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23-127

AUTHORIZE INCREASE IN TUITION FOR CREDIT
PROGRAM COURSES FOR THE 2023-2024 AND 2024-
2025 ACADEMIC YEARS (2023-2025 BIENNIUM)

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STRATEGIC THEME: Enterprise: Cultivate a long-term sustainable college
enterprise

REPORT: In the current 2021-2023 biennium, cuts of nearly \$20 million have been made in the base General Fund budget across the College in personnel, travel, and information technology. Growth in projected expenditures, including unfunded mandates and contractual obligations, continues to outpace additional resources. Further, enrollment on a full-time equivalent (FTE) basis continues to decline. The level of support from the CCSF for the 2023-2025 biennium is not yet known but is unlikely to increase significantly to cover current service levels. The Governor's recommended base budget would increase the CCSF by less than the Oregon community college current service level as calculated by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC).

Consistent with the adopted budget principle that PCC will address budget shortfalls by recommending increases to tuition and fees of no more than 40% of budgeted revenue, staff recommends that the proposed budget for the 2023-2025 biennium be based on a tuition increase of \$5.00 per credit hour (4.0%) for each of the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 academic years for resident and border state resident students and the same percentage increase of 4% each year or \$10.00 per credit hour for non-resident and international students. Tuition rates have been reviewed along with rates for mandatory fees and the

recommendation to eliminate the \$8 per term Student Transportation Fee for the 2023-2025 Biennium. These percentage increases are consistent too with the HECC funding estimates based on an average tuition increase of 4.2% across all Oregon community colleges.

Under this proposal, tuition rates for resident and border state resident students would be \$128 per credit hour in 2023-2024 and \$133 per credit hour in 2024-2025. Tuition rates for non-resident and international students would be \$268 per credit hour in 2023-2024 and \$278 per credit hour in 2024-2025. Currently, PCC ranks 12th or in the bottom third in annualized resident tuition and fees among the 17 Oregon community colleges. For annualized international tuition and fees, out of 16 Oregon community colleges offering an international program, PCC ranks in the bottom third. Most other Oregon community colleges have not yet set their tuition and fee rates for the 2023-2024 academic year. Over the past 3 years, PCC is one of only two community colleges in the state of Oregon that did not increase tuition.

PCC competes with other regional community colleges as well as Portland State University and other Portland-area colleges and universities for international (non-resident) students. The current PCC rate of \$258 per credit hour compares favorably with Chemeketa CC (\$269), Clackamas CC (\$283), Portland State (\$620-\$670, depending on department), and Mt. Hood CC (\$261).

PCC reviewed the minimum tuition rates for Community Education (CED) and Continuing Education (CEU) programs in 2009 and changed the CED minimum rate at that time. These programs are designated to be largely self-sufficient. Actual tuition and fees for CED and CEU programs are usually determined by what the market will bear and the cost of providing such programs. Tuition for these programs are often set at rates higher than the minimum rate. As such, staff recommends no change to the minimum rates charged in these programs.

RECOMMENDATION: We recommend the following tuition rates for credit courses be effective for the 2023-2025 Biennium:

Resident: Oregon residents, who are under the age of 62, will be charged \$128 per credit hour effective beginning

Summer Term 2023 and \$133 per credit hour effective beginning Summer Term 2024.

Border State Resident: Residents of states bordering Oregon (Washington, Idaho, Nevada, and California), who are under the age of 62, will be charged \$128 per credit hour effective beginning Summer Term 2023 and \$133 per credit hour effective beginning Summer Term 2024.

Non-Resident: Persons not residing in Oregon or bordering states (including all international students) will be charged \$268 per credit hour effective beginning Summer Term 2023 and \$278 per credit hour effective beginning Summer Term 2024.

Students who are age 62 or older: As mandated under ORS 341.534 (HB2011 in 2009), the College will waive tuition for Oregon residents who are age 62 or older who enroll in credit courses on a space available basis when the course is taken for an audit grade.

Exception for Credit Courses: Reductions to credit course rates must be approved on a case-by-case basis by the President.

We recommend the following rates for academic non-credit courses as follows:

ESOL:

Level 1-3: Will remain at 10% of credit course rate per contact hour.

Level 4-5: Will remain at 30% of credit course rate per contact hour.

ABE:

Will remain at 10% of credit course rate per contact hour.

Community Education (CED):

The minimum rate charged for CED courses will remain at \$5.50 per contact hour or \$25 for a class for the 2023-2025 biennium.

Continuing Education (CEU):

The minimum rate charged for CEU courses will remain at \$5.70 per contact hour for the 2023-2025 biennium.