

Feb. 5, 2025

Oregon State University Statewide Public Service Programs

OSU Extension Service – Agricultural Experiment Station – Forest Research Laboratory

Collaborative investment to help Oregon prosper

Under OSU’s land grant mission of learning, discovery and engagement, the OSU Statewides — OSU Extension, Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station and Forest Research Laboratory — serve Oregonians by integrating state-of-the-art research and community-based education to co-create discoveries and solutions that help Oregon thrive.

This work has positive and lasting human, economic and environmental impact and, importantly, is done in collaboration with OSU colleges, Oregon Sea Grant, government agencies and other organizations and institutions.

Oregon’s investment

State funding provides for strategic placement of research and Extension professionals across Oregon to deliver comprehensive, coordinated and interdisciplinary programming that is adaptable and responsive to local needs. State appropriations, which are allocated by the legislature as a line item in the Higher Education Coordinating Commission’s budget, are critical to leverage other funding from federal, local and external sources to support this essential work.

2025-27 funding support request

The OSU Statewides have heard a resounding call from our communities and collaborators that integrated research and Extension efforts to support economic development, community vitality and workforce readiness are a priority. The 2025-27 biennium funding request includes:

- **\$17.5 M** increase for full continued service level funding to sustain core mission programs and services
- **\$6 M** in new funding to build capacity in critical areas.

Statewides Program	2023-25 Legislatively Approved Budget	2025-27 Continued Service Level Increase	2025-27 New Funding*	Total 2025-27 Request
Agricultural Experiment Station (AES)	\$98.8 M	\$9.4 M	\$2.9 M	\$111.1 M
OSU Extension Service (Ext)	\$71.1 M	\$6.8 M	\$2.6 M	\$80.5 M
Forest Research Laboratory (FRL)	\$13.8 M	\$1.3 M	\$500 K	\$15.6 M
Total	\$183.7 M	\$17.5 M	\$6 M	\$207.2 M

This request is incorporated in HB 2408.

For more information

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Building capacity for a resilient Oregon

\$6 million in new funding will build capacity across the OSU Statewides to focus integrated research and Extension efforts in critical areas identified by communities and a diverse coalition of stakeholders.

Applied economics for key industry sectors

Applied economists based across Oregon, each with split research-Extension responsibilities, will focus on addressing questions critical to that region. This includes evaluating the feasibility of new and existing crops, agricultural products, and production and land management practices. This statewide strategy includes support for:

- The beef cattle industry through our Eastern Oregon stations in Burns and Union.
- The coastal seafood industry through our stations in Newport and Astoria.
- Portland's food and beverage sector, including farm-to-table, market development, trade and tourism.
- Major crops like wheat and potatoes through our stations in Pendleton and Hermiston.
- Specialty crops at our stations in Aurora and Hood River.
- The Southern Oregon ag economy through our stations in Central Point and Klamath Falls.

Applied research and education to bolster Oregon agriculture

- **Resiliency research support:** Oregon is a national leader in production of wheat, grass seed and hazelnuts. Applied research for these key commodities will help producers of all scales adjust to changing climates and emerging pest and disease challenges.
- **Viticulture extension:** Oregon's wine grape industry continues to grow. Extension support is needed to address local needs, develop educational programs, and manage research and demonstration projects. These efforts will provide practical solutions to help growers adapt and respond to climate and market challenges.

Addressing complex natural resource challenges

Integrated research and Extension positions can support the health and resilience of forest ecosystems and strengthen Oregon's wood products industry through advanced technologies and digitization. Priority areas include:

- **Innovative forestry practices and wood products:** Address complex forest management and wood utilization issues by investing in cost-effective, contemporary management and production techniques, including robotics and advanced data analytics. These efforts aim to improve safety; increase sustainability and profitability of forest operations; and contribute to development of new wood products.
- **Resilient ecosystems and forest health:** Provide leadership in forest health issues affecting Oregon and the PNW, including threats from novel pests. Bolster knowledge and state-level action on forest management amid complex dynamics of climate, insects and diseases.

Community engagement for economic development

- **Agrivoltaic community engagement:** Agrivoltaics research at OSU's research station in Aurora is showing the potential to use land for both agriculture and solar power production—with mutual benefit. Education and outreach are essential to understand viability of this approach for Oregon producers and communities.
- **Coastal community economics:** Grow Oregon's "blue economy" by providing communities and businesses with information and tools to support economic development activities that depend on the ocean, shoreline and estuaries—including seafood, aquaculture, coastal restoration, infrastructure and workforce development.

Community health and vitality

Vibrant, healthy communities are characterized by things like access to quality education, living-wage jobs, safe homes and neighborhoods and access to health care. The OSU Statewides have a role to play in each of these.

- **AI workforce development:** Use applied research and education to help Oregon communities adapt to the evolving digital economy and use AI effectively. Provide statewide leadership to support the workforce development needed to ensure Oregon's labor market can emerge as a national leader in the AI economy.
 - **OSU's Health Extension work** is aligned to support Oregon's health improvement plan and community health assessments. Added funding will expand capacity to support communities with collaborative, evidence-based approaches that address behavioral health, substance misuse and housing.
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