

HB 2421



Direct Admissions

INCREASING THE OPPORTUNITIES AND OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS TO ACCESS HIGHER EDUCATION

Background...

In 2024 the Education Omnibus bill (SB1552) Section 11 requires "HECC to establish a direct admissions program for community colleges and public universities in Oregon."

Private, non-profit colleges and universities want to be included in the program, ensuring they too can be an option for Oregon students. Recently, these institutions have been observing the development of the direct admissions program alongside public institutions and the HECC. They now seek to become full participants and ensure that more institutions have the opportunity to join the program once finalized.

How and Why...

Academically qualified Oregon high school students will be directly informed of their eligibility for admission.

- ◆ Reduces barriers for first generation applicants
- ◆ Reduces barriers for low-income and students from underserved populations
- ◆ Reduces number of students who leave the state for higher education

**PLEASE SUPPORT HB 2421 ALLOWING
OREGON'S PRIVATE NON-PROFIT
INSTITUTIONS TO PARTICIPATE**

**Expanding eligibility increases the diversity
of higher education choices available to
students in Oregon, helping them find the
best-fit institution for their academic and
professional goals.**

Non-profits already implementing...

Minnesota

Every student is "college material." This core belief is the driving Minnesota's new Direct Admissions program. The pilot program notifies graduating high school seniors from Minnesota high schools that there are multiple partner public and private colleges and universities that are eager to admit them based on their academic records and their projected graduation date. This allows students to apply with confidence, knowing that the "will I get in?" question has already been answered with a "YES!"

- ❖ 55 colleges, 120 high schools participated
- ❖ Direct admissions participants in Minnesota saw higher FAFSA filing rates and higher college enrollment rates
- ❖ 50% of first year participants enrolled in a Minnesota college
- ❖ As of January 25, 2024, 28% of students the accepted via direct admissions went to private non-profit colleges and universities

University of Portland

The University of Portland launched the Moreau Pathway Program, which offers eligible students from participating local Catholic high schools direct admissions to the degree program of their choice. The program also guarantees a renewable \$20,500 minimum scholarship.