

PATHWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY: CLOSING OPPORTUNITY GAPS AND INCREASING ECONOMIC MOBILITY



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PATHWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY

Pathways to Opportunity is a statewide initiative closing opportunity gaps and increasing economic mobility by expanding the federal, state, and local resources available to low-income students so more individuals can attend and complete college.

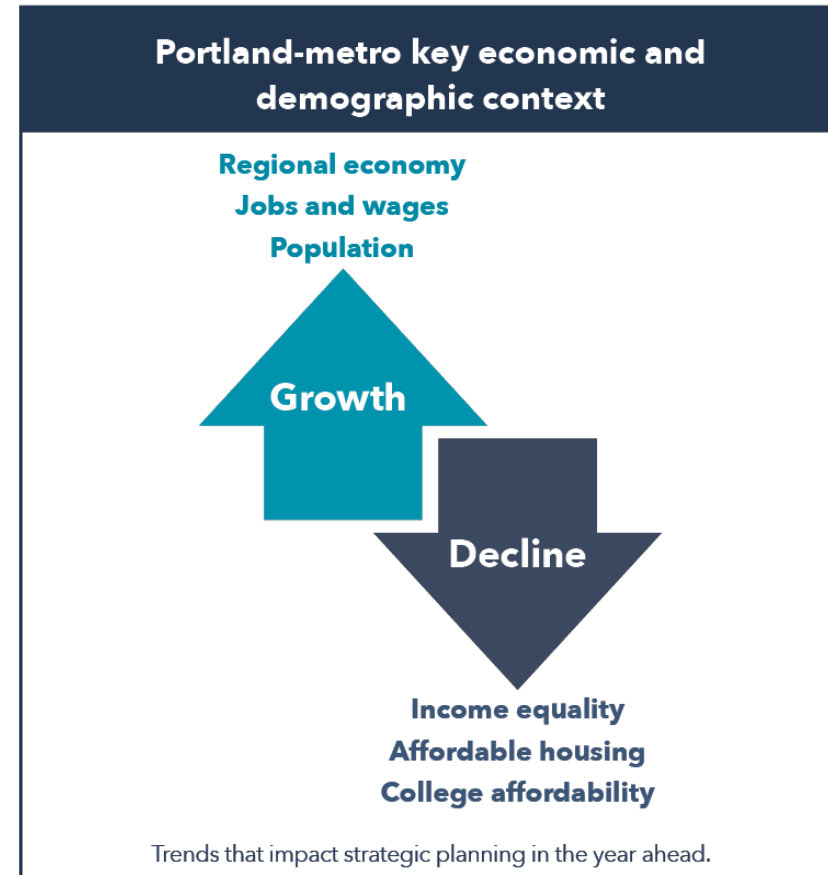
A TALE OF TWO STATES AND TWO CITIES

Our community is at a critical point.

The wealthiest Oregon community is West Portland with a per capita income of **\$53,122**

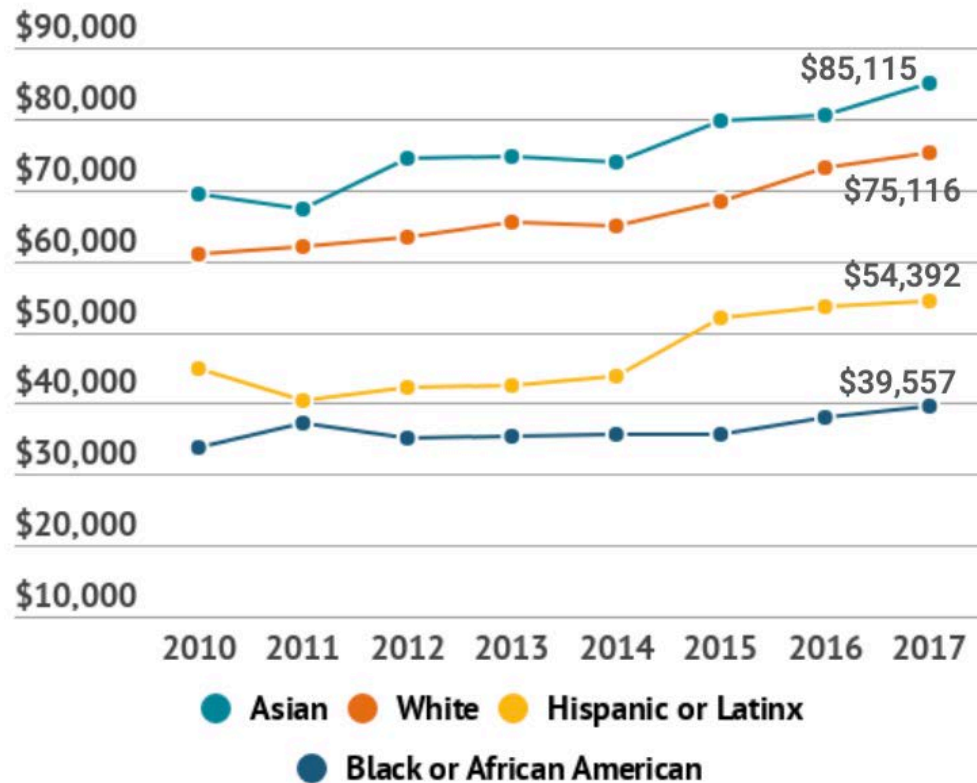
The least wealthy Oregon community is East Portland with a per capita income of **\$20,321**

Source: 2015 US Census ACS table S1902



OPPORTUNITY GAPS PERSISTS

Figure 5: Median household income (MHI)
in Portland region by race



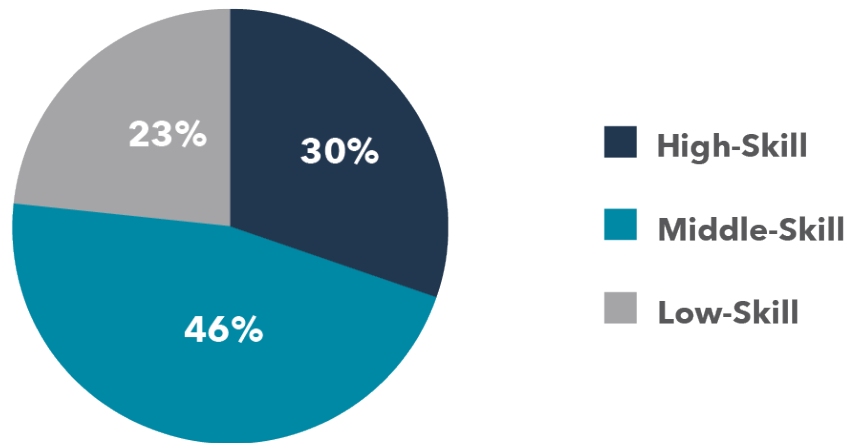
Source: American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, 2010 - 2017

There is a **\$5 difference** in median hourly wage between a white worker and person of color in Oregon.

Since 1980, these **wage inequities have worsened**, not improved.

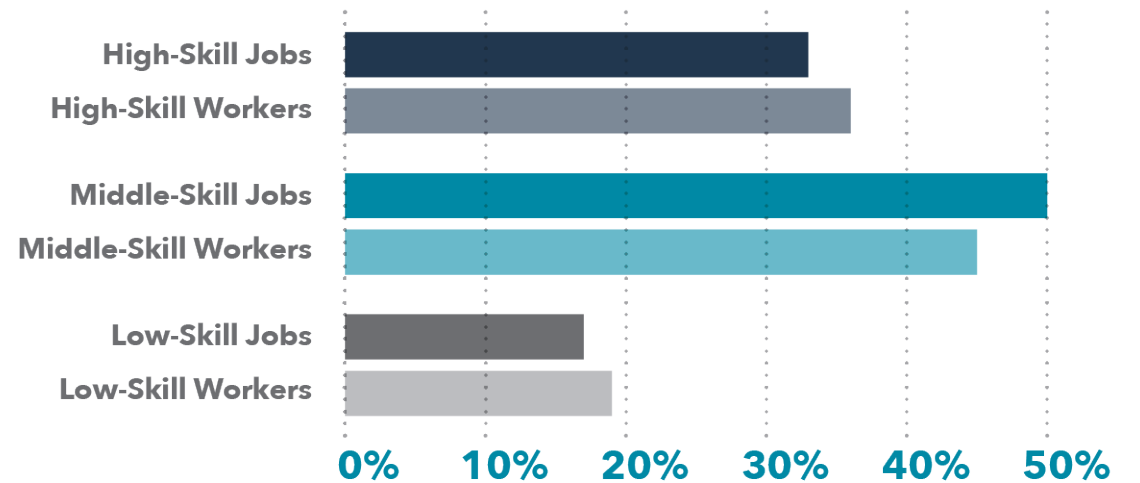
SKILLS GAP

Job Openings by Skill Level, Oregon, 2014-2024



Source: NSC analysis of long-term occupational projections from state labor/employment agency.

Jobs and Workers by Skill Level, Oregon, 2015



Source: NSC analysis of Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Employment Statistics by State, May 2015 and American Community Survey data, 2015.

EDUCATION = OPPORTUNITY

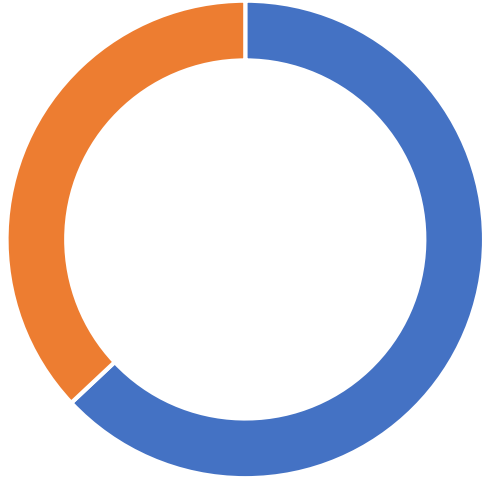
442,000 adults 25 and older in Oregon are unemployed or working making less than \$15/hr without postsecondary credentials. It would take 9 years of HS grads to equate to this number to address the skills gap.




Nationally, 99% of jobs created during the recovery have gone to workers with at least some college education, while those with a high school diploma or less are being left behind.


Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce

HOUSING AND FOOD INSECURITY



63% of PCC students surveyed experienced food insecurity

	Community Colleges	4-year Colleges and Universities
Food Insecurity	42-56%	36-41%
Housing Insecurity	46-60%	36-48%
Homelessness	12-18%	9-14%



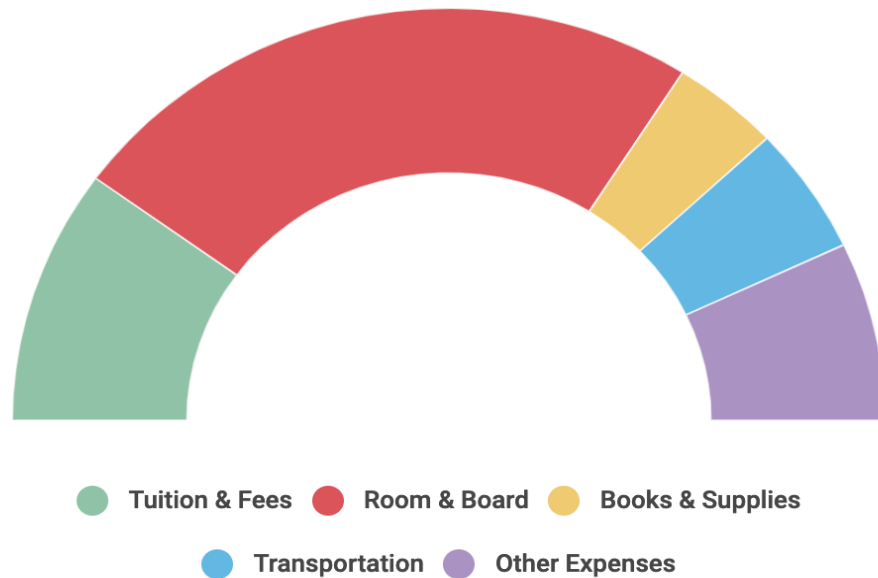
THE **hope** CENTER

For College, Community, and Justice

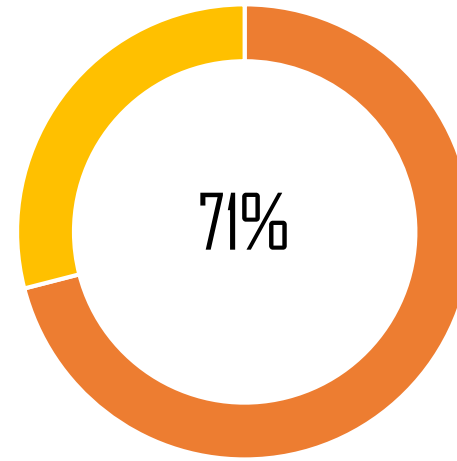
Dr. Sara Goldrick-Rab's presentation, Pathways to Opportunity Spring Summit: May 2, 2019

UNMET NEED

Average College Costs at Community Colleges



Source: *Average Estimated Undergraduate Budgets, 2017-2018*, College Board, <https://edtru.st/2Q3VdwV>



public 2 yr. students with unmet financial need¹

Unmet need is a significant barrier to student enrollment and completion, and the lack of public policies to address it poses a significant challenge to improving access and advancing equity within postsecondary education.¹

POLICY MATTERS

National Recognition: Oregon's work is highlighted in new CLASP report, *Leveraging Public Benefits to Improve States' Postsecondary Access and Completion*, by leading researcher, Amy Ellen Duke-Benfield

Oregon is the first state to enact legislation that instructs state agencies and colleges to better align public benefits to support postsecondary attendance for students with low incomes. Passed in 2018, HB 4043 created Oregon's Pathways and Opportunity initiative, which expands the federal, state, and local resources available to students with low incomes. HB 4043 directed the community colleges to join state agencies, the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), the Office of the Governor, and other stakeholders to

79th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY--2018 Regular Session

Enrolled House Bill 4043

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Presession filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Higher Education and Workforce Development for Oregon Community Colleges Association)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to benefits for community college students; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, "community college" has the meaning given that term in ORS 341.005.

(2) Community colleges in this state shall jointly conduct a study to determine the best method or methods for helping community college students:

(a) Learn about state or federal programs that offer financial or other benefits to community college students; and

(b) Apply for benefits described in paragraph (a) of this subsection.

(3) In conducting the study required under subsection (2) of this section, community colleges shall convene relevant stakeholders, including but not limited to:

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE



CLASP

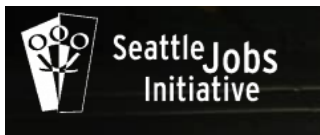
Policy Solutions That Work For Low-Income People



The Education Trust



NATIONAL SKILLS COALITION
Every worker. Every industry. A strong economy.



OREGON'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE STEP (SNAP 50/50) CONSORTIA



BUILDING ON BEST PRACTICES



< 29 = 2x wages



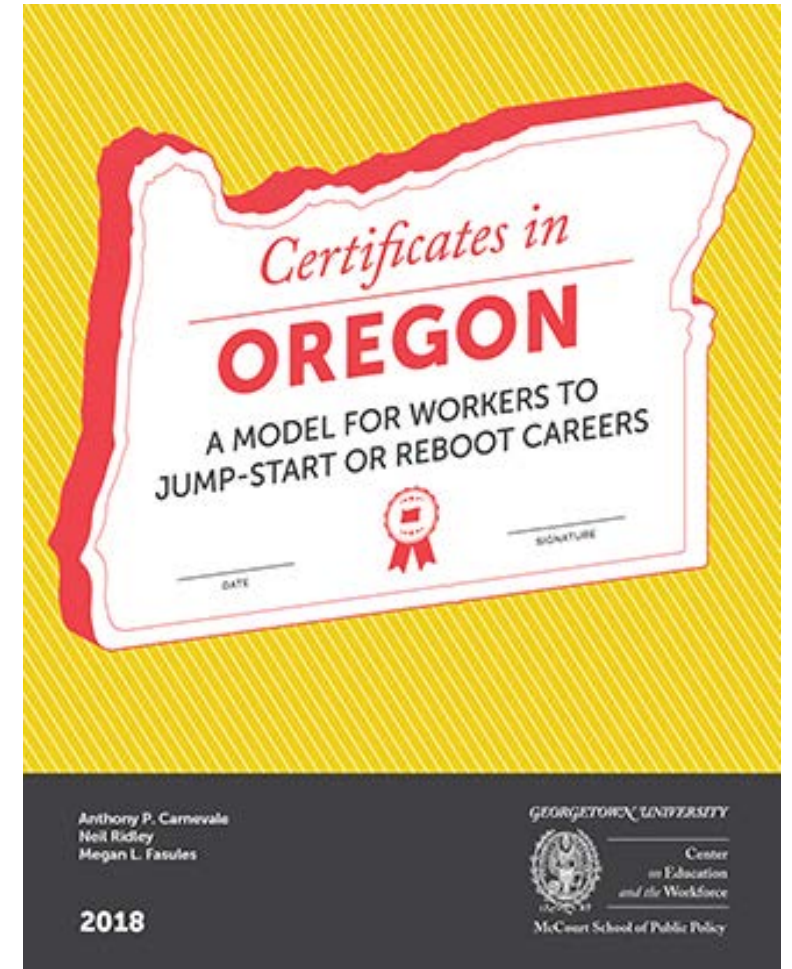
\$9,600 for Pell



+ \$5,000 / 19%

3x

Certificates since 2007

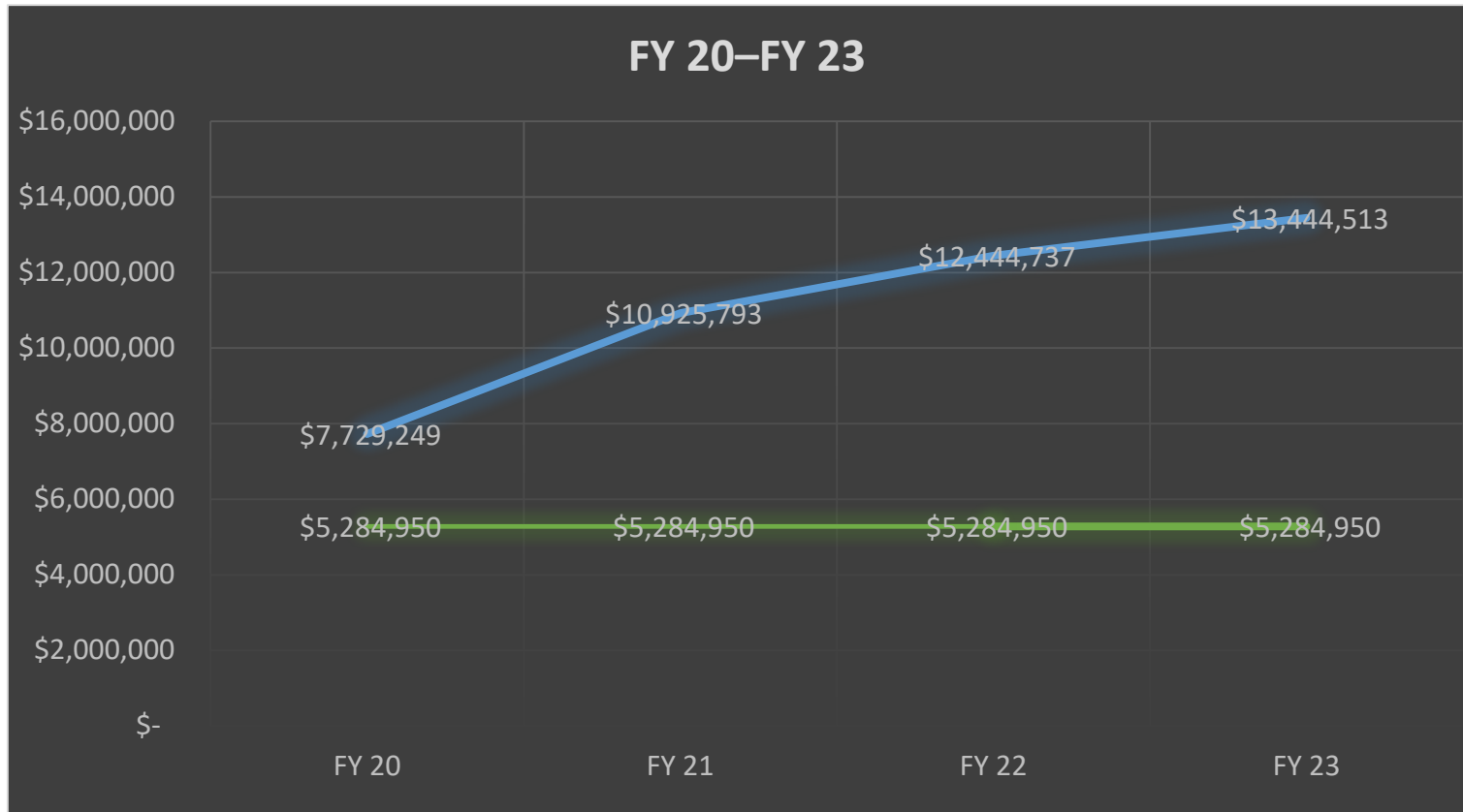


STEP – WHERE POLICY AND PRACTICE MEET

- SNAP (formerly know as Food Stamps) = Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- STEP = SNAP Training Employment Program, Oregon's SNAP 50/50
- SNAP 50/50 is a federal reimbursement grant where providers are reimbursed for 50% of their expenses to enhance, enhance, or create new services for SNAP recipients
- Reimbursement is reinvested back into the program, providing key staffing and support services for students (tuition, fees, books, tools, transportation, etc.)



ALIGNMENT OF VALUES AND BUDGET = ROI



- Anticipate **PCC's FFY 20 Budget = \$1.9 million and 325k student support**; Consortia budget of over **\$8 million**
- With continued baseline funding and reinvestment, Oregon community colleges could see **STEP grow from \$5.065 million to \$13.44 million in 2 biennia**
- This same approach to investing resources could bring in **\$39 million in federal funding to all 17 of Oregon's community colleges** between FY 19 and FY25

NEXT STEPS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Significant expansion of SNAP Student Eligibility
- All 17 community colleges part of STEP Consortia
- Systemic approach to braiding together holistic services and resources for students
- Continuing national recognition and leadership position for Oregon and PCC
- Building Pathways to Opportunity Coalition, with multiple strategies to fund and propel statewide work
- Listen to students, community, and employers; Closing opportunity gaps is a social justice and economic development



QUESTIONS?

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Report and more information can be found on President Mitsui's web page (Initiatives: Pathways to Opportunity Link)

<http://www.pcc.edu/about/administration/president/pathways/>