

CCC Board of Education – Topic Summary	
Topic:	2026-27 Tuition and Fees
Date:	March 18, 2026
Presenter:	Christy Owen, Dean of Business Services
Division/Department:	College Services/ Business Services
RECOMMENDATION:	Approve a tuition increase of \$6 per credit hour for in-state tuition, and \$9 per credit hour for out-of-state/international tuition. Approve increase to General Student/Technology Fee by \$1/credit hour and increase to College Services fee of \$10/ term.

REASON FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION:

The Board considers the need to increase tuition and fees as part of the annual budget development process. Tuition and fees must be established in time for students to register for courses in Academic Year 2026-27, which starts with Summer Term 2026. The tuition and fee schedules for the upcoming academic year allow students to plan for the cost of attending Clackamas Community Colleges and, if applicable, work through the financial aid process to ensure they are financially ready for the start of their next term at CCC. The Board acts to fully adopt the Budget in June 2026 and the current action is specific to tuition and fees only.

BACKGROUND:

This resolution addresses tuition, the general student fee, the student technology fee, and the College Services fee. The request is made in the context of the entire college budget, including all revenue sources and levels of planned expenditures, and informed by multi-year projections for sustainability of programs and services. The process to review and model tuition and fee structures for FY 2026-27 began in Fall 2025 with the Fall Forecast and the updated financial requests for reductions from the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC)/ Students and staff are consulted in this process through the Associated Student Government, the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarship, the Foundation, the college executive team and the College Finance Council and the Budget Advisory Subgroup and through presentations of the financial forecast at various venues.

Tuition

Tuition provides about a third of the General Fund revenue. The General Fund is the primary operating fund, which means the fund supports general operations and is subject to increases in personnel and pension costs as well as maintaining investments to increase student success, increases in tuition revenue provide a portion of the resources to ensure sustainability of programs and services. It is also preferred business practice to increase tuition incrementally proportionally to increases in expenses annually, rather than in large; infrequent increases to keep pace with inflation and changes in expenses.

The college budget principles inform the financial actions as the next budget is crafted prior to adoption. Changes in tuition and fees are part of the overall work to adhere to fiscal management practices to ensure the college remains within its reserve targets set in Board policy, is financially sound and stable for

supporting students, and balances affordability within the community college system and in comparison, to in-state four-year institutions.

Annually, the college forecasts an increase in tuition rates to be between 3-4% to maintain rates consistent with inflation and continue to keep the forecast balanced with expenses. The Fall 2025 Forecast includes this practice, and the 2026-27 tuition increase in this report reflects a \$6 per credit-hour increase for in-state tuition and \$9 per increase for out-of-state tuition. The rate of increase for in-state tuition is an increase of 4.6% as compared to FY 2025-26 in-state tuition rates. The table below reflects the change in tuition over the past five years. The increase of \$6 per credit hour for in-state tuition for FY 2026-27 would be within a consistent range of recent annual increases. The reason for the increase of \$6 per credit hour is to keep pace with inflation and to ensure continued funding support in the event the state divests from its current biennial budget for community colleges in Oregon. All community colleges in the 17-college network are modeling increases to tuition, in addition to budget reductions, to respond to probable reduction of state resources. The revenue modeling is in conjunction with building scenarios for expense reductions as well.

Academic Year	2020-21 Adopted	2021-22 Adopted	2022-23 Adopted	2023-24 Adopted	2024-25 Adopted	2025-26 Adopted	2026-27 Recommended
In-state Tuition	108.00	111.00	117.00	121.00	126.00	130.00	136.00
Out of State Tuition	274.00	277.00	283.00	293.00	302.00	311.00	320.00
Percentage Change (in-state only)		2.8%	5.4%	3.4%	4.1%	3.2%	4.6%

General Student Fee

The General Student Fee funds non-course related services available to the general college community; specifically, the Intramurals and Athletics, Student Life and Leadership (Associated Student Government), Service Learning and Leadership, and Computer Lab funds. The fee was established in 2000 at \$4 per credit hour. The fee was increased in 2023-24 to \$6.50 per credit. As indicated in the Spring of 2025, the Business Office would conduct financial analysis and review for a periodic increase with the FY 2026-27 Budget Process. The office recommends an increase of \$.50 per credit to bring the FY 2026-27 rate to \$7.00 per credit hour to support the General and non-General funds to cover inflationary costs.

Student Technology Fee

Information Technology (IT) costs are borne by the General Fund and the Student Technology Fund. The Student Technology Fee is used for IT expenditures directly related to teaching and learning. The most recent increase for this fee occurred in 2023-24 to the current rate of \$6.50 per credit. As indicated in the Spring of 2025, the Business Office would conduct financial analysis and review for an increase with the FY 2026-27 Budget Process. The office recommends an increase of \$.50 per credit to bring the FY 2026-27 rate to \$7.00 per credit hour. The Information Technology fee brings between \$800-900,000 per year to support personnel and IT support for students.

College Services Fee

The College Services Fee is a once per term student fee and was implemented in 2012-13 to consolidate individual fees for testing, transcripts, and graduation caps and gowns, and provide other support for general services for students in lieu of separate fees or per-transaction charges to students. The fee is a fixed amount of \$30 per term and was last increased in 2020-21. The Fall 2025 Forecast does not provide for a change to this base rate in FY 2025-26 but indicated the need for cost recovery study in advance of the FY 2026-27 Budget. There are continued and new cost pressures on the college from declining support from the state and added costs of services (such as transcript management software and online merchant fees for bank card

processing). As such, the college is assessing scenarios for an increase of \$10/term for the College Services Fee. If approved, this action would add \$40/academic year (Fall, Winter, Spring terms) to the cost of attendance.

Table to show the impact of changes to Fee Schedule

Year	General & IT Fees per credit hour	Credits per term	Total for General Fee	College Service Fee (1x per term)	Total Fee comparison
FY 2025-26	\$ 13.00	15	\$ 195.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 225.00
FY 2026-27	\$ 14.00	15	\$ 210.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 250.00
Difference	\$ 1.00	0	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00

Addressing Affordability

As of the 2023 federal census tracking, the median household income for Clackamas County (the primary geographical county for CCC’s student population) was the second most affluent county out of Oregon’s 34 counties with a [median household income of \\$100,360](#), second only to [Washington County’s \\$104,434](#), and the [Oregon average being \\$80,426](#) at that time. The college does not anchor its tuition off census or local household income data. The process of assessing overall regional affordability considers more than income levels of the local region. CCC has engaged in the practice of assessment of tuition and fees with comparable community colleges, in the Portland metro region to ensure the college upholds its values of affordable and accessible higher education. For the academic year 2025-26 CCC has one of the lowest in-state tuition and fee rates in the State amongst community colleges as reported to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC). The FY 2025-26 state average for instate tuition and fees annualized for three terms is \$6,913 and CCC’s rate in 2025-26 is \$6,525, which is \$388 less than the average. The appendix at the end of this report provides charts and tables for comparison.

BUDGET IMPACT/SOURCE OF FUNDS:

The overall impact of the increases of tuition, General Fees, and College Services fees is an increase of \$115 for a student with a 15-credit course load as compared to the same load at the FY 2025-26 rates. A 15-credit course load is a full course load for Fall, Winter, and Spring Terms and used for comparison within the community colleges within Oregon. The table below shows the incremental impacts of tuition and/or fee increases. If tuition, general fees, and the college services fee are approved for FY 2026-27 the single-year estimated impact to the General Fund is \$483,700.

Year	Tuition per credit hour	Tuition credit hours	Total for General Fee	Total for General Fee	College Service Fee (1x per term)	Total Fee & Tuition comparison
FY 2025-26	\$ 130.00	15	\$ 1,950.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 2,175.00
FY 2026-27	\$ 136.00	15	\$ 2,040.00	\$ 210.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 2,290.00
Difference	\$ 6.00	0	\$ 90.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 115.00

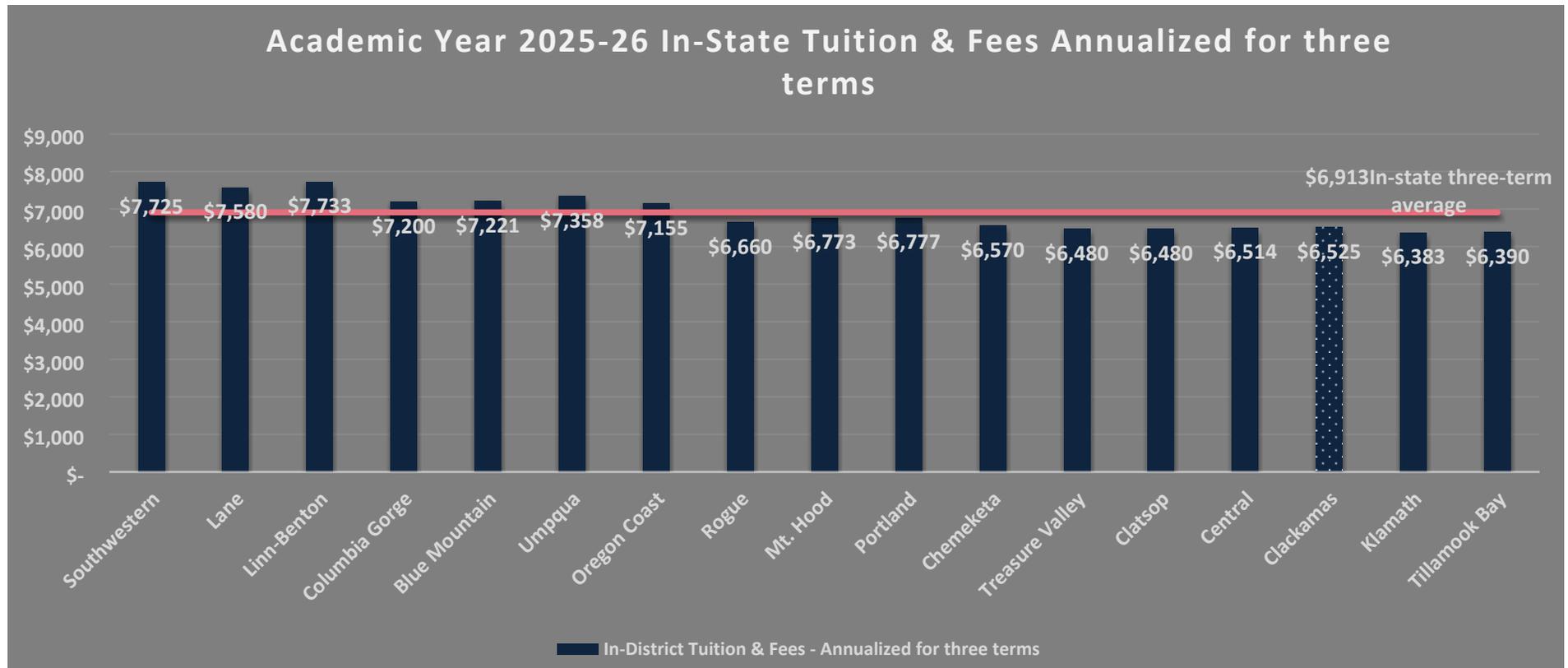
Recommendation

- Approve a tuition increase of \$6 per credit hour for in-state tuition, and \$9 per credit hour for out-of-state/international tuition.
- Approve increase of \$0.50 per credit hour for the General Student Fee
- Approve Increase of \$0.50 per credit hour for the Technology Fee
- Approve increase of \$10 per term for the College Services Fee

Summary of changes

	Basis	FY 2025-26 Rate	Proposed Change	FY 2026-27 Proposed Rate
Tuition, In-state (in district & out of district border states)	Per credit hour	\$ 130.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 136.00
Tuition, Out of state and international	Per credit hour	\$ 311.00	\$ 9.00	\$ 320.00
General student fee	Per credit hour	\$ 6.50	\$ 0.50	\$ 7.00
Technology fee	Per credit hour	\$ 6.50	\$ 0.50	\$ 7.00
College Services fee	Per term	\$ 30.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 40.00

Tables and Charts: The data on these charts represents FY 2025-26 adopted rates as provided to the HECC in July 2025. The College will not know the final tuition comparisons for 2026-27 until the other colleges adopt their rates this spring.



FY 2025-26 Tuition and Fees as reported to the State of Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Community College	2025-26 In-District and In-State Charge Per Credit Hour	2025-26 In-District and In-State Charge per 15 cr. Hour	Out-of-State Per Credit Hour	Out of State Charge per 15 credit hours	In-District Tuition & Fees - Annualized for three terms	Out-of-State Tuition & Fees - Annualized for three terms	In-state three-term average
Southwestern	\$ 117	\$ 1,755	\$ 117	\$ 1,755	\$ 7,725	\$ 7,233	\$ 6,913
Lane	\$ 149	\$ 2,235	\$ 346	\$ 5,190	\$ 7,580	\$ 16,445	\$ 6,913
Linn-Benton	\$ 149	\$ 2,161	\$ 348	\$ 5,222	\$ 7,733	\$ 16,661	\$ 6,913
Columbia Gorge	\$ 125	\$ 1,875	\$ 245	\$ 3,675	\$ 7,200	\$ 12,600	\$ 6,913
Blue Mountain	\$ 122	\$ 1,830	\$ 183	\$ 2,745	\$ 7,221	\$ 9,956	\$ 6,913
Umpqua	\$ 125	\$ 1,875	\$ 125	\$ 1,875	\$ 7,358	\$ 7,358	\$ 6,913
Oregon Coast	\$ 129	\$ 1,935	\$ 228	\$ 3,420	\$ 7,155	\$ 11,610	\$ 6,913
Rogue	\$ 124	\$ 2,325	\$ 415	\$ 6,225	\$ 6,660	\$ 8,055	\$ 6,913
Mt. Hood	\$ 128	\$ 1,920	\$ 259	\$ 3,885	\$ 6,773	\$ 12,668	\$ 6,913
Portland	\$ 138	\$ 2,070	\$ 288	\$ 4,320	\$ 6,777	\$ 13,527	\$ 6,913
Chemeketa	\$ 108	\$ 1,620	\$ 279	\$ 4,185	\$ 6,570	\$ 14,265	\$ 6,913
Treasure Valley	\$ 120	\$ 1,800	\$ 130	\$ 1,950	\$ 6,480	\$ 6,930	\$ 6,913
Clatsop	\$ 128	\$ 1,965	\$ 256	\$ 3,840	\$ 6,480	\$ 12,240	\$ 6,913
Central	\$ 124	\$ 2,655	\$ 367	\$ 5,512	\$ 6,514	\$ 17,449	\$ 6,913
Clackamas	\$ 130	\$ 1,950	\$ 314	\$ 4,710	\$ 6,525	\$ 14,805	\$ 6,913
Klamath	\$ 120	\$ 1,807	\$ 203	\$ 3,045	\$ 6,383	\$ 10,095	\$ 6,913
Tillamook Bay	\$ 114	\$ 1,650	\$ 128	\$ 1,920	\$ 6,390	\$ 6,930	\$ 6,913
Statewide Average	\$ 126	\$ 1,966	\$ 249	\$ 3,734	\$ 6,913	\$ 11,696	\$ 6,913