

Oregon's Regional Universities

Senate Education
Committee

May 7, 2025



EASTERN OREGON
UNIVERSITY



Western Oregon
UNIVERSITY

Regionals:

Regionally Rooted

Oregon's Regional Universities were founded for workforce needs in education. Today, we remain student-centered institutions that empower lifelong learners through high-quality, hands-on, and career-focused education.

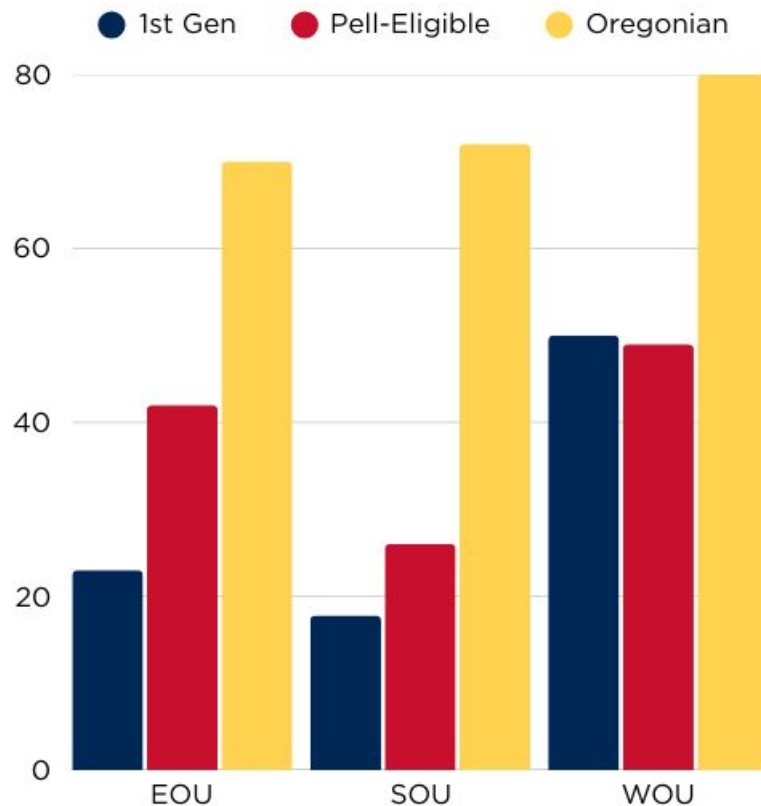


Regionals:

Student First

- Serving Oregonians
- First-Generation
- Pell-Eligible
- All Populations

Serving the Demographics: % of student sectors



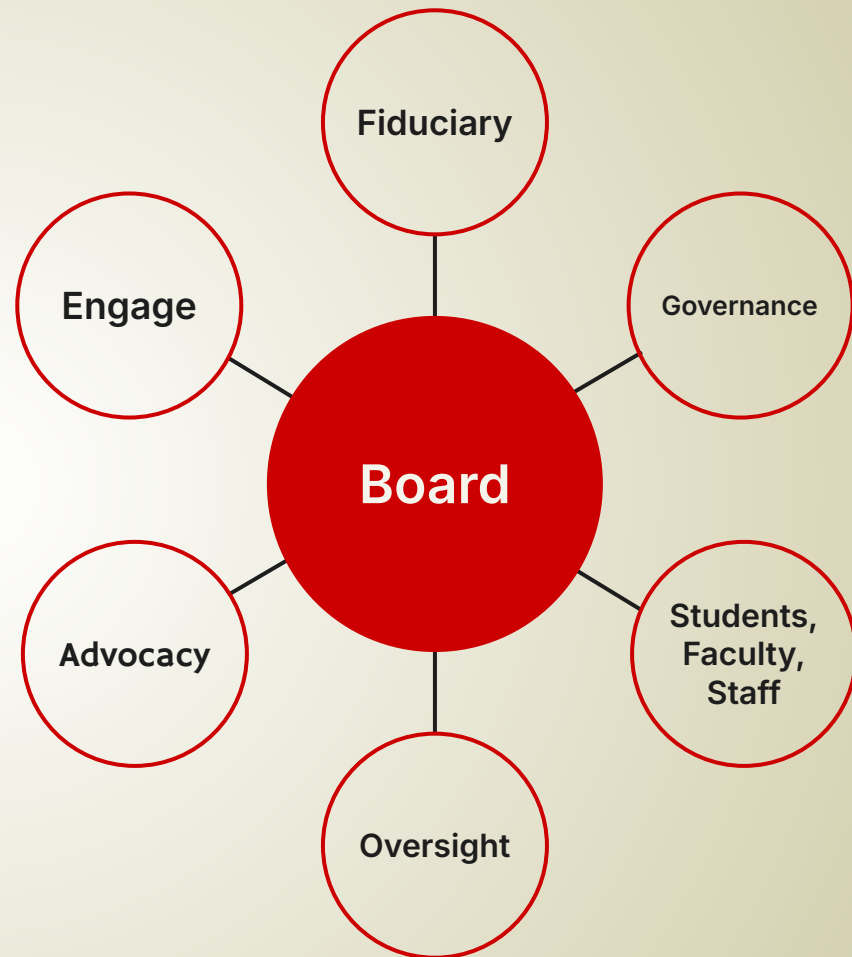
Regionals: Unique

- Rooted in their regions
- Responsive to statewide needs
- Blending professional programs, humanities, and technical expertise
- Preparing students for meaningful careers
- Personalized learning environments
- Strong community partnerships
- Commitment to innovation and lifelong learning
- Connecting Oregon's rural and urban communities



Relevant: Boards

- Accountability for performance
- Focused on fiduciary responsibility
- Community & Campus Engagement
- Regionally connected
- Regional relevance



Responsive: Workforce

EOU

Rural Clinical Mental
Health Counseling

Master of Social Work

Agriculture
Entrepreneurship

Teacher Education

SOU

Digital Industries

Healthcare/Behavioral
Health

Business Management

Teacher Education

WOU

Occupational Therapy

Organizational Leadership

Criminal Justice

Teacher Education



Responsive:

Economic Impact

Employment Drivers

- Regional Universities are significant employers in each region

Economic Drivers

- Regional Universities infuse millions into local economies

Economic Impact Cycle

Ongoing Investment

- Investment has direct impact for local communities & Oregon, delivering on the promise of a university education
 - Public University Support Fund (PUSF)
 - Oregon Opportunity Grant (OOG)
 - Student Basic Needs (SBN)
 - Strong Start

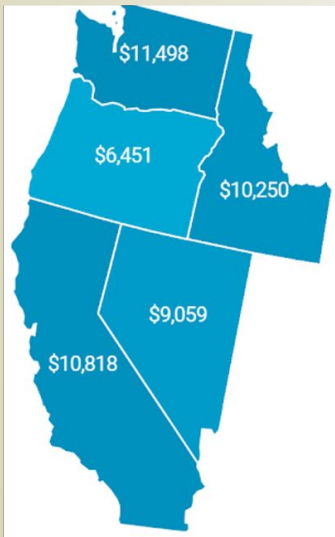
Strong Communities, Strong State

- Over 70% of graduates remain in Oregon, many in their rural, home communities

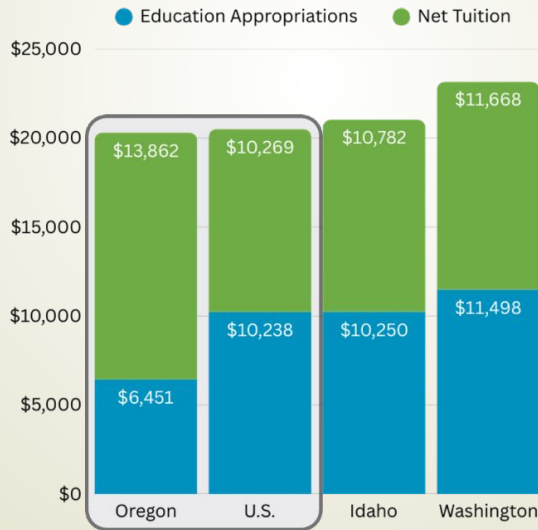
Resourceful: National Context

Source: State Higher Education Executive Officers Association: 2023 State Higher Education Finance Report, Map 3.2: Education Appropriations per FTE at Four-Year Institutions FY 2023 (Adjusted), State Profiles: Oregon, Idaho, Washington, U.S. (Adjusted)

Education Appropriations per FTE at Four-Year Institutions, FY 2023 (Adjusted)



Education Appropriations and Net Tuition per FTE at Four-Year Institutions, FY 2023 (Adjusted)



Oregon pulls in roughly the same amount of revenue from state operating appropriations and net tuition as the national average.

However, while other states have invested more in their public universities, underfunding by the state has left students and families to make up the difference.

Resourceful:

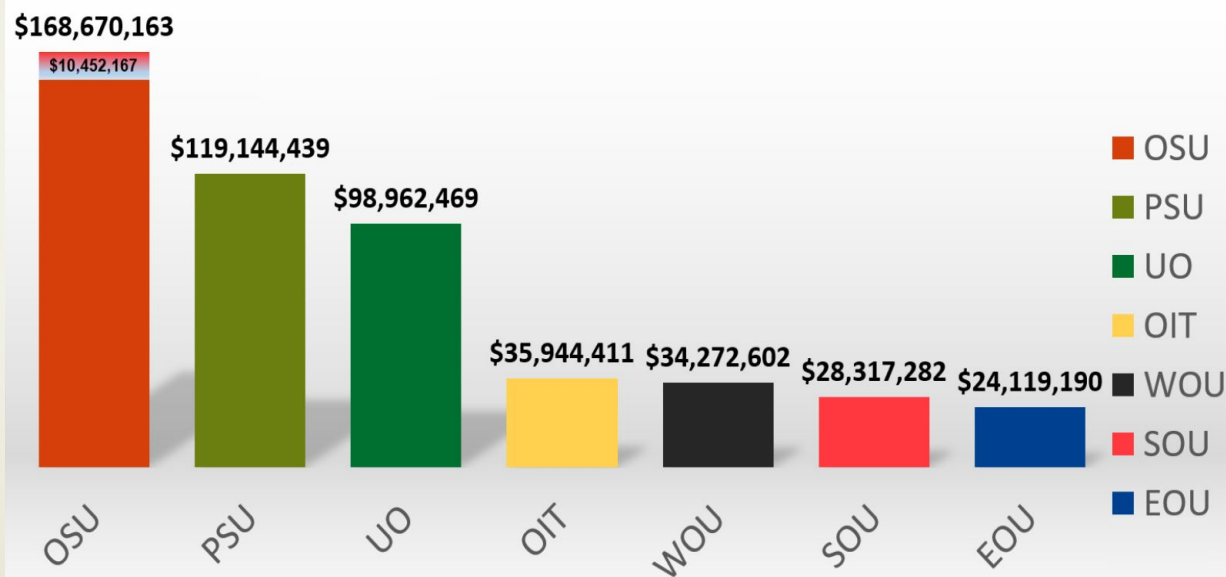
ROI & Funding

State Funding

- 2023-25 LAB = \$1B
- \$500M/year
- Institutional Breakdown in the Chart

Determiners

- Complex formula
- Developed by HECC and not in statute;
- Reviewed every 6+ years, and will be reviewed beginning this fall



Resilient:

Investment in the future of Oregon

Public universities are asking the State to fund the PUSF at **\$1.275 billion** in 2025-27 to support access and affordability, services that contribute to student success, and workforce connections for students.



Resilient:

Regional Commitment

- Special role in Oregon
- Changing lives
- Different by design and practice
- Small business of higher education
- Investment in partnership with the state



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Thank you!



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