



# Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

## Department of Administrative Services

Office of the Chief Operating Officer

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January 31, 2025

Co-Chair Chris Gorsek

Co-Chair Greg Smith

Members of the Joint Ways and Means General Government Subcommittee

Oregon State Legislature

900 Court St NE

Salem, OR 97301

Re: Joint Ways and Means General Government Subcommittee Follow-Up Information

Co-Chair Gorsek, Co-Chair Smith and members of the committee,

Thank you for being so generous with your time with the Department of Administrative Service this week. We appreciate the opportunity to showcase the work DAS does for Oregonians.

Below please find follow up information to questions asked during this week's Procurement presentation. There are also several supplemental attachments, including some current fliers for the OrCPP program (presented by the Procurement team on Thursday, Jan 30) that members can share throughout their districts to increase awareness of this purchasing power that is available to local municipalities.

As always, please don't hesitate to let me know if there's anything further DAS can assist with.

Thank you!

**-Meliah Masiba**

DAS Legislative Director

## Thursday, Jan 30: OregonBuys & Procurement

### 1) Does Oregon Corrections Enterprise (OCE) only sell to the state?

Within the State of Oregon private entities can purchase from OCE.

OCE works with private entities as well as tribal and non-profit organizations across the Pacific Northwest. ([ORS 421.354](#) – Authority of Oregon Corrections Enterprises). If they are out of state, the program must be Prison Industries Enhancement Certification Program (PIECP) certified for them to purchase from OCE.

OCE contracts with private partners for program opportunities inside the institutions under PIECP which provides prevailing wage program opportunities. These partnerships also create pathways to employment through our prerelease hiring program.

### 2) What were the findings out of the Disparity Study?

[The Disparity Study report](#) can be found on DAS' public facing [Procurement Equity page](#), which also houses additional information on the [2023 State of Oregon Disparity Study](#).

### 3) What funding goes towards the Oregon Forward program?

From the Oregon Forward Contractors 2024 Annual Reports:

Oregon Forward total spend by state agencies:	\$ 30,546,740
Oregon Forward total spend by local govt. agency:	\$ 58,357,358
<b>Total Oregon Forward spend by all govt.:</b>	<b>\$ 88,904,098</b>

There are currently 27 Oregon Forward contractors. That number has remained relatively stable over the past five years.

### 4) What's the number of vendor that are COBID certified?

Current COBID vendor registrations are 2,903 as of Feb 2, 2025.

### 5) Are costs lower for OCE and QRF work because of lower labor costs?

The OCE programs focus on developing transferrable skills for the adults in custody (AIC) and reducing recidivism. While the AICs do not earn market-based wages when participating in these training programs, this does not necessarily equate to lower priced goods or services as there are investment costs in running the program.

OregonForward (formerly, Qualified Rehabilitation Facility [QRF]) labor does not mean lower pay for employees that work for our certified contractors. These are market wage jobs that provide opportunities for employment to those who may not have the ability to obtain a market wage job elsewhere. In fact, there are OF contractors that are union shops.