



CENTRAL OREGON
community college

**CENTRAL OREGON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Board of Directors' Meeting – AGENDA
Wednesday, December 10, 2025 – 5:45 PM
Boyle Education Center Boardroom / YouTube

TIME**	ITEM	ENC.*	ACTION	PRESENTER
5:45 p.m.				
	I. Call to Order			Skatvold
	II. Native Lands Acknowledgement	2a.1*		Skatvold
	III. Roll Call			Alberg
	IV. Agenda Changes			Skatvold
	V. Information Items			
	1. Introduction to Mahlum Architects			LaLonde/Cork ^P
	2. Open Educational Resources and Developmental Education			Rule ^P
	VI. Public Comment			Alberg
	VII. Consent Agenda***			
	1. Work Session Minutes (11.12.25)	7a.1-5*	X	Matthews ^A
	2. Regular Meeting Minutes (11.12.25)	7b.1-8*	X	Matthews ^A
	VIII. Information Items			
	1. Monthly Budget Status	8a.1-4*		LaLonde ^A
	2. New Hire Reports	8b.1-2*		Boehme ^A
	IX. New Business			
	1. Emeritus Status for Retiring Staff	9a.1*	X	Boehme ^A
	X. Board of Directors' Operations			
	1. Recommended Changes to GP4: Chair– person/Vice–Chairperson Role, 2 nd Reading	10a.1-4*	X	Craska Cooper
	2. Committee Updates			
	a. Advocacy Committee	10b.1-2*		Foote Morgan
	b. Policy Review Committee			Craska Cooper
	3. Board Member Activities			
	XI. President's Report			Pereira
	XII. Dates			Skatvold
	1. Sunday, December 14 – Redmond Community Choir Performance – Redmond High School Auditorium at 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.			
	2. December 22–26, Closed for Winter Break			

* Material to be distributed via e-mail & USPS (as necessary)

** Times listed on the agenda are approximate to assist the Chair of the Board.

*** Confirmation of Consent Agenda items submitted by the President. Any item may be moved from the Consent Agenda to Old/New Business by a Board Member asking the Chair to consider the item separately.

P - indicates a Presentation will be provided.

A - indicates the presenter is Available for background information if requested.

3. Thursday, January 1, Closed for New Year's Day
4. Wednesday, January 7 – Real Estate Committee Meeting – Remotely via Zoom at 4:30 p.m.
5. Wednesday, January 14 – Board of Directors' Meeting – Boyle Education Center Boardroom at 5:45 p.m.
6. Thursday, January 20 – Season for Nonviolence: Cleve Jones – 6:30 p.m. at the Tower Theatre in Bend
7. Friday, January 30 – Inside Look at the COCC Madras Campus' New Building at 3:00 p.m.

XIII. Adjourn to Executive Session	Skatvold
ORS 192.660 section 2, subsection d, Labor Negotiations	
XIV. Adjourn to Open Session	Skatvold
XV. Open Session	
XVI. Adjourn	Skatvold

* Material to be distributed via e-mail & USPS (as necessary)

** Times listed on the agenda are approximate to assist the Chair of the Board.

*** Confirmation of Consent Agenda items submitted by the President. Any item may be moved from the Consent Agenda to Old/New Business by a Board Member asking the Chair to consider the item separately.

P - indicates a Presentation will be provided.

A - indicates the presenter is Aavailable for background information if requested.

Purpose: To acknowledge someone is to say, “I see you. You are significant.” The purpose of a land acknowledgement is to recognize and pay respect to the original inhabitants of a specific region. It is an opportunity to express gratitude and appreciation to those whose territory you exist in.

COCC Land Acknowledgement

(Condensed Version)

COCC would like to acknowledge that the beautiful land our campuses reside on, are the original homelands of the **Wasq’ú** (Wasco), and the **Wana Lama** (Warm Springs) people. They ceded this land to the US government in the Treaty of 1855. The **Numu** (Paiute) people were forcibly moved to the Warm Springs Indian Reservation starting in 1879. It is also important to note that the Klamath Trail ran north through this region to the great Celilo Falls trading grounds. Descendants of these original people are thriving members of our communities today. We acknowledge and thank the original stewards of this land.



**CENTRAL OREGON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Board of Directors' Work Session – AGENDA
Wednesday, November 12, 2025 – 4:00 PM
Boyle Education Center Boardroom / YouTube

TIME**	ITEM	ENC.*	ACTION	PRESENTER
4:00pm	I. Called to Order at 4:06 p.m.			Skatvold
	1. In attendance: Erica Skatvold (Chair), Jim Porter (Vice–Chair), Laura Craska Cooper, Alan Unger, Erin Merz, Erin Foote Morgan, Joe Krenowicz, Greg Pereira (President), Lucas Alberg, Kyle Matthews			
	II. Review the President’s Goals	2a.1*		Pereira
	i. Build Culture			
	1. This aligns with the Student–Ready College goal from COCC’s strategic plan for 2023–27.			
	2. Measurable outcomes			
	a. Pilot an expanded Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to include representatives from the Faculty Forum and Classified Association.			
	b. Attempt to meet with every full–time employee in one–on–one meetings.			
	ii. Post–COVID Clean Up			
	1. This aligns with the College Sustainability goal from the strategic plan.			
	2. Measurable outcomes			
	a. Develop a college–wide plan to assess and address inefficient processes and procedures.			
	i. Merz asked if actions have been taken to start this project.			
	ii. Pereira said he has had informal discussions with COCC’s vice presidents. The next step is the expand the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to include Amy Harper from the Faculty Forum and a to–be–determined representative of the Classified Association. They will be meeting monthly for a one–year pilot, starting next week. Pereira noted that measuring in–efficiencies will be difficult as it can be measured in time, funds, positions, etc.			
	iii. Merz asked if this goal could be accomplished within the coming year.			
	iv. Pereira suggested it would be possible to accomplish by July 1 as long as there is a reasonable plan to follow.			

* Material to be distributed via e-mail & USPS (as necessary)

** Times listed on the agenda are approximate to assist the Chair of the Board.

*** Confirmation of Consent Agenda items submitted by the President. Any item may be moved from the Consent Agenda to Old/New Business by a Board Member asking the Chair to consider the item separately.

P = indicates a Presentation will be provided.

A = indicates the presenter is Available for background information if requested.

iii. Community Engagement

1. This aligns with the Community Engagement goal from the strategic plan.
2. Measurable outcomes
 - a. Attempt to meet with at least one third of community partners identified by the Board by July 2025.
 - b. Join a minimum of two boards to serve in a leadership capacity within the community and outside of COCC.
 - i. Craska Cooper asked whether it would be practical for Pereira to join two boards during his first year as president.
 - ii. Pereira noted that past presidents have served on the boards of Economic Development of Central Oregon (EDCO) and Better Together Central Oregon, and suggested that it would be a good idea to continue that practice. Craska Cooper concurred.

iv. Long-Term Vision

1. This aligns with the Access goal from the strategic plan.
2. Measurable outcomes
 - a. Select a signature program for the Prineville campus.
 - i. Merz asked if Pereira intends to select a program within the coming year or later in the future.
 - ii. Pereira said that Instructional Outreach Dean Cindy Lenhart has been working with the Prineville campus' staff to receive feedback from community members on what they would like to see happen at the campus. Unless there are clear signs for a specific need in Crook County that the campus can meet, this project should not be rushed.
 - b. Expand COCC's partnership with La Pine High School (LPHS).
 - i. Craska Cooper asked for more information on this goal.
 - ii. Pereira said that he and LPHS' principal have been collaborating on this goal and that the language was intentionally broad as they are still discussing next steps. This could include COCC offering additional Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs to LPHS students and sending more COCC recruiters to LPHS.
 - iii. Foote Morgan asked if language could be added to plan for developing a long-term engagement plan with southern Deschutes County.
 - iv. Pereira said it would depend on the details of the plan. After the first year in collaboration with LPHS, further discussions could take place regarding what seems to be working and what isn't.
3. Foote Morgan asked how Pereira planned to follow-up on this goal and whether he intends to promote it with members of the community.

* Material to be distributed via e-mail & USPS (as necessary)

** Times listed on the agenda are approximate to assist the Chair of the Board.

*** Confirmation of Consent Agenda items submitted by the President. Any item may be moved from the Consent Agenda to Old/New Business by a Board Member asking the Chair to consider the item separately.

P = indicates a Presentation will be provided.

A = indicates the presenter is Available for background information if requested.

- a. Pereira said the long-term goal of COCC being known as a first-choice college has received positive feedback from faculty, staff and community members. He would like to include it as part of this goal if possible.
- v. Porter asked Pereira if he felt it would be reasonable to expect all of these goals to be accomplished within the coming year.
 - 1. Pereira confirmed this, noting that the post-COVID clean up goal will likely be the most challenging. If this goal proves to require more time, it can be revisited at a later date.

III. Review Board Goals

3a.1-5*

Skatvold

- i. The following goals were drafted at the Board's retreat on May 31.
 - 1. Onboarding and setting up the new President for success
 - a. Craska Cooper suggested that this goal has been accomplished. Pereira concurred.
 - 2. Ongoing professional learning for the Board
 - a. Merz asked for more information on this goal.
 - b. Skatvold noted that this had been discussed by the Board's Advocacy Committee. This would include Board members attending conferences and trainings for board members, as well as inviting facilitators to Board retreats.
 - c. Merz added that the Advocacy Committee has been discussing advocacy and media trainings for the Board and that she would like the Board to receive another DEI training in the coming year.
 - d. Skatvold suggested this could be discussed further and included in a draft of goals to be presented at the Board's regular meeting in December.
 - e. Craska Cooper suggested the Board should receive training on artificial intelligence, specifically its limits and biases, as the Board will need to make decisions on policies around the subject. She also asked to include further education for the Board on COCC's budget.
 - 3. Community outreach
 - a. Foote Morgan noted that one of the goals of the Advocacy Committee is to provide opportunities for Board members to participate in advocacy.
 - b. Craska Cooper suggested that goal would align with community outreach. Foote Morgan concurred.
 - 4. Return to regular policy review
- ii. Skatvold suggested the above goals could be achieved in the coming year, as long as the Board can schedule and coordinate effectively.
- iii. The following topics were recommended by facilitator Mary Spilde to be discussed at a future Board retreat when Pereira is on staff. Most of these topics were discussed at the Board's retreat on September 6.
 - 1. Board roles and responsibilities
 - 2. Board-President relationship

* Material to be distributed via e-mail & USPS (as necessary)

** Times listed on the agenda are approximate to assist the Chair of the Board.

*** Confirmation of Consent Agenda items submitted by the President. Any item may be moved from the Consent Agenda to Old/New Business by a Board Member asking the Chair to consider the item separately.

P = indicates a Presentation will be provided.

A = indicates the presenter is Available for background information if requested.

3. Communication protocols
4. Strategic priorities and expectations for Pereira, which will constitute his workplan, and on which he will be evaluated
5. Defining what support of the president looks like
- iv. The Board will draft these goals further and discuss them again at their regular meeting in December.

IV. Review the Board Calendar for 2025–26

4a.1–3*

Skatvold

- i. Foote Morgan suggested adding the Association of Community College Trustees' (ACCT's) annual legislative summit in February.
- ii. Merz noted that the calendar included in this meeting's packet does not necessarily reflect the calendar found in the Board's policies. This calendar is maintained internally by COCC staff.
 1. Craska Cooper asked Matthews to add this topic to the agenda for the next Policy Review Committee meeting. Matthews concurred.
- iii. Merz also noted that the Board has changed its practice of sharing committee appointments in September, rather than in July as stated in the calendar.
- iv. Merz also noted that the Board's policies call for the Chair and Vice–Chair to consult with each Board member regarding their preferred committee assignments in July or August, so it should be included in this version of the calendar as well.
- v. Merz also noted that the Board has committed to schedule retreats further in advance in order to avoid schedule conflicts. While the calendar calls for fall and summer retreats, she suggested adding language that says “plan for fall retreat” and “plan for summer retreat.”
 1. Unger asked if the fall retreat should continue to be scheduled before the fall term begins.
 2. Skatvold said that the Board can schedule retreats whenever they see fit and noted that July could be a more appropriate month when new members are sworn in.
 3. Craska Cooper suggested the Board would not need more than two retreats per year, but could schedule additional retreats as needed. Porter concurred.
 4. Skatvold asked if the Board could commit to a regular retreat in January.
 5. Craska Cooper suggested January or February would be ideal.
- vi. Merz asked if the language stating “seek candidates” for the positions of Chair and Vice–Chair could be modified to say “solicit interest.” Craska Cooper concurred.
- vii. Merz noted that the calendar in the Board's policies says that the President's evaluation process should start in April, but the Board has been starting the process in March.
 1. Craska Cooper suggested the policy should be updated to reflect current practices.
- viii. Merz also suggested that updates from the Associated Students of COCC (ASCOCC) should be included somewhere in the calendar.
 1. Pereira said that the goal is for these updates to take place once per term.

* Material to be distributed via e-mail & USPS (as necessary)

** Times listed on the agenda are approximate to assist the Chair of the Board.

*** Confirmation of Consent Agenda items submitted by the President. Any item may be moved from the Consent Agenda to Old/New Business by a Board Member asking the Chair to consider the item separately.

P = indicates a Presentation will be provided.

A = indicates the presenter is Available for background information if requested.

2. Craska Cooper suggested creating footnotes to the calendar for regular items that the Board would like to include without committing them to a specific month. Another annual update could be regarding on-campus housing and the COCC Foundation.
3. Foote Morgan suggested creating a footnote to call for updates from all of COCC's branch campuses.
4. Craska Cooper concurred and said that COCC's work at the Deer Ridge Correctional Institute (DRCI) should be included in those updates.
5. Foote Morgan also suggested adding annual updates on student success efforts and COCC's Equity and Well-Being department.
6. Merz suggested a regular update on students' basic needs.

V. Adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

Skatvold

* Material to be distributed via e-mail & USPS (as necessary)

** Times listed on the agenda are approximate to assist the Chair of the Board.

*** Confirmation of Consent Agenda items submitted by the President. Any item may be moved from the Consent Agenda to Old/New Business by a Board Member asking the Chair to consider the item separately.

P - indicates a Presentation will be provided.

A - indicates the presenter is Available for background information if requested.



**CENTRAL OREGON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Board of Directors' Meeting – MINUTES
Wednesday, November 12, 2025 – 5:45 PM
Boyle Education Center Boardroom / YouTube

TIME**	ITEM	ENC.*	ACTION	PRESENTER
5:49 p.m.	I. Call to Order			Skatvold
	II. Native Lands Acknowledgement	2a.1*		Skatvold
	III. Roll Call			Alberg
	<u>Board members, staff and guests:</u> Erica Skatvold (Chair), Jim Porter (Vice-Chair), Laura Craska Cooper, Joe Krenowicz, Erin Merz, Erin Foote Morgan, Greg Pereira (President), Zak Boone, Laura Boehme, Annemarie Hamlin, Michael LaLonde, Lindsay Buccafurni, Talia Stockwell, Neil Weiss, Hannah Evenson, KJ Johnson, Raimi Nolta, Zoey Foote, Paul Taylor, Kyle Matthews, Lucas Alberg			
	IV. Agenda Changes			Skatvold
	1. Foote Morgan noted that the Advocacy Committee's goals for the coming year were distributed to everyone and will be discussed during committee updates.			
	V. Public Comment			Skatvold
	1. COCC classified employees Scott Dove, Liz Patterson, Allison Dickerson, Kate Donahue, Joe Karli, Jen Chance, Courtney Nolta, and Linda Rodriguez–along with faculty members Sara Henson and Carol Higginbotham–expressed their concerns regarding ongoing negotiations between the College and the Classified Association, specifically regarding wages received by classified staff. An email on this issue from faculty member Andria Woodell was also read aloud.			
	VI. Consent Agenda***			Skatvold
	1. Regular Meeting Minutes (10.8.25)	6a.1–8*	X	Matthews ^A
	a. Merz noted that item 3 in the President's Report, stating that COCC should expect a "13.1% tax cut" should be corrected to state "13.1% reduction in state funding." The minutes were modified accordingly.			
	b. Motion the approve consent agenda with the recommended correction.			
	i. 1 st : Laura Craska Cooper			
	ii. 2 nd : Jim Porter			
	iii. In favor: Erica Skatvold, Jim Porter, Joe Krenowicz, Laura Craska Cooper, Erin Merz, Erin Foote Morgan			
	iv. Opposed or abstained: none			
	VII. Information Items			

* Material to be distributed via e-mail & USPS (as necessary)

** Times listed on the agenda are approximate to assist the Chair of the Board.

*** Confirmation of Consent Agenda items submitted by the President. Any item may be moved from the Consent Agenda to Old/New Business by a Board Member asking the Chair to consider the item separately.

P = indicates a Presentation will be provided.

A = indicates the presenter is Available for background information if requested.

1. Monthly Budget Status 7a.1-4* LaLonde^A
No questions.
2. New Hire Reports 7b.1-2* Boehme^A
No questions.
3. Associated Students of COCC Update Buccafurni/Stockwell^P
 - a. Stockwell reported on recent ASCOCC activities, including assistance with Welcome Week events, helping reestablish the Oregon Community College Students Association (OCCSA), overseeing student clubs, and coordinating an annual Thanksgiving food drive for underprivileged students and their families.
 - b. Foote Morgan asked if the OCCSA is being briefed on legislative issues, such a reduction in funding that Oregon's community colleges will likely receive, and how students can advocate for their institutions.
 - i. Johnson said they are not being briefed at this time. Their focus at this time is on restarting the OCCSA and developing a funding model for the organization.
 - ii. Alberg noted that he recently met with Johnson and Buccafurni to discuss student advocacy opportunities. They plan to continue meeting regularly so Alberg can pass along relevant information on legislative issues to the ASCOCC and student concerns to the Advocacy Committee.
 - c. Craska Cooper asked what the requirements are to start a club at COCC.
 - i. Stockwell said a club requires four students and a faculty/staff advisor to be established.
 - d. The student government intends to define their priorities for the coming year by the end of November. They are receiving feedback from the student body through tabling at all campuses and giving presentations during classes.
 - i. Craska Cooper asked how the ASCOCC managed to populate tables on a daily basis.
 - ii. Stockwell and Johnson explained that each table is occupied by two students, each of whom dedicate one hour of their time.
 - iii. Evenson added that tabling at Wickiup Hall proved especially effective.
4. 2025-26 Budget Update LaLonde^P
 - a. LaLonde noted he previously gave this presentation to the Classified Association, and the information has since changed.
 - b. Financial projections have not changed very much since COCC's Budget Committee met last spring. While the Bend and Prineville campuses have seen a decrease in enrollment, the Madras campus is expected to see an increase once the new building is open. COCC only received an increase of 1.3% in State funds due to its high property taxes, and is expected to see a decrease of 13.1% in State funding (about \$1.5 million).
 - c. Financial statements for 2024-25 showed that COCC had spent nearly all of its budget during that fiscal year, with only \$2.8 million in savings.

* Material to be distributed via e-mail & USPS (as necessary)

** Times listed on the agenda are approximate to assist the Chair of the Board.

*** Confirmation of Consent Agenda items submitted by the President. Any item may be moved from the Consent Agenda to Old/New Business by a Board Member asking the Chair to consider the item separately.

P = indicates a Presentation will be provided.

A = indicates the presenter is Available for background information if requested.

- i. Krenowicz asked if the \$3.6 million Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERTC) that COCC received last year was included in these figures. LaLonde confirmed.
- d. In projections for the 2026 fiscal year, tuition is expected to decrease for the Bend and Prineville campuses. COCC recently received its second of two ERTC checks for \$3.2 million. LaLonde used the same utilization rates as COCC has used in recent years as he did not expect spending to increase. He projected that COCC would decrease its reserve by \$7 million, which would reduce the reserve to 14.8%. LaLonde noted that the 2025 fiscal year was a high spending year for COCC, it did not reflect the College's average spending rates.
 - i. Craska Cooper asked if the Madras campus expansion was part of the past year's high spending.
 - ii. LaLonde confirmed the expansion was the main contributor, followed by the planning stages of the Redmond campus remodel. He estimated that the Madras campus expansion would be over-funded by about \$2 million.
 - iii. Craska Cooper said that, in recent meetings with the Real Estate Committee, they were told the College may need to spend additional funds to complete the expansion.
 - iv. LaLonde said the budget included a transfer of \$13.25 million to pay for the project. \$6.25 million have already been transferred. He is waiting until savings have been finalized before transferring the remaining amount, but he estimated it would be an additional \$4.25 million.
- e. LaLonde projected cashflow would improve and the reserve rate would increase by the 2028 fiscal year. He also suggested that would be a good time to fund deferred maintenance projects.
- f. State funding for COCC was about \$660,000 less than LaLonde's projection for 2025.
 - i. Craska Cooper asked why the Board has been hearing that COCC would be receiving *more* funding from the state.
 - ii. LaLonde said he recently received new information from Oregon's Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) that said otherwise.
 - iii. Foote Morgan asked if it was ever accurate that COCC would be receiving additional funding from the State. LaLonde said it was not.
 - iv. Pereira added that HECC's executive director said in a recent meeting that they may not know for sure whether budget cuts to community colleges will happen until February 2026. However, they could take effect as early as December 2025.
- g. While the Madras and Redmond projects would be fully funded under the current budget, LaLonde recommended the Board reconsider the deposit \$5 million into a Public Employee Retirement System (PERS) side account that they voted to approve in June 2025.

* Material to be distributed via e-mail & USPS (as necessary)

** Times listed on the agenda are approximate to assist the Chair of the Board.

*** Confirmation of Consent Agenda items submitted by the President. Any item may be moved from the Consent Agenda to Old/New Business by a Board Member asking the Chair to consider the item separately.

P = indicates a Presentation will be provided.

A = indicates the presenter is Aavailable for background information if requested.

- i. Craska Cooper asked when the Board could revisit the possibility to make a deposit into PERS.
 - ii. LaLonde said it would depend on when the State will give COCC another opportunity to do so.
 - iii. Foote Morgan asked what rate COCC's reserve would reduce to if the College moved forward with the \$5 million deposit.
 - iv. LaLonde estimated it would be reduced to 3–4%, which is less than one months' operations costs.
- h. As a worst-case scenario, if the State opts to move forward with its proposed budget cuts, COCC would be in a \$10.6 million deficit and its reserve would be reduced to 9.7%.
 - i. Foote Morgan asked what the timeline might be if the above scenario does not take place and the Board opts to move forward with the \$5 million deposit.
 - ii. LaLonde said he told the State that they would make the deposit in mid-December 2025, and it will be due by Spring 2026. If the College makes the deposit in mid-December, it would start seeing benefits in June 2026.
 - iii. Foote Morgan noted that the College could deposit less than \$5 million. LaLonde confirmed this and added there would not be a penalty for depositing less. The Board does not need to decide right away.
 - iv. Krenowicz suggested waiting until February or March 2026 to see how the College's finances have changed.
- i. Foote Morgan asked Boone for an update on fundraising for the Madras campus expansion.
 - i. Boone said the COCC Foundation will continue to fundraise through June 30, 2026, and it is included in the current budget. They received two gifts totaling at \$12,000 during the week of this meeting.
- j. Skatvold asked LaLonde to prepare an additional update in the coming months.
 - i. LaLonde offered to give a presentation at the Board's regular meeting in January 2026.
- k. Foote Morgan asked if the College would need to make additional efforts in order to meet the required threshold in the Board's reserve policy.
 - i. Merz noted that the policy states that, if the reserve is found to be less than the required rate, the College must return the reserve to that rate within two years. She also suggested that this policy may need to be revised. Craska Cooper concurred.

VIII. Board of Directors' Operations

- 1. Recommended Changes to GP 4: Chair– 8a.1–4* Craska Cooper
 person/Vice-Chairperson Role, 1st Reading
 - a. Included in this meetings' packet are proposed revisions to this policy. The suggested revisions were made by Mary Spilde, who facilitated the Board's most recent retreat, as well as examples from other colleges that Craska Cooper researched. They included guidance for the Chair's and

* Material to be distributed via e-mail & USPS (as necessary)

** Times listed on the agenda are approximate to assist the Chair of the Board.

*** Confirmation of Consent Agenda items submitted by the President. Any item may be moved from the Consent Agenda to Old/New Business by a Board Member asking the Chair to consider the item separately.

P = indicates a Presentation will be provided.

A = indicates the presenter is Available for background information if requested.

Vice–Chair’s leadership for the Board and how the Board would nominate new officers.

- b. Krenowicz suggested adding language that would encourage the Chair and Vice–Chair to attend a training for Board officers, such as the Chair’s Academy from the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT).
 - i. Craska Cooper suggested that such language could be added to the criteria to be considered for nominations for Board officers. She also suggested the Oregon Community College Association’s (OCCA’s) leadership academy could be another example.
 - ii. Porter asked if the language should state that it would be “preferred” for candidates to receive such training.
 - iii. Craska Cooper said the proposed qualifications would be listed as considerations, rather than requirements.
- c. Foote Morgan asked whether the Chair and Vice–Chair should be monitoring activities of the Board’s committees in support of the Board’s goals.
 - i. Krenowicz suggested that this responsibility lies with each committee’s chair. The Board could ask a committee chair for information and the chair can report back to the Board.
 - ii. Craska Cooper added that committee chairs regularly report on committee activities during the “Committee Updates” segment of each regular Board meeting.
- d. Merz asked what would happen if a committee is found to not be carrying out its charge.
 - i. Craska Cooper said that when a Board Chair makes committee assignments each year, they examine and discuss with other Board members whether any standing committees are no longer needed.
- e. Foote Morgan asked when it would be appropriate for a Chair to make a decision on behalf of the Board without the Board’s approval.
 - i. Craska Cooper said it would require an extreme scenario where a decision needed to be made and a Board meeting could not be coordinated in time.
 - ii. Porter suggested adding language that would require a Chair to follow–up with the Board if the Chair opts to make an emergency decision without approval from the rest of the Board.
 - iii. Foote Morgan suggested that the Chair should first make every effort to contact the other Board members individually before making such a decision. For the proposed language in item 1G, she suggested revising the language to state, “The Chair will provide timely communications to the Board on important issues...,” as well as adding the following language to the end of that statement: “with equal access to information and input in decision making.”
 - iv. Merz suggested this language may belong in a different section of the policy, and that it could be discussed further at the Policy Review Committee’s next meeting.

* Material to be distributed via e-mail & USPS (as necessary)

** Times listed on the agenda are approximate to assist the Chair of the Board.

*** Confirmation of Consent Agenda items submitted by the President. Any item may be moved from the Consent Agenda to Old/New Business by a Board Member asking the Chair to consider the item separately.

P = indicates a Presentation will be provided.

A = indicates the presenter is Aavailable for background information if requested.

2. Committee Updates

a. Advocacy Committee

8b.1*

Foote Morgan

- i. The Committee has drafted an online campaign letter that students, faculty, staff and community members can support when published. The letter will ask State officials to reconsider their proposed budget cuts to community colleges.
- ii. The Committee's advocacy and outreach plan for the 2025–26 academic year was distributed at the beginning of this meeting. This included building relationships with COCC's student government, inviting legislators to visit the College's campuses, advocacy and media trainings for all Board members, and developing an annual advocacy calendar/playbook.
 1. Alberg noted that the OCCA will be offering an advocacy training for Board members in January 2026.
 2. Craska Cooper asked what advocacy issues the Committee plans to engage in during the current term.
 3. Foote Morgan said these activities would include the letter to Oregon's legislators that was discussed earlier, as well as regular updates from Pereira, Alberg and the OCCA on State and federal issues that might affect COCC.

b. Policy Review Committee

Craska Cooper

- i. Along with Governance Process (GP) 4, which was discussed earlier in this meeting, the Committee is also working on proposed revisions to Board Expectation of the President (BEP) 7: Communication and Counsel to the Board. They also plan to begin reviewing all of the Board's policies by establishing a three-year cycle.
- ii. Merz asked if Spilde's policy recommendations are being considered for BEP 7 and other policies under review. Craska Cooper confirmed this.

3. Board Member Activities

a. Erin Merz

- i. October 14: An evening with author Aiden Thomas at the COCC Library
- ii. October 14: Chandler Lecture Series: American Foreign Policy
- iii. October 15: Policy Review Committee meeting
- iv. October 31: Advocacy Committee meeting
- v. November 12: OCCA DEI Committee meeting
- vi. November 12: Board work session

b. Joe Krenowicz

- i. November 3: Meeting with LaLonde and a Budget Committee candidate
- ii. November 12: Board work session

c. Jim Porter

- i. October 10, 17, 21 and 31: Meetings with Skatvold and Pereira
- ii. October 21–24: ACCT Leadership Congress

* Material to be distributed via e-mail & USPS (as necessary)

** Times listed on the agenda are approximate to assist the Chair of the Board.

*** Confirmation of Consent Agenda items submitted by the President. Any item may be moved from the Consent Agenda to Old/New Business by a Board Member asking the Chair to consider the item separately.

P = indicates a Presentation will be provided.

A = indicates the presenter is Available for background information if requested.

- iii. November 12: Board work session
- d. Erin Foote Morgan
 - i. October 29: Meeting with Pereira
 - ii. October 31: Advocacy Committee meeting
 - iii. November 2: Chandler Lecture Series: Beautiful Strengths of Indigenous Communities
 - iv. November 11: Meeting with a constituent
 - v. November 12: Board work session
- e. Laura Craska Cooper
 - i. Meeting with Pereira (date unknown)
 - ii. October 15: Policy Review Committee meeting
 - iii. October 22–25: ACCT Leadership Congress
 - iv. November 12: Board work session
- f. Erica Skatvold
 - i. October 10, 17, 24 and 31: Meetings with Porter and Pereira
 - ii. October 21–24: ACCT Leadership Congress
 - iii. October 30: OSU–Cascades Advisory Board meeting
 - iv. October 31: Advocacy Committee meeting
 - v. November 6–7: OCCA Conference
 - vi. November 7: Meeting with Pereira
 - vii. November 10: Phone call with Porter
 - viii. November 12: Individual phone calls with each Board member (not Alan Unger) and Pereira
 - ix. November 12: Board work session

IX. President's Report

Pereira

1. The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) is expanding to include members of the faculty and classified staff for a one-year pilot. They will meet once per month, starting on Monday.
2. Pereira gave two media interviews on the day of this meeting. The first interview was regarding potential budget cuts and their possible impact on the College. The second was regarding ongoing labor negotiations at COCC.
3. Ben Cannon, Executive Director of HECC, recently explained to Oregon's community college presidents that, while HECC is not recommending budget cuts, they were asked by Oregon's Legislative Fiscal Office to show what a 5% cut to funding could look like. Cannon said it would be \$4.6 million in reduced funding for each college. Some projects from certain colleges were named for potential cancellation, as well as the Oregon Promise Grant, which could stop awarding new grants to low-income students in order to save \$30 million per year. Members of all 17 colleges provided their feedback on how these potential cuts would affect their institutions.
 - a. Craska Cooper asked why HECC would suggest ending the Oregon Promise Grant.
 - b. Pereira was unsure, but suggested it could be a strategy to discourage the State legislature to make such cuts to community colleges.

* Material to be distributed via e-mail & USPS (as necessary)

** Times listed on the agenda are approximate to assist the Chair of the Board.

*** Confirmation of Consent Agenda items submitted by the President. Any item may be moved from the Consent Agenda to Old/New Business by a Board Member asking the Chair to consider the item separately.

P = indicates a Presentation will be provided.

A = indicates the presenter is Available for background information if requested.

- c. Craska Cooper asked Pereira to quantify how much money this would add up to, noting the sliding scale for how much each grantee receives, and report back to the Board at a later date.
- d. Pereira said COCC staff are working on finding the numbers specifically for the College. It is unclear how this could impact enrollment.

X. Dates

Skatvold

1. Saturday, November 15 – Turkey Trot and Toddler Trot – Mazama Gym at 9:30 a.m.
2. Wednesday, November 26 – Advocacy Committee Meeting – 9:00 a.m. via Zoom
3. Wednesday, November 26 – Policy Review Committee Meeting – 10:00 a.m. via Zoom
4. November 27–28, Closed for Thanksgiving
5. Wednesday, December 10 – Board of Directors’ Meeting – Boyle Education Center Boardroom at 5:45 p.m.

XI. Adjourn to Executive Session

Skatvold

ORS 192.660 section 2, subsection d, Labor Negotiations
ORS 192.660 section 2, subsection e, for the purpose of
discussing real property transactions

XII. Adjourned to Open Session at 8:03 p.m.

Skatvold

XIII. Open Session

XIV. Adjourn

Skatvold

* Material to be distributed via e-mail & USPS (as necessary)

** Times listed on the agenda are approximate to assist the Chair of the Board.

*** Confirmation of Consent Agenda items submitted by the President. Any item may be moved from the Consent Agenda to Old/New Business by a Board Member asking the Chair to consider the item separately.

P - indicates a Presentation will be provided.

A - indicates the presenter is Aavailable for background information if requested.

Central Oregon Community College
Monthly Budget Status
Highlights of October 2025 Financial Statements

Cash and Investments

The College's operating cash balances currently total \$20.2 million. The October average yield for the Local Government Investment Pool decreased to 4.57 percent from last report of 4.60 percent.

General Fund Revenues

The College received the second state aid payment of \$3.1 million in October.

General Fund Expenses

The expenses through October 2025 include the majority of the required budgeted inter-fund transfers-out for the fiscal year. The remaining \$6.6 million transfer out will be made to support the Madras build at the completion of the project.

Budget Compliance

All fund appropriation categories are within budget.

Central Oregon Community College
Monthly Budget Status
October 2025

10-Dec-25

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Adopted Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date Activity</u>	<u>Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)</u>	<u>Percent of Budget Current Year</u>	<u>Percent of Budget Prior Year</u>
Revenues					
District Property Taxes:					
Current Taxes	\$ 24,330,000		\$ (24,330,000)	0.0%	0.0%
Prior Taxes	283,000	246,670	(36,330)	87.2%	53.6%
Tuition and fees	22,430,000	8,224,026	(14,205,974)	36.7%	40.0%
State Aid	13,279,000	6,344,148	(6,934,852)	47.8%	44.9%
Program and Fee Income	100,000	5,128	(94,872)	5.1%	9.8%
Interest & Misc. Income	974,000	56,866	(917,134)	5.8%	4.1%
Transfers-In	5,588,744	2,883,957	(2,704,787)	51.6%	2.2%
Total Revenues	\$ 66,984,744	\$ 17,760,795	\$ (49,223,949)		
Expenses by Function					
Instruction	\$ 28,154,525	\$ 7,057,677	\$ 21,096,848	25.1%	24.0%
Instructional Support	5,554,985	1,573,900	3,981,085	28.3%	28.7%
Student Services	7,883,478	2,181,245	5,702,233	27.7%	25.7%
College Support	7,475,399	2,574,102	4,901,297	34.4%	29.3%
Campus Services	6,140,941	1,877,961	4,262,980	30.6%	31.7%
Information Technology	7,947,140	2,483,733	5,463,407	31.3%	37.8%
Financial Aid	200,000	48,648	151,352	24.3%	60.0%
Contingency	1,000,000	-	1,000,000	0.0%	0.0%
Transfers-Out	19,070,532	12,445,532	6,625,000	65.3%	100.6%
Total Expenses	\$ 83,427,000	\$ 30,242,798	\$ 53,184,202		
Revenues Over/(Under) Expenses	\$ (16,442,256)	\$ (12,482,003)	\$ 3,960,253		

Central Oregon Community College
Monthly Budget Status
October 2025

10-Dec-25

	<u>Adopted Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date Activity</u>	<u>Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)</u>	<u>Percent of Budget Current Year</u>	<u>Percent of Budget Prior Year</u>
<u>Non General Funds</u>					
Debt Service Fund					
Revenues	\$ 6,152,755	\$ 1,613,129	\$ (4,539,626)	26.2%	26.2%
Expenses	6,087,037	1,076,620	5,010,417	17.7%	8.7%
Revenues Over/(Under) Expenses	\$ 65,718	\$ 536,509	\$ 470,791		
Grants and Contracts Fund					
Revenues	\$ 6,034,347	\$ 1,032,981	\$ (5,001,366)	17.1%	15.2%
Expenses	6,738,055	2,514,669	4,223,386	37.3%	43.1%
Revenues Over/(Under) Expenses	\$ (703,708)	\$ (1,481,688)	\$ (777,980)		
Capital Projects Fund					
Revenues	\$ 23,234,020	\$ 10,693,718	\$ (12,540,302)	46.0%	17.6%
Expenses	24,338,954	4,768,087	19,570,867	19.6%	12.7%
Revenues Over/(Under) Expenses	\$ (1,104,934)	\$ 5,925,631	\$ 7,030,565		
Enterprise Fund					
Revenues	\$ 5,349,792	\$ 1,756,331	\$ (3,593,461)	32.8%	35.8%
Expenses	7,655,167	4,465,409	3,189,758	58.3%	39.4%
Revenues Over/(Under) Expenses	\$ (2,305,375)	\$ (2,709,078)	\$ (403,703)		
Auxiliary Fund					
Revenues	\$ 6,504,732	\$ 3,538,015	\$ (2,966,717)	54.4%	46.9%
Expenses	9,749,773	2,489,660	7,260,113	25.5%	18.5%
Revenues Over/(Under) Expenses	\$ (3,245,041)	\$ 1,048,355	\$ 4,293,396		
Reserve Fund					
Revenues	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	0.0%
Expenses	25,000	-	25,000	0.0%	0.3%
Revenues Over/(Under) Expenses	\$ (25,000)	\$ -	\$ 25,000		
Financial Aid Fund					
Revenues	\$ 22,103,924	\$ 4,957,647	\$ (17,146,277)	22.4%	31.4%
Expenses	22,171,067	4,984,287	17,186,780	22.5%	33.7%
Revenues Over/(Under) Expenses	\$ (67,143)	\$ (26,640)	\$ 40,503		
Internal Service Fund					
Revenues	\$ 85,000	\$ 38,313	\$ (46,687)	45.1%	14.8%
Expenses	94,000	10,967	83,033	11.7%	21.5%
Revenues Over/(Under) Expenses	\$ (9,000)	\$ 27,346	\$ 36,346		
Trust and Agency Fund					
Revenues	\$ 18,200	\$ 7,909	\$ (10,291)	43.5%	86.7%
Expenses	75,000	-	75,000	0.0%	0.0%
Revenues Over/(Under) Expenses	\$ (56,800)	\$ 7,909	\$ 64,709		

10-Dec-25

Central Oregon Community College

Cash and Investments Report

As of October 30, 2025

College Portfolio	Operating Funds	Trust/Other Funds
Cash in State Investment Pool		
4089 - General operating fund	\$ 18,761,948	
3624 - Robert Clark Trust		\$ 405,091
6729 - Redmond Expansion		\$ 4,196,684
August Average Yield 4.57%		
Cash in USNB	\$ 1,425,694	
Cash on Hand		
Total Cash	<u>\$ 20,187,642</u>	<u>\$ 4,601,775</u>



Board Meeting Date: Wednesday, December 10, 2025
Exhibit: 8b.1

**Central Oregon Community College
Board of Directors
Faculty and Administrators New Hire Report**

Faculty Full-Time		
Jennifer Gould	Assistant Professor II Business	January 5, 2026

Administrator Part-Time		
Aaron Rasheed	Veterans Outreach Coordinator	November 17, 2025



Central Oregon Community College
Board of Directors
New Hires Report
Date of Hire: November 1-30, 2025

Name	Hire Date	Job Description	Department
Classified Full-Time			
Joy, Amity	11/3/2025	Enrollment/Welcome Associate	Admissions
Temporary Hourly			
Smith, Katherine M	11/1/2025	Substitute Instructor Math	Mathematics
Chavez, Jeffrey N	11/4/2025	Bend Campus Streaming	Medical Assisting
Larson, Malia	11/5/2025	Music Tutor II	Tutoring and Testing
Cook, Kayley Jo	11/5/2025	Writing Tutor II	Tutoring and Testing
Eberle, Mark W	11/5/2025	Science Tutor III	Tutoring and Testing
Brinkman, Callow ay Rose	11/10/2025	Bend Campus Streaming	eLearning and Academic Technology
Del Pilar, Chris F	11/10/2025	Temp Foundation Finance	Governing Board
Sornborger, Evan	11/17/2025	Instructional Assistant Fire	Fire Science



Central Oregon Community College Board of Directors: Resolution

Subject	Emeritus status approval for retiring Administrative Employee: Sharla Andresen
Prepared By	Laura Boehme, Vice President for People and Technology
Approved By	Greg Pereira, President

A. Background

The President received a nomination for Administrative Emeritus and has made the recommendation for the above-named Administrator for their commitment to the College, the students, and the community over their multiple years of service.

B. Options/Analysis

- Approve Emeritus status for retiring administrator: Sharla Andresen
- Decline approval of Emeritus status for retiring administrator: Sharla Andresen

C. Timing

Effective with retirement date.

D. Budget Impact

None.

E. Proposed Resolution

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors of Central Oregon Community College district approves Emeritus status for retiring administrative employee: Sharla Andresen

Sharla Andresen

Sharla worked for the College for 34 years and has been in Financial Aid, Fiscal Services, Campus Safety, and Human Resources. She has an extensive knowledge of COCC and is always looking out for the well-being of the College so we can serve our students. Over the years, Sharla has worked with numerous people and committees who appreciated her knowledge integrity, loyalty, work ethic, and collaboration. She also earned her Masters of Business Administration while working full-time at COCC. Sharla will be very missed as a work colleague but will always remain a huge part of COCC's history and culture. In her retirement, Sharla plans to spend time with her family, camp, run, and spoil her grandson, Rhett.

GP 4: CHAIRPERSON / VICE-CHAIRPERSON ROLE

Approved: 6/9/1993; Revised: 3/13/1996; 12/9/2015; 9/11/2024; 12/10/2025

The role of the Chair is, primarily, to ensure the integrity of the Board's process and, secondarily, ~~occasional representation of~~ to occasionally represent the Board to outside parties. The Chair is the only Board Member authorized to officially speak for the Board (beyond simply reporting Board decisions), other than in rare and ~~specifically authorized specifically-~~ authorized instances.

- ~~1. The outcome of an effective Chair is that the Board behaves consistent with its own policies on governance and Board/staff relationship and those legitimately imposed upon it from outside the organization.~~

~~4. Chair Authority & Limits~~

- ~~A. The Chair is empowered to chair Board meetings with all the commonly accepted power of that position (e.g., ruling, recognizing, etc.).~~

- ~~A.B.~~ The Chair is responsible for reviewing, in consultation with the Vice-Chair and the College President, for setting the Board meeting agenda and facilitating the Board meetings to ensure the Board remains proactive, forward looking and value-added in its deliberations. In setting agendas, the Chair shall consider agenda and information requests from other Board members and, as reasonable, appropriate, and feasible, determine whether to include such requests on a future Board agenda. If the Chair does elect to put an item on the agenda, they may choose whether it will be at a regular board meeting, work session or a retreat. In the Chair's discretion, they may elect to address an agenda or informational request by coordinating with the President to provide responsive information to all Board members. The Chair has no authority to make unilateral decisions about policies and authority to individually supervise or direct the President.

- ~~B. Meeting discussion content will only be those issues which, according to Board policy, clearly belong to the Board to decide, not the President.~~

- ~~C. Deliberation will be timely, fair, orderly and thorough, but also efficient, limited to time allotted and kept to the point.~~

- ~~D. The Board's policies concerning individual and group behavior will be enforced appropriately.~~

- ~~2.C.~~ The authority of the Chair consists of making and/or carrying. When the Chair determines that it is reasonably

Formatted

necessary, the Chair shall have the authority to make and carry out decisions on behalf of the Board. This authority extends to all, provided, however, such decisions which fall within and are consistent with any-a reasonable interpretation of Board policies on Governance Process and on the Board-President Relationship, except where. The foregoing authority shall not apply to those situations in which the Board has specifically delegates portions of this authority to others authorized another individual to make and/or carry out decisions relating to a specific issue or matter.

A. The Chair is empowered to chair Board meetings with all the commonly accepted power of that position (e.g., ruling, recognizing, etc.).

B. The Chair has no authority to make unilateral decisions about policies and no authority to individually supervise or direct the President.

C. The Chair may represent the Board to outside parties in announcing Board-stated positions and in stating Chair decisions and interpretations within the area delegated.

D. The Chair may call special meetings as required.

D.E. The Chair shall communicate regularly with the President and the Vice-Chair on matters that may require Board consultation, setting Board agendas (as provided in Section 1.B above), and identifying issues that require the attention of the whole Board. In order to minimize Board disruptions and to better prepare the Vice-Chair to step in as necessary in the Chair's absence and/or to become Chair in the future, the Chair will communicate regularly with the Vice-Chair on current issues and concerns and, as appropriate, will mentor the Vice-Chair.

E. The Chair may call special meetings as required.

F. The Chair will make themselves reasonably open and accessible to other Board members who have concerns about, or wish to discuss, Board governance or operations issues.

G. The Chair will provide timely communications to the Board on important issues with a goal of avoiding surprises and providing all Board members with equal access to information and input in decision making.

2. Indicators of Effective Chair. The indicator of an effective Chair is that the Board operates consistent with its own policies on governance and Board/staff relationship and those legitimately imposed upon it from outside the organization.

Formatted: Indent: Left: 1", No bullets or numbering

- A. Meeting discussion content will only be those issues which, according to Board policy, clearly belong to the Board to decide, not the President, except to the extent the President seeks the advice of the Board.
- B. Deliberation will be timely, fair, orderly and thorough, but also efficient, limited to time allotted and kept to the point.
- C. The Board's policies concerning individual and group behavior will be enforced appropriately.

3. Roles of the Vice-Chair. The Vice-Chair will assume responsibilities of the Chair in the event of Chair's absence or inability to serve.

- A. The Vice-Chair will communicate regularly with the Chair and act as a second voice to inform and assist the Chair in setting agendas and addressing Board issues, particularly governance matters.
- B. The Vice-Chair will meet regularly with the Chair and the President to stay informed, be able to step in when the Chair is absent, and be current on issues and governance if/when the Vice-Chair becomes the Chair.

4. Election of the Chair & Vice-Chair. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board will be elected at the Annual Meeting in July.

5. Criteria to Consider Election of Chair & Vic-Chair. The selection of the Chair and Vice-Chair will be based on the following factors:
Desire, leadership ability, availability of time to complete the obligations of the job, as demonstrated over the individual's time on the Board and outside experiences:

- A. Leadership ability;
- B. Interest in serving;
- C. Availability and willingness to commit time and energy;
- D. Good judgement;
- E. Team-oriented, cooperative and dedicated to collaboration;
- F. Seeks to find common ground;
- G. Expresses disagreement in a productive, respectful way, avoiding personal attacks and other divisive approaches;
- H. Strong listening and speaking communication skills within the Board;
- I. ~~experience~~-Experience relative to the goals/opportunities for the College in the ensuing year;
- J. Knowledge of board policies;
- K. Trustworthiness;
- L. Commitment to transparency;
- M. knowledge of, or willingness to learn, meeting procedures; and

5.N.____ and zone representation.

Formatted

It is generally anticipated that the Vice-Chair will succeed the Chair in the following year if the criteria for the Chair can still be met. In choosing the Vice-Chair, the Board shall consider the same criteria as for the Chair, but may consider whether a candidate will grow in specific areas before they would become the Chair.

Budget Talking Points:

Enrollment Growth & Oregon's Largest Higher Education Sector

Oregon's 17 community colleges are the backbone of the state's workforce development system, serving more students than any other higher education sector and driving economic mobility across every region.

Enrollment continues to rise, particularly in CTE programs such as healthcare, advanced manufacturing, IT, early childhood education, welding, and public safety. These programs provide flexible, affordable pathways into high-skill, high-wage careers.

Community colleges serve working adults, first-generation students, parents balancing work and family, and rural residents who depend on their local college as their main postsecondary access point. Colleges work with employers, workforce boards, and K12 partners to align programs with local workforce needs.

Role During Economic Shifts

Community colleges function as Oregon's "economic shock absorber." When unemployment rises or industries shift, enrollment reliably increases as workers seek retraining, upskilling, or new career pathways.

This flexibility has historically helped stabilize regional economies. A mid-biennium cut would hinder colleges' ability to expand CTE cohorts, provide short-term workforce training, or increase class availability when Oregonians need these services most.

Overview of Specific HECC Cut Recommendations

The Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) has two potential options for cuts to the community colleges:

- **2.5% cut to HECC budget (\$23 million cut to CCs):**
 - **\$21 million** cut to the Community College Support Fund
 - **\$2 million** cut to Career Pathways funding
- **5% cut to HECC budget (\$57 million cut to CCs):**
 - **\$41 million** cut to the Community College Support Fund
 - **\$3 million** cut to Career Pathways funding
 - **\$13 million** cut to Oregon Promise (no new student admissions)
 - **HECC childcare program closed**

Statewide Cut Impact to Community Colleges

- Fewer course sections and limited access to required classes.
- Reduced capacity in high-demand CTE programs.
- Delayed equipment upgrades needed for industry-aligned training.
- Hiring freezes in advising, tutoring, and student support roles.
- Reduced ability to operate rural centers and outreach services.
- Increased strain during a time of enrollment growth.

Representative College Impacts

Statewide, community colleges are facing up to a \$57 million cut.

Reductions generally impact CTE program capacity, course section offerings, staffing levels and student support services.

[Provide examples that illustrate the magnitude of reductions your colleges would face over the full two-year budget cycle.]

Oregon Promise Cut = \$13 - \$40 Million Lost + Doors Closed to New Students

As part of its potential 5 percent budget cut recommendations to the Governor, the HECC has proposed a freeze on new enrollments in the Oregon Promise Grant Program, which provides tuition support to thousands of community college students. The Commission anticipates that without new enrollments, the program would effectively end, cutting off access to college for thousands of future students.

- This represents **\$13 million in current biennium cuts to community college students**, and roughly **\$40 million in the following biennium** if no new students are allowed to apply for the program.
- Eliminating the Oregon Promise would end tuition support for thousands of low-income students, effectively closing the door on college for many students.

Career Pathways Elimination = \$3 Million Cut + Countless Lost Opportunities for Working Adults

The HECC is also recommending a reduction in funding for Career Pathways Programs. These are career-connected, high-quality education and training programs that align with industry needs, allowing individuals to advance in a career through multiple successive entry and exit points. These programs are especially critical in economic downturns when workers are seeking short-term training to re-enter the workforce. This would be a **\$3 million cut** at the 5 percent cut scenario or **\$2 million** at the 2.5 percent cut scenario.

- **Cutting Career Pathways funding removes critical access for working adults seeking short-term training to re-enter the workforce.**

Consequences for Students

When funding is cut, colleges face two options: reduce programs or raise tuition. Both hurt students.

Program reductions delay graduation, block entry into workforce pathways, and disrupt academic planning. Tuition hikes increase financial strain on low-income students, working adults, and families juggling multiple responsibilities. Cuts also shrink access to essential supports -- advising, tutoring, childcare, transportation, food pantries, basic needs centers, and mental health services -- all proven to boost retention and student success.

Long-Term Workforce & Economic Consequences

Community colleges partner with employers across the state to meet Oregon's most critical workforce needs, including nursing, behavioral health, education, manufacturing, renewable energy, and emergency response.

A funding cut now would disrupt these pipelines, delay solutions to workforce shortages, and stall economic mobility, especially in rural communities. [Bottom Line - Don't Cut the Engine of Oregon's Workforce](#)

Oregon's community colleges serve more students than any other sector of higher education and are the state's most accessible, affordable, and effective providers of workforce training.

A 5% mid-biennium cut would reduce opportunities for tens of thousands of Oregonians, hinder economic growth, and constrain the availability of skilled workers across all regions.

Investing in community colleges is investing in Oregon's future workforce, its communities, and its long-term economic vitality.

Community Colleges Work for Oregon.

Petition:

To Oregon's Legislative Leaders and Budget Committees:

Oregon's community colleges are essential to student success, workforce development and local economies across the state. We, the undersigned students, employees and community members, urge you to protect this critical system from the proposed mid-biennium budget reductions. Community colleges like Central Oregon Community College (COCC) serve more Oregonians than any other higher education sector and provide flexible, affordable pathways to high-demand careers — especially for rural residents and working adults.

Key concerns and impacts of the proposed reductions:

1. Disproportionate impact on COCC
 - A 5% cut would become more than a 13% loss for COCC, totaling roughly \$1.5 million each year, with cuts beginning as early as April 2025.
 - A statewide 2.5% cut would still have a greater impact for COCC due to Oregon's funding formula. In fact, COCC would take the largest impact of any community college in the state.
2. Cuts directly affecting students and essential services
 - Fewer course sections, reduced access to required classes and limited capacity in high-demand CTE programs.
 - Hiring freezes in advising, tutoring and frontline student support positions.
 - Delayed equipment upgrades needed to maintain industry-aligned training programs.
 - Reduced ability to support rural centers and outreach services.
3. Oregon Promise: At risk in the 5% scenario
 - Under the 5% model, HECC's scenario includes freezing new Oregon Promise enrollments, removing tuition support for thousands of future students statewide.
 - At COCC alone, 669 students received Oregon Promise in 2024–25.
 - Ending new enrollments would close the door to college for many low-income, rural and first-generation students.
4. Career Pathways funding at risk in BOTH scenarios
 - A \$2 million cut at 2.5% or \$3 million cut at 5% would reduce fast-track training programs that help adults quickly re-enter the workforce — especially crucial during economic shifts.
5. Broader statewide consequences
 - Cuts force colleges to reduce programs or raise tuition, both of which harm students.
 - Reduced ability to support essential services like childcare, food pantries, transportation support and mental health resources.
 - Cuts would weaken Oregon's ability to meet urgent workforce needs in healthcare, behavioral health, education, manufacturing, renewable energy and emergency response.

A mid-biennium cut — whether 2.5% or 5% — would reduce opportunities for tens of thousands of Oregonians, disrupt workforce pipelines and limit economic mobility across every region of the state. Community colleges are the engine of Oregon's workforce and sustained investment is essential to the state's long-term strength and recovery.

On behalf of COCC students, employees and community supporters, we respectfully urge you to maintain and protect community college funding, preserve access to Oregon Promise and safeguard the programs that help Oregonians learn, work and thrive.

With respect and appreciation,

Greg Pereira
President, Central Oregon Community College

Talia Stockwell
President, Associated Students of Central Oregon
Community College

[Add Your Name →]

Email / Web Intro

Oregon is considering mid-biennium budget reductions of 2.5% or 5% for state agencies — cuts that would have an even greater impact on COCC because of Oregon’s community college funding formula. At 5%, COCC would face more than a 13% funding loss, or roughly \$1.5 million each year, beginning as early as April 2025; even at 2.5%, reductions would strain our ability to serve students and impact the classrooms. Further, cuts would limit career training, reduce class availability, shrink student support services and weaken programs that help Central Oregon families thrive.

What’s at stake:

- A loss of up to \$1.5 million annually for COCC, starting as early as April 2026
- Fewer classes and reduced capacity in high-demand career programs
- A potential freeze to Oregon Promise, which currently supports 669 COCC students
- Cuts to Career Pathways programs that help working adults retrain quickly
- Reduced access to the programs and services that support Central Oregon’s workforce and families

We’re asking for your support. Add your name to the petition urging Oregon lawmakers to protect community college funding, preserve Oregon Promise, and safeguard the programs our communities depend on.

Legislative budget discussions begin in early 2026 — sign now and stand with COCC.

[Add Your Name →]

Social Share Language

Help us spread the word. Share why community colleges matter to you and encourage others to sign.
#StandWithCOCC #FundCommunityColleges