

February 20, 2025

25-056

AUTHORIZE INCREASE IN TUITION FOR CREDIT PROGRAM  
COURSES FOR THE 2025-2026 AND 2026- 2027 ACADEMIC  
YEARS (2025-2027 BIENNIUM)

PREPARED BY: Michael Mathews, Interim Associate Vice President of Financial Operations and Compliance

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY: Dina Farrell, Vice President, Business & Finance/Chief Financial Officer

APPROVED BY: Dina Farrell, Vice President, Business & Finance/Chief Financial Officer  
Dr. Katy Ho, Executive Vice President  
Dr. Adrien L. Bennings, President

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

REPORT: Beginning in July of 2024, work commenced on developing and implementing the Fiscal Sustainability Framework and Action Plan (FSAP). The FSAP is designed to ensure the long-term financial health and stability of Portland Community College (PCC), aligning with the college's mission while prioritizing student success and institutional effectiveness. The approach emphasizes ongoing adjustments to balance expenses and revenues. These actions aim to build a stable ending fund balance of 12%-18%, providing the financial stability needed to help mitigate broad staff and service reductions in the future. On November 19, 2024, the Fiscal Sustainability Action Plan detailing the college's six-year plan was published and the FSAP website was launched to the PCC community.

In light of increased competition for state resources and a lower-than-anticipated Governor's requested budget, which does not meet the Current Service Level requirements for community colleges, PCC is projecting a declining fund balance over the next six years.

This plan will result in budget reductions of \$14.78M in the 2025-2027 Biennium. This will continue to be an iterative process over the next six years as our revenue, expenditure, and enrollment forecasts change.

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 suggest that the

proposed budget for the 2025-2027 biennium include a tuition increase of \$5.00 per credit hour (3.8%) for each of the next two, 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 academic years for resident and border state resident students. For non-resident and international students, a 3.8% increase per year, equivalent to an increase of \$10.00 per credit hour, is proposed. Tuition rates and mandatory fees have been carefully reviewed in alignment with this recommendation.

As of the current fiscal year, PCC's tuition and fee rates rank 8th (in the middle of the range for annualized resident tuition and fees) among the 17 Oregon community colleges. Under this proposal, tuition rates for resident and border state resident students would be increased to \$138 per credit hour in 2025-2026 and \$143 per credit hour in 2026-2027. Tuition rates for non-resident and international students would be increased to \$288 per credit hour in 2025-2026 and \$298 per credit hour in 2026-2027. The proposed comparative rates for FY26 and FY27 for other Oregon community colleges are not yet known.

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 proposed PCC FY26 rate of \$288 per credit hour is still less than the FY25 rates for Chemeketa CC (\$312), Clackamas CC (\$302), Portland State University (base-cost of \$711), and Mt. Hood CC (\$269).

No increases have been proposed for Community Education (CED), Continuing Education (CEU), English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), or Adult Basic Education (ABE).

**RECOMMENDATION:** We recommend the following tuition rates for credit courses be effective for the 2025-2027 Biennium:

**Resident:** Oregon residents or border state residents (in Washington, Idaho, Nevada, and California) who are under the age of 62 will be charged \$138 per credit hour effective beginning Summer Term 2025 and \$143 per credit hour effective beginning Summer Term 2026.

**Non-Resident:** Persons not residing in Oregon or bordering states (including all international students) will be charged \$288 per credit hour effective beginning Summer Term 2025 and \$298 per credit hour effective beginning Summer Term 2026.

**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 2025-2027 biennium.

**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 2025-2027 biennium.

**Continuing Education (CEU):**

The minimum rate charged for CEU courses will remain at \$5.70 per contact hour for the 2025-2027 biennium.