

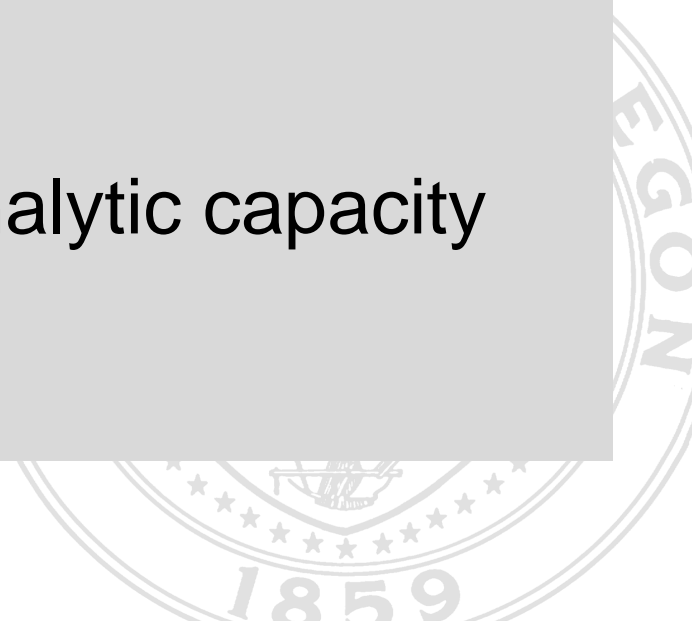
OREGON SECRETARY OF STATE JEANNE ATKINS

AUDITS DIVISION

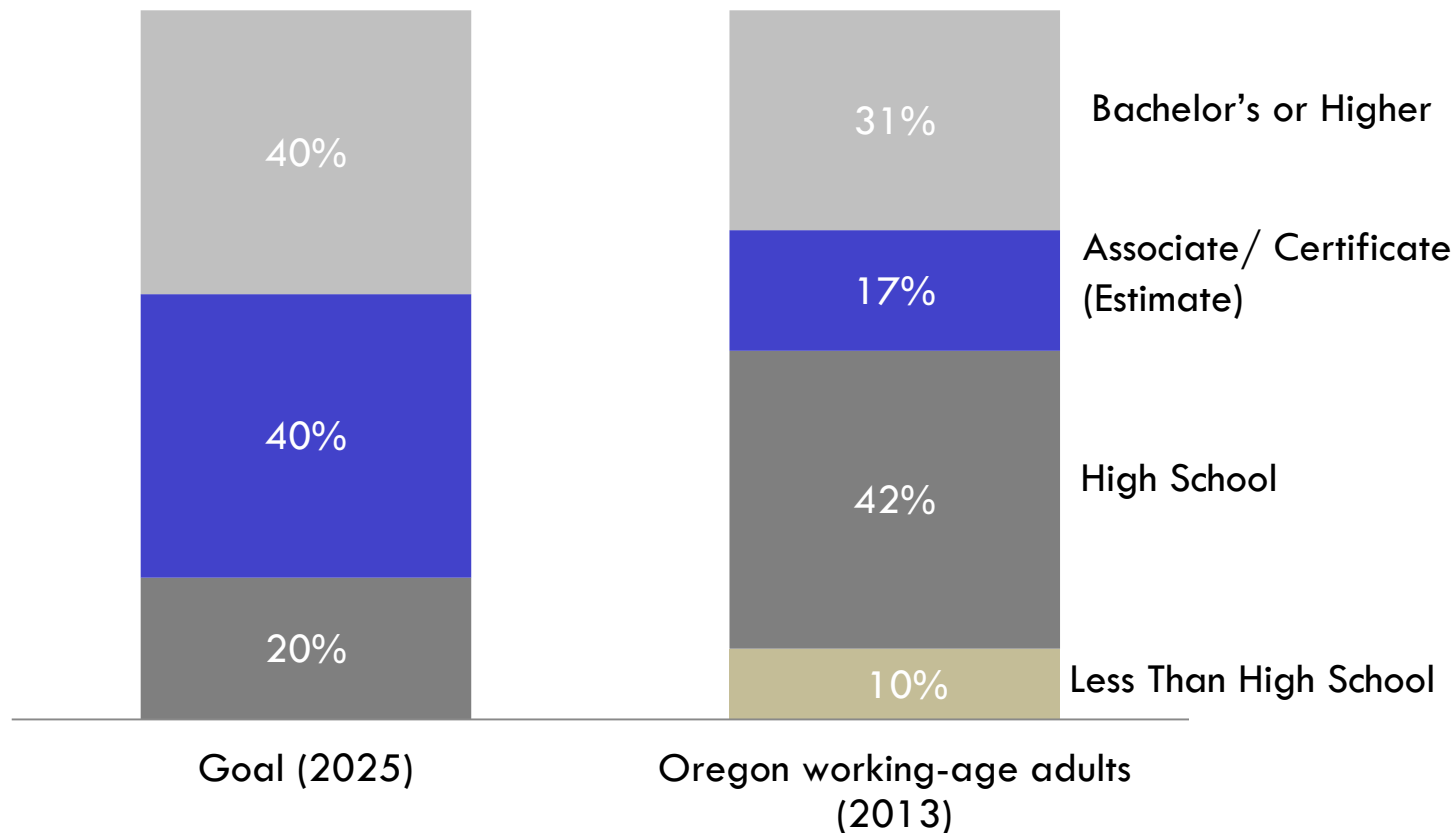
Presentation to the House Committee on Higher Education,
Innovation, and Workforce Development June 3rd, 2015

Community Colleges: Targeted Investments Could Improve Student Completion Rates

- 24% completion rate
- Student success strategies are being implemented but are not reaching many students
- Coordination, support, and analytic capacity are needed



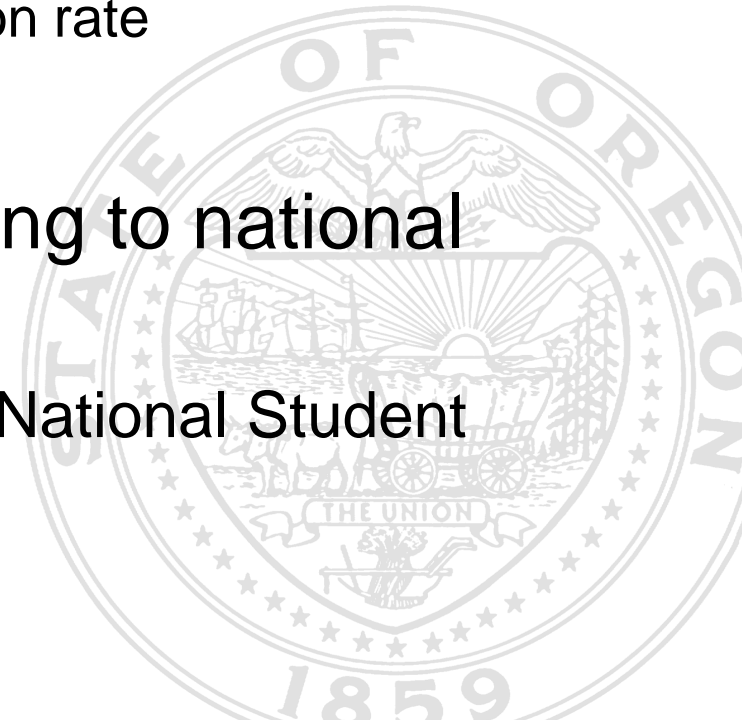
Oregon is far from reaching education goals



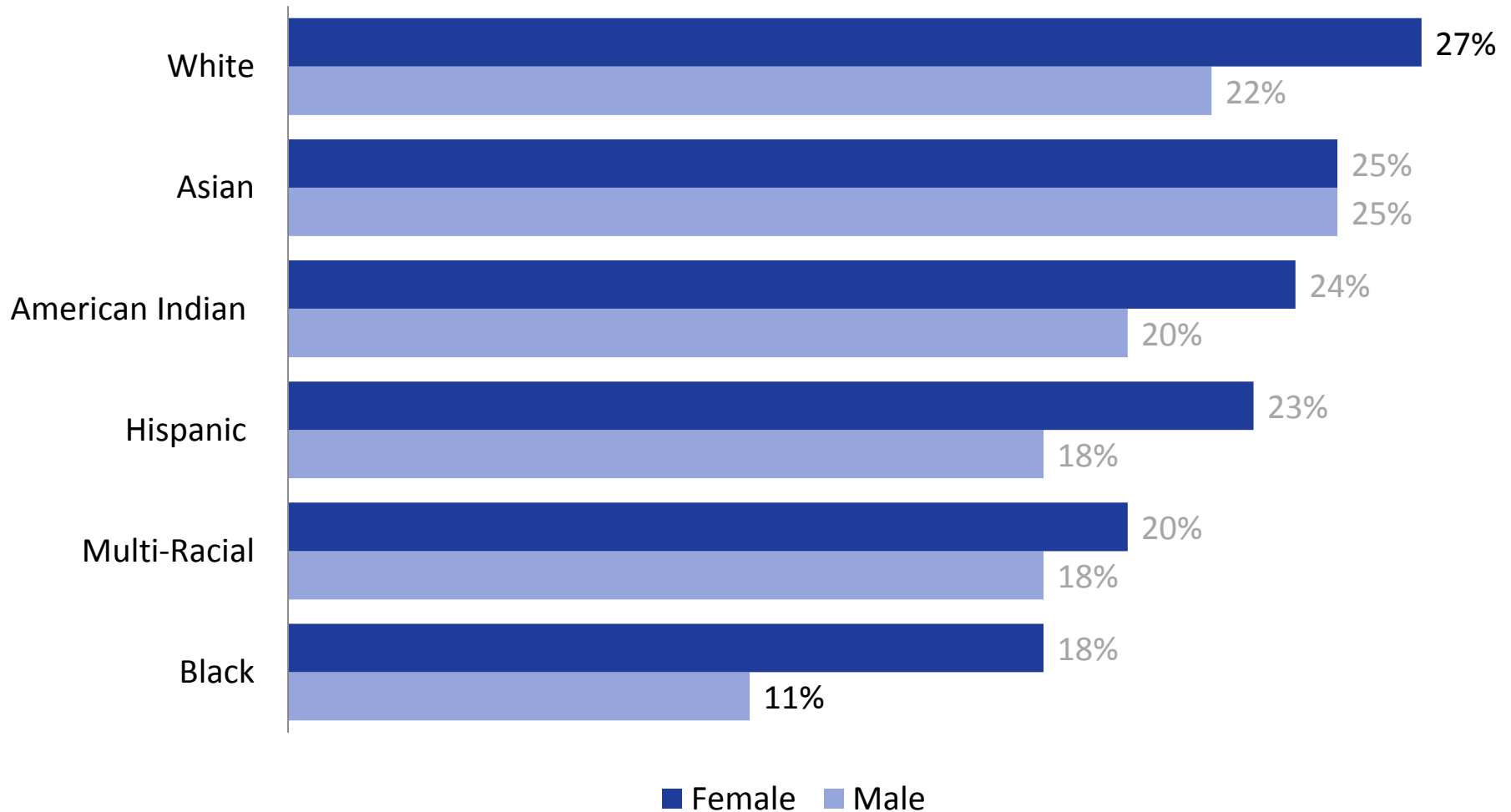
Source: HECC analysis of the American Community Survey

Less than a quarter of students complete

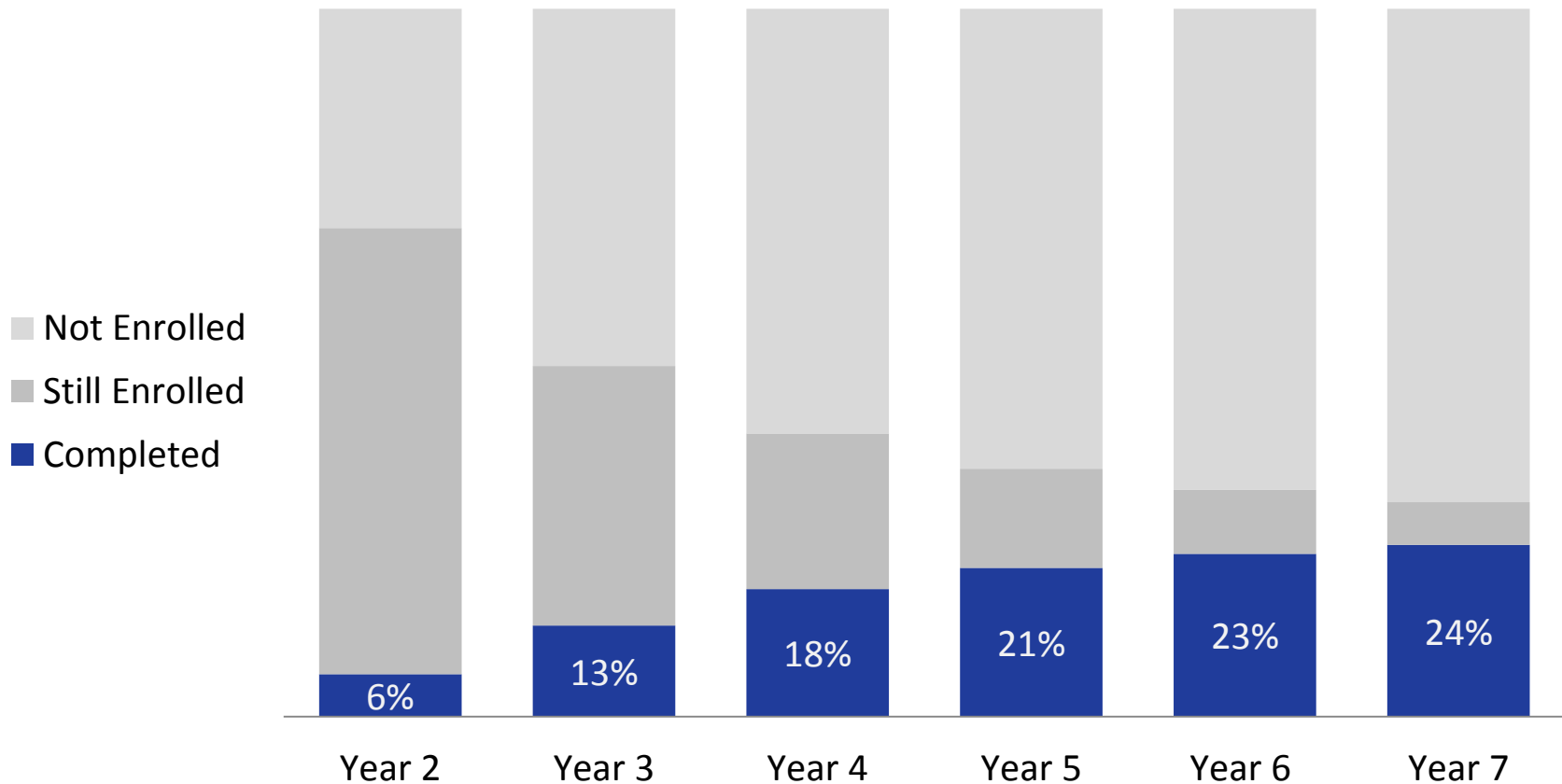
- 2007-08 cohort:
 - 24% completed an associate's degree or certificate at an Oregon community college in 7 years
 - Filtered out non-degree seekers
 - Only reported statewide completion rate
- Low completion rate according to national comparisons
 - 32 out of 36 states studied in a National Student Clearinghouse Report



Completion rates were lower for students of color, male students



Some students took longer to complete



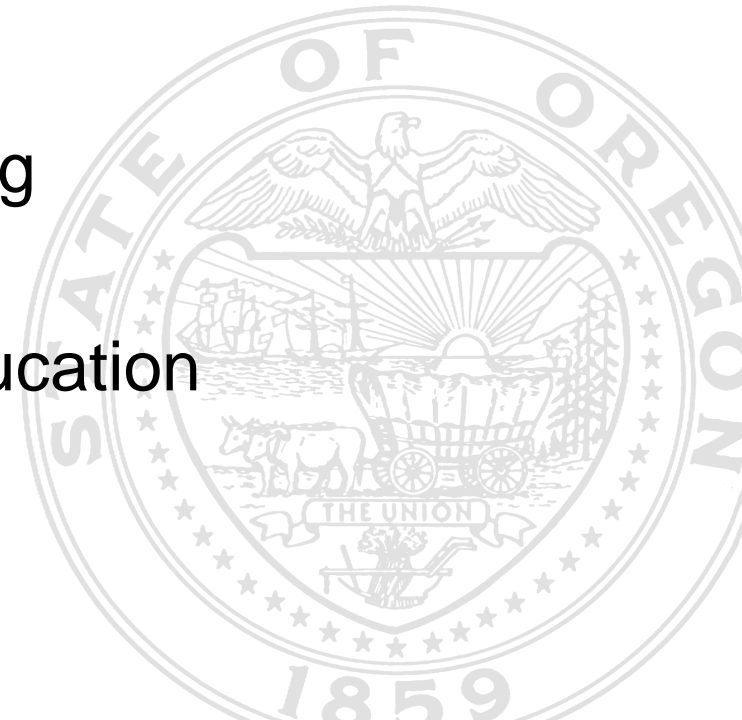
Students can face many challenges

- ❑ Life commitments
- ❑ Affordability
- ❑ Transportation
- ❑ Childcare



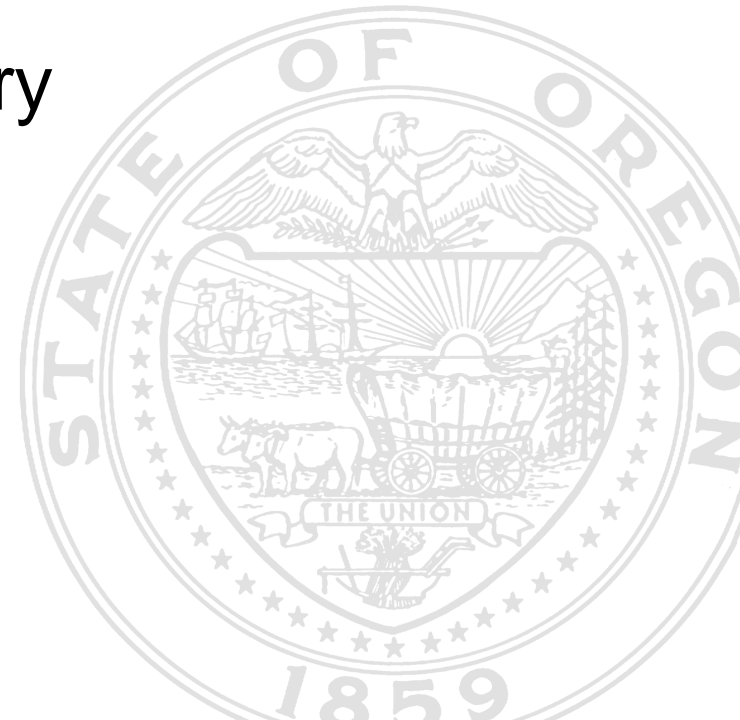
Oregon colleges are making efforts to improve student success

- When surveyed, Oregon colleges reported implementing an average of 10 out of 14 nationally recognized student success strategies, such as:
 - Student advising and planning
 - Student success courses
 - Fast track developmental education
 - Supplemental instruction



But strategies are not reaching students

- Of the strategies implemented, many did not reach over $\frac{1}{4}$ of the students they were targeted to serve
- Over half were not mandatory



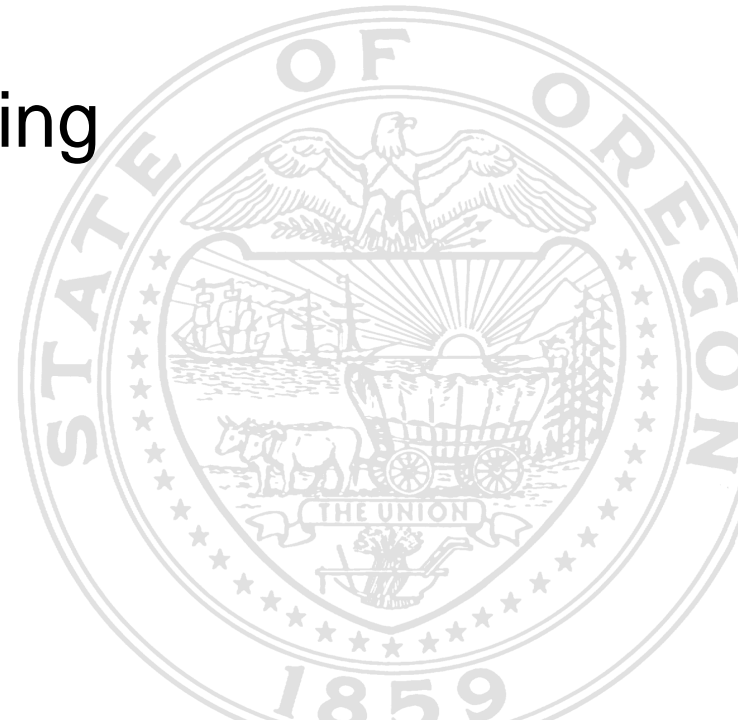
Colleges also offer targeted programs on a limited basis

- Individualized and comprehensive support
- Examples:
 - Future Connect at PCC
 - TRIO programs
 - Veterans programs



Capacity constraints limit efforts

- ❑ Limited and competing resources
- ❑ State coordination and strategic support
- ❑ Data informed decision-making



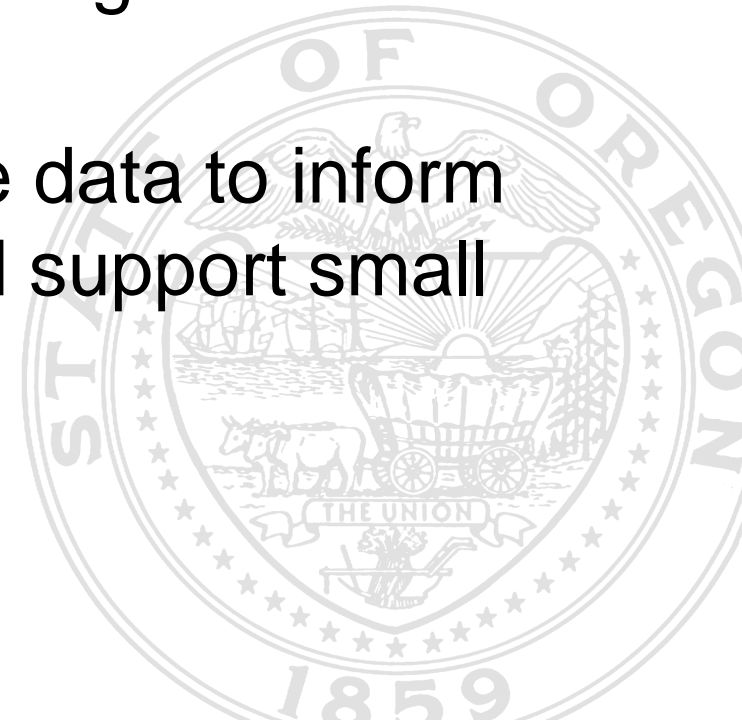
Outcomes-based funding would require continued assessment and monitoring

- The HECC and colleges are exploring incorporating outcomes into funding formula
 - Risks of unintended consequences
 - Can build in mechanisms to mitigate risks
 - Would require continued assessment and analytic capacity



Recommendations: HECC, CCWD

- Clarify roles and responsibilities and increase capacity for coordination and support of student success and completion initiatives.
- Continue to invest in developing the statewide longitudinal data system.
- Increase capacity to analyze data to inform state strategic initiatives and support small colleges.



Recommendations: HECC, CCWD

- If the state moves forward with outcomes-based funding, ensure capacity for monitoring and assessment.
- Continue to use at least 1% of the Community College Support Fund-Strategic Fund to invest in community college student success initiatives.



Recommendations: Colleges

- ❑ Consider aligning budget allocation to strategic goals that forward student success initiatives.
- ❑ Consider prioritizing investment in increased analysis capacity.
- ❑ Consider coordinating and combining resources to fund statewide projects, materials and training.



Questions???