

CCC Board of Education – Topic Summary	
Topic:	2025-26 Tuition and Fees
Date:	February 19, 2025
Presenter:	Christy Owen, Dean of Business Services
Division/Department:	College Services/ Business Services
RECOMMENDATION:	First reading of the proposed tuition and fees for the 2025-26 year

REASON FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION:

The Board considers the need to increase tuition and fees as part of the annual budget development process.

The Board approved budget principles for FY 2025-26 at the January 2025 meeting. The principles for FY 2025-26 budget process are:

- Focus on fiscal responsibility and financial stability. Resources and expenses should reflect the level of support for ongoing operations without the utilization of deficit spending. The budget will include a demonstrated return on investment, and strategic resource realignment in budget allocations, and minimize ongoing resource requests beyond the three-year horizon.
- Increases in expenditures for new initiatives should support improvements in Mission Fulfillment by integrating Strategic Priorities and program and service area assessment results within the budget allocation decisions.
- Consider CCC’s affordability, district median income, and comparability with other metro-area community colleges when establishing total student costs, including tuition rates.
- Maintain the Board required minimum ending fund balance throughout a three-year forecast, with an emphasis towards balancing revenues and expenditures over a four-year planning horizon.

EXPECTED OUTCOME/RELEVANCE TO STRATEGIC PRIORITY OR CORE THEME:

The strategic priority of fiscal sustainability is the primary factor leading to the recommended tuition and fee rate increases.

This recommendation is driven by substantive changes in three key areas supporting student success and completion. Supporting and broadening student engagement opportunities toward retention; developing a replacement schedule in support of technology security and service infrastructure improvements supported with General Obligation Bonds; maintaining recent investments in student retention focused staff.

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. Students and staff are consulted in this process through the Associated Student Government, the College Finance Council and the Budget Advisory Subgroup and through presentations of the financial forecast at various venues.

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 of census or local household income data. The process of assessing overall regional affordability takes into account more than income levels of the local region. CCC has engaged in a practice of assessment of tuition and fees with comparable community colleges, in particular in the Portland metro region to ensure the college upholds its values of affordable and accessible higher education. For the academic year 2024-25 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 state average for instate tuition and fees annualized for three terms is \$6,716 and CCC is \$400 below at \$6,300. The appendix at the end of this report provides charts and tables for comparison.

Tuition

Tuition provides about a third of the General Fund revenue. In light of long term 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 insure sustainability of programs and services. It is also a 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.

A key budget principle has also been used to drive this year’s tuition and fees recommendations:

- Maintain Board required minimum ending fund balance throughout a three-year forecast, with an emphasis towards balancing revenues and expenditures over a four-year planning horizon.

Annually the college forecasts an increase of tuition rates to be roughly 3-4% in order to maintain rates consistent with inflation, and continue to keep the forecast balanced. The Fall 2024 Forecast includes this practice, and the tuition increase for 2025-26 reflects a \$4 per credit-hour increase for in-state tuition and \$9 per increase for out-of-state tuition. The table below reflects the change in tuition over the past five years.

Academic Year	2019-20 Adopted	2020-21 Adopted	2021-22 Adopted	2022-23 Adopted	2023-24 Adopted	2024-25 Adopted	2025-26 Forecast
In-state Tuition	103.00	108.00	111.00	117.00	121.00	126.00	130.00
Out of State Tuition	274.00	274.00	277.00	283.00	293.00	302.00	311.00

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 last increased last year for 2023-24 to \$6.50 per credit and remained at this rate in 2024-

25. The Fall 2024 Forecast does not provide for a change to this base rate in FY 2025-26. The Business Services Unit will review fees in the fall of 2025 as part of the periodic three-year review process.

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 fee was last increased last year for 2023-24 to \$6.50 per credit. The Fall 2024 Forecast does not provide for a change to this base rate in FY 2025-26. The Business Services Unit will review fees in the fall of 2025 as part of the periodic three-year review process.

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 transportation alternatives to students. The fee is a fixed amount of \$30 per term and was last increased in 2020-21. The Fall 2024 Forecast does not provide for a change to this base rate in FY 2025-26. The Business Services Unit will review fees in the fall of 2025 as part of the periodic three-year review process.

BUDGET IMPACT/SOURCE OF FUNDS:

Recommendation

- TBD

FUTURE REPORT:

Tuition and fee recommendations will be on the March agenda for final decision.

Tables and Charts:

Community College	In-District and In-State Charge Per Credit Hour	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
Southwestern	\$ 114	\$ 1,710	\$ 114	\$ 1,710	\$ 7,530	\$ 7,050
Lane	\$ 145	\$ 2,168	\$ 336	\$ 5,033	\$ 7,403	\$ 15,998
Linn-Benton	\$ 144	\$ 2,161	\$ 335	\$ 5,022	\$ 7,317	\$ 15,901
Columbia Gorge	\$ 125	\$ 1,875	\$ 245	\$ 3,675	\$ 7,200	\$ 12,600
Blue Mountain	\$ 119	\$ 1,785	\$ 179	\$ 2,678	\$ 7,076	\$ 9,754
Umpqua	\$ 120	\$ 1,800	\$ 120	\$ 1,800	\$ 7,043	\$ 7,043
Oregon Coast	\$ 125	\$ 1,875	\$ 228	\$ 3,420	\$ 6,930	\$ 11,565
Rogue	\$ 122	\$ 1,830	\$ 151	\$ 2,265	\$ 6,570	\$ 7,875
Mt. Hood	\$ 124	\$ 1,860	\$ 251	\$ 3,765	\$ 6,559	\$ 12,274
Portland	\$ 133	\$ 1,995	\$ 278	\$ 4,170	\$ 6,514	\$ 13,039
Chemeketa	\$ 104	\$ 1,560	\$ 275	\$ 4,125	\$ 6,345	\$ 14,040
Treasure Valley	\$ 117	\$ 1,755	\$ 127	\$ 1,905	\$ 6,345	\$ 6,795
Clatsop	\$ 125	\$ 1,875	\$ 250	\$ 3,750	\$ 6,345	\$ 11,970
Central	\$ 121	\$ 1,815	\$ 357	\$ 5,355	\$ 6,311	\$ 16,931
Clackamas	\$ 125	\$ 1,875	\$ 303	\$ 4,545	\$ 6,300	\$ 14,310
Klamath	\$ 118	\$ 1,770	\$ 203	\$ 3,045	\$ 6,270	\$ 10,095
Tillamook Bay	\$ 110	\$ 1,650	\$ 128	\$ 1,920	\$ 6,120	\$ 6,930
Statewide Average	\$ 123	\$ 1,845	\$ 228	\$ 3,422	\$ 6,716	\$ 11,422

Academic Year 2024-25 In-State Tuition & Fees Annualized for Three Years

