



2025 Legislative Session & Advocacy

Lunch & Learn – Jan. 30, 2025

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Legislative Session Overview

How it works & what to expect

Legislative and Budget Process

- **Late November 2024:** Leadership Elections and Committee Assignments
- **Dec 1, 2024:** Governor's Budget Released
- **Dec 10 -12, 2024:** Legislative Committee Days
- **Jan 13-17, 2025:** Organizational Days
- **January 21, 2025:** 2025 Legislative Session Begins
- **Feb – March 2025:** Ways and Means Co-Chairs Release Budget
- **May – June 2025:** Legislature Passes Budget Bills
- **June 28, 2025:** Session Ends

Committees We Follow

SENATE

- **Committee on Education** – meets 8:00-9:30 a.m. Mondays/Wednesdays
 - ❖ *Chair: Sen. Lew Frederick; Vice Chair: Sen. Suzanne Weber*

HOUSE

- **Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development** – meets 8:00-9:30 a.m. Tuesdays/Thursdays
 - ❖ *Chair: Rep. Zach Hudson; Vice Chairs: Rep. Lisa Fragala & Rep. Darin Harbick*

Committees to Follow

JOINT (budget)

- **Committee on Ways & Means** – meets 9:30-11:30 a.m. Fridays
 - ❖ *Chairs: Sen. Kate Lieber & Rep. Tawna Sanchez; Vice Chairs: Sen. Fred Girod, Rep. David Gomberg & Rep. Greg Smith*
- **Ways & Means Subcommittee on Education** – meets 1:00-2:30 p.m. Mondays/Wednesdays
 - ❖ *Chairs: Sen. Janeen Sollman & Rep. Ricki Ruiz*
- **Ways & Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction** – meets 8:00-9:30 a.m. Fridays
 - ❖ *Chairs: Sen. Fred Girod & Rep. Rob Nosse*

Key Issues in the 2025 Session

- Housing
- Behavioral Health
- Early Childhood Education
- K-12 Funding
- Transportation
- Significant Member Turnover and Retirements – 19 Freshmen Legislators

| Major Session Bills

(So Far)

HB 5525

- Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) Agency Budget Bill
 - ❖ *Community College Support Fund (CCSF) resides within this budget, along with the Oregon Opportunity Grant (OOG).*
- Currently, HB 5525 identifies a need for \$858.9 million for the CCSF
 - ❖ *OCCA will advocate for a true Current Service Level of **\$920 million** to better support the true needs of the colleges.*

HB 5525

- HB 5525 lists the Oregon Opportunity Grant at \$276 million for the 2025-27 biennium
 - ❖ *OCCA will advocate for **\$450 million** to expand access to more Oregonians needing financial assistance to attain an education.*

HB 5505

- Community college capital construction funding (Article XI-G matching bond funds up to \$8 million)
 - ❖ *Clackamas CC – Center for Excellence for Farming, Horticulture & Wildland Fire (Article XI-G match request: \$8 million)*
 - ❖ *Klamath CC – Childcare Learning Center & Cosmetology ADA Updates (Article XI-G match request: \$8 million)*
 - ❖ *Mt. Hood CC – Classroom & Lab Renovations (Article XI-G match request: \$8 million)*

SB 478

- Modifies Board of Education governance at community colleges.
 - ❖ *Requires boards to approve a college's membership in a state or national association;*
 - ❖ *Permits colleges to provide up to \$500 monthly stipends for board members (which can be declined by board members when offered)*
 - ❖ *Requires boards to have official email addresses available on the college website*
 - ❖ *Requires an additional voting board member who is a full-time student.*



OCCCA Legislative Priorities

Approved by OCCCA Board on 12/6/2024

Legislative Priorities

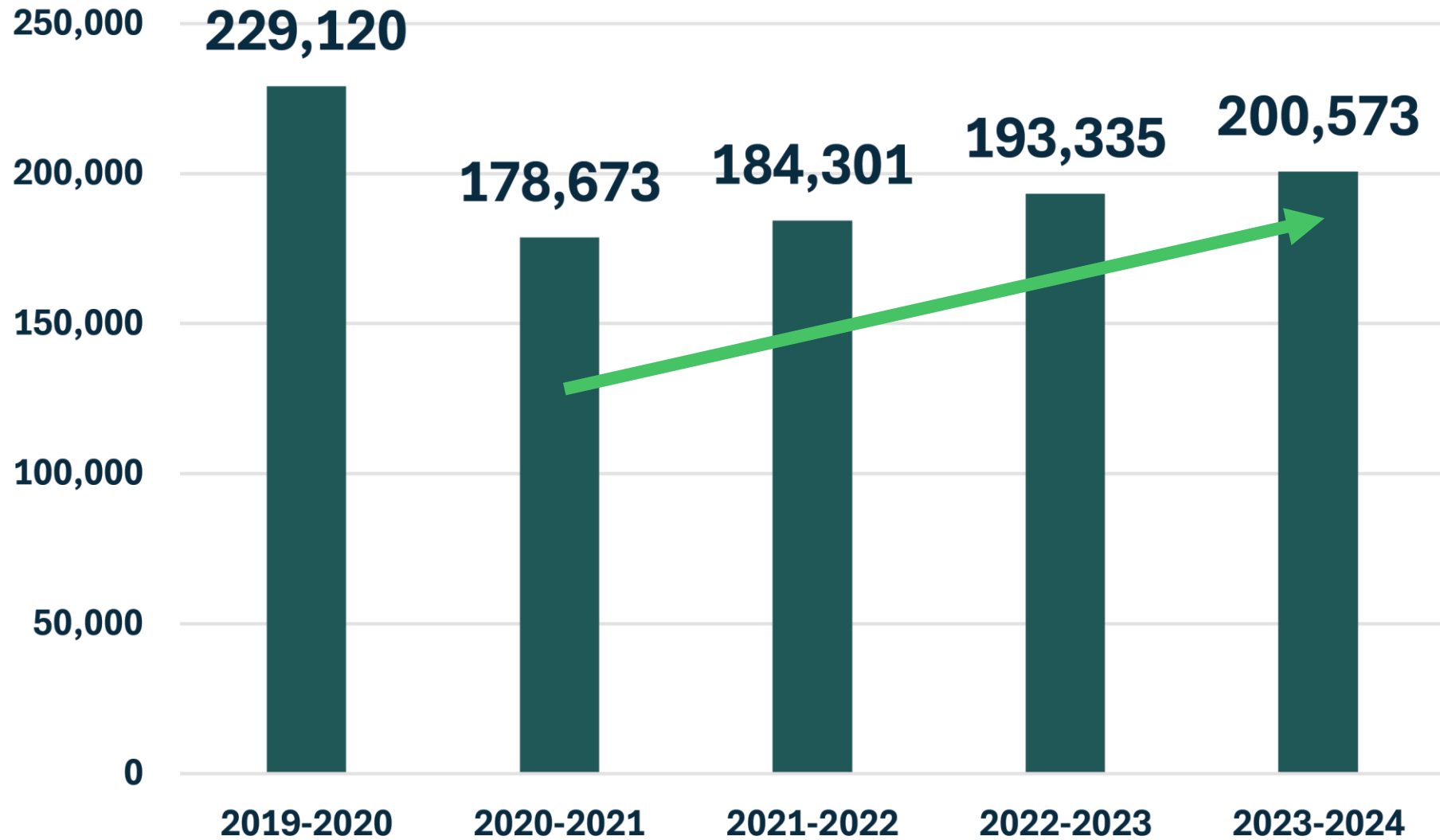
2025 Session

1. Increase the Community College Support Fund (CCSF)
2. Raise the cap on community college capital construction matching funds
3. Expand funding for the Oregon Opportunity Grant (OOG)
4. Secure resources for student basic needs
5. Funding support for colleges to transition to corequisite student support models
6. Develop an Adult Reconnect work group to reengage learners with some college credit but no credential

Community College Support Fund (CCSF)

- HECC Agency Budget: \$858.9 million (state CSL)
- Governor's Recommended Budget: \$870.4 million for CCSF
- **True CSL for community colleges: \$920 million**
 - ❖ *What's needed to sustain current services with only modest tuition increases*
 - ❖ *Covers rising costs of operations, ensuring colleges can maintain essential programs and avoid potential cuts – to protect current services colleges need an increase of 15.7 percent from the 2023-2025 biennium.*
 - ❖ *Accounts for steady enrollment increase trend over last two years – Fall FTE was up 7% statewide, with a 4.3% increase in statewide headcount over 2023*

Headcount - Statewide



Capital Construction Matching Funds Cap Increase

- Since 2005, state matching funds have been capped at \$8 million for community college capital construction projects
- Adjusting for inflation, that amount should be **\$14 million** today
 - ❖ *Addresses rising costs of construction & labor*
 - ❖ *Ensures colleges can modernize & expand facilities*



Note: This request is separate from the Capital Construction budget for community colleges

Oregon Opportunity Grant Funding

- HB 5525 lists the Oregon Opportunity Grant at \$276 million for the 2025-27 biennium
 - ❖ *OCCA will advocate for **\$450 million** to expand access to more Oregonians needing financial assistance to attain an education.*
 - ❖ *Increase would bridge gaps in educational attainment for students, including recent high school grads and adult learners*



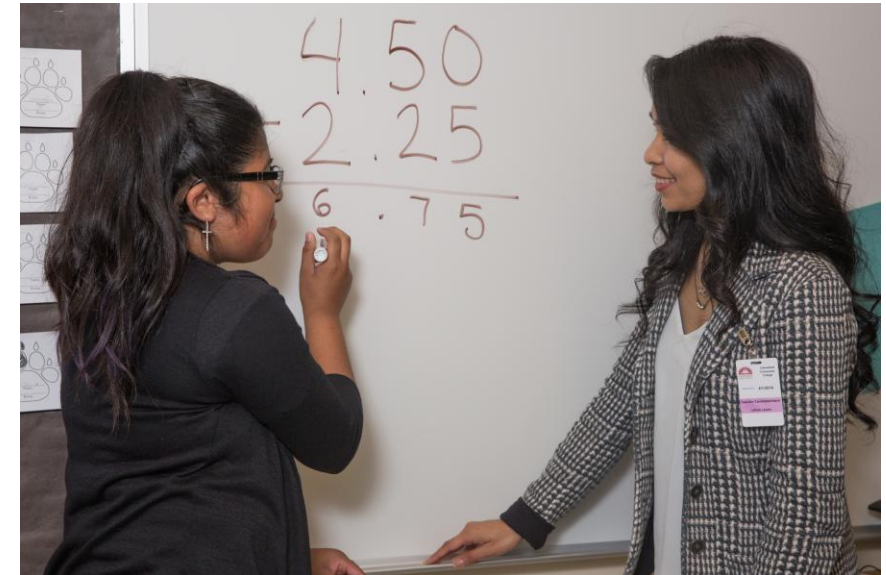
Student Basic Needs Funding

- Recognizing the growing financial challenges faced by students, OCCA supports an ongoing **\$10 million investment** in programs that address food insecurity, housing, and transportation needs at community colleges & public universities
 - ❖ *These resources are essential for student success & retention*



Corequisite Support Model Funding

- Corequisite student support models, which have shown significant success in improving math outcomes for underserved students, require investment to expand statewide
 - ❖ *OCCA will advocate for **\$1 million in one-time funding** to provide faculty training and support*
 - ❖ *This will accelerate the transition to these proven models to support student success*



Adult Reconnect Policy Bill

- To help Oregonians who paused their education during the COVID-19 pandemic, OCCA proposes a policy initiative directing HECC to study & recommend implementation strategies for Adult Reconnect programs
 - ❖ *These programs aim to bring students with some college credit back to community colleges to complete credentials aligned with workforce needs*



| Advocacy Opportunities

“Community colleges work for Oregon”

Advocacy Opportunities



CTE Month

February 2025

- Social Media Posts
- One-Click Politics Campaign



CC Day of Action

May (exact date TBA)

- One-Click Politics Campaign
- Social Media Posts



OOG Lobby Day

February 13 at the Capital

- One-Click Politics Campaign



One-Click Campaigns

Easily reach out to legislators with just one click

- Email, phone, X (Twitter) & video messaging options



CC Lobby Day

March 6 at the Capital

- Following Legislative Summit
- Meet with local legislators



Ways & Means Hearing

Submit written or provide oral testimony during public testimony period of CC budget presentation to Ways & Means Committee

Online Advocacy Toolkit



One-Pagers

Informational leave-behind docs

- CCSF
- Capital Construction



Talking Points

Guidance as you speak with legislators

- CCSF
- SB 478



Letters to the Editor

Templates for writing to your local paper

- Board Members – budget
- Students – budget & affordability



Testimony Templates

Templates for providing written or oral testimonies on certain topics

- Coming soon!



Tip Sheets

Guidance for effective lobbying

- Lobby Tips
- Social Media Guidance



Trainings

Online training resources

- Advocacy Training
- Community Colleges 101

Find the Toolkit:

<https://www.occa17.com/advocacy-toolkit/>

Questions?

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