

September 21, 2000

00-024

AUTHORITY TO CHARGE FEES FOR ADULT BASIC  
STUDIES COURSES STARTING WINTER 2001

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REPORT: PCC has provided Basic Studies Education to both limited English speakers and others without charging tuition for over 30 years. The demand for these services exceeds the financial resources available to the College through the normal funding channels in recent years and the trend is not likely to reverse. The increasing demand can only be met by generating additional revenue by charging a nominal fee. Staff's report to the Board on July 20, 2000 included recommendations addressing this issue.

The recommendation includes assessing fees to Adult Basic Studies students beginning winter term 2001. The money will be used to fund the incremental cost of providing adult basic skills services to ESL, ABE, and GED students.

The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 consolidated federal adult education programs with the nation's employment and training programs. Title II of the new Act specifically reauthorized Adult Education and Literacy Programs. The new Act became effective on July 1, 2000. Unlike previous regulations, the new Act allows for the charging of fees for services, provided that those fees do not preclude serving the most in need. Portland Community College will institute a fee waiver process along with the new fee structure to ensure that no student will be denied services because of inability to pay.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board approve the following fee structure to be assessed beginning winter term 2001 for Adult Basic Studies students: a one-time testing fee of \$10.00 for assessment and \$20.00 per term.

Director Germond moved to approve Resolution 01-024 and it passed unanimously.