

January 30, 2003

03-057

RATIFY IMPLEMENTATION OF ONE-TIME
APPLICATION FEE

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APPROVED BY:

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REPORT:

PCC receives over 35,000 applications for admission annually. These applications require the college to assess and advise every applicant prior to their first registration. In the past, the cost of this process could be reasonably borne by increases in State support that derived from increased full-time enrollments (FTE).

State support has declined precipitously in the last 18 months. There is no prospect that added funding will be provided in F04/F05 to restore State support to even parity with earlier levels (i.e., Fiscal 00 or 01). In the meantime growth in applications and student demand continues.

The application fee will also deter those from applying who are not serious about beginning classes at PCC, and are only seeking free assessment services.

Partially in response to the decline in funding and to attempt to render appropriate levels of service to applicants, PCC is moving to a web-based application process. This is hoped to stem some of the costs the College incurs in reviewing and processing applications, but it will not reduce all of the costs.

A one-time application fee of \$25 has been implemented in late 2002 to help provide "fill-in" funding for processing the explosive growth in student applications for admission. Such a fee is typical of many higher education institutions, and is becoming common in community colleges as well. At least three Oregon community colleges now have such a fee.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Directors ratify the implementation of a one-time application fee of \$25, to be assessed on all applicants for admission to credit programs at PCC. This fee would apply "once per lifetime" to each applicant.

Resolutions 03-056 and 03-057 were moved for approval by Director Germond and the motion passed unanimously.