Jennifer Procter Andrews is Vice-Chair of the Coquille Indian Tribe and previously served as the Coquille Higher Education Coordinator. Theresa Martinez is Coordinator for Eastern Oregon Child Care Resources, serving Baker, Malheur, and Wallowa Counties, and previously served as a classroom teacher in Special Education and Alternative Education. They will serve in positions previously held by Dr. Terry Cross and Helen Edwards.

HECC Continues Development of Fourth Strategic Plan Through Partner Outreach

In fall 2023, the Higher Education Coordinating Commission launched a public process to update its Strategic Plan by Fall, 2024. The new Strategic Plan will build on prior planning efforts, including the [HECC's Strategic Framework 2017-2021](#) and its [2021 Strategic Roadmap](#), but will focus particularly on how the HECC will exercise its leadership and statutory authorities to advance State objectives for postsecondary education and workforce development.

At its February meeting, the Commission [heard an update on this planning process](#), and throughout March, 2024, the HECC solicited partner feedback through a public survey and a series of five cross-sector focus groups. Details and the discussion guide for these focus group meetings are posted as [past meeting material here](#), and recordings of the sessions may be [viewed on the HECC YouTube channel here](#). At the May 9 Full HECC meeting, the Commission will hear the results of this engagement effort to inform their further development of the next HECC Strategic Plan.

HECC Publishes Future Ready Oregon Year Two Report

The HECC's Office of Research and Data has completed the second annual report on Future Ready Oregon. This report primarily evaluates the implementation of and participation in Future Ready Oregon programs.

We are pleased to share some highlights from the [second annual report, which you can read in full here](#), including:

- 9,441 participants have been served by Future Ready Oregon.
- 92% of participants who reported information identified as a member of a Priority Population.
- Participants completed 97% of services in which they enrolled.
- 31% of participants used wraparound supports.
- Participants were more diverse than Oregon's labor force.

HECC staff leaders presented the report to a legislative subcommittee on February 5th. [Click here to view the presentation](#) (beginning at 33:10).

OregonServes Announces Software System to Connect Volunteers During Disasters

As a partner in the Oregon's Emergency Support Function for Volunteers and Donations, OregonServes hosts Oregon Volunteers in Disaster (ORVID), an innovative online system for disaster volunteer management. ORVID streamlines the volunteer process by matching volunteers to organizations in times of disaster, providing a seamless experience for volunteers and organizations alike. ORVID is suited for emergency managers and various organizations active in disaster including government agencies, non-profits, and tribal organizations. [Learn more here](#). OregonServes is a program of the HECC.