

February 21, 2013

13-070

AUTHORIZE INCREASE IN TUITION FOR CREDIT
AND TWO NON-CREDIT PROGRAM COURSES FOR
THE 2013-2014 AND 2014-2015 ACADEMIC YEARS
(THE 2013-2015 BIENNIUM)

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APPROVED BY: Dr. Preston Pulliams, College President

REPORT: Staff has previously reviewed with the Board the need to increase tuition rates for the upcoming biennium and the estimated magnitude of those increases. Staff recommends that the proposed budget the 2013-2015 biennium be based on a tuition increase of \$6.00 per credit hour for the 2013-2014 academic year (7.3%) and \$5.00 per credit hour for the 2014-2015 academic year (5.7%) for all credit classes. The rates will be \$88.00 and \$93.00 per credit hour respectively. The higher than usual increases are necessary to close the large budget gap created by many cost drivers including the substantial increases of PERS costs and the significant reduction in State Community College Support Fund (CCSF) in the past two biennia. Even at the Governor's current proposed \$428 million for CCSF, it is 20% below what it was in the 2007-09 biennium. Also, in order to meet the Financial Aid award timing requirement for the next academic year, the tuition rate needs to be determined in the February board meeting. Before this proposed increase, the PCC tuition rate is in the lower 1/3 of the tuition rates charged by the Oregon Community Colleges. At the time of the writing of this resolution many Oregon community colleges have not announced their tuition changes for FY2013-2014, and fees charged at most other Oregon community colleges tend to be higher than those of PCC. However, the discussions among the colleges so far range from \$3 to \$10 per credit hour increase for FY 2013-14. The increase in this resolution would likely put PCC closer to the middle of the pack.

PCC competes with Seattle area community colleges as well as the Portland metropolitan colleges and universities including Portland State University for international students. Staff also recognizes that the non-

resident (international students) tuition rate at PCC needs to be slightly less than the rates at Seattle colleges in order to stay competitive. After research and discussion, staff recommends the rate increase \$10.00 (4.8%) per credit hour to \$216.00 for 2013-2014 and increase \$4.00 (1.9%) per credit hour to \$220.00 for 2014-2015 keeping the rate below Seattle area community colleges and close to the other three community colleges in the Portland metropolitan area. PCC non-resident tuition remains about half of what Portland State University charges for international students per credit.

PCC has not adjusted the tuition-like fees for non-credit English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and Adult Basic Education (ABE) programs since 2006. Students taking ESOL credit courses pay the credit tuition. In order to defray part of the cost increases of these programs over the last 7 years, their rates will need to be adjusted. After careful analysis to maintain the affordability for these courses, staff proposes to change the program fees to 10% of the credit tuition for Level 1-3 of ESOL and ABE. For Levels 4-5 of ESOL, staff proposes that the rate will change to 30% of the credit tuition.

Eight years ago, PCC substantially increased the minimum tuition rates for Community Education (CED) and Continuing Education (CEU) programs. These programs are designated to be largely self sufficient. In addition, actual tuition and fees for CED and CEU programs are usually determined by what the market will bear and the cost of providing such programs. Tuition for these programs is often higher than the minimum. As such, staff recommends no change to the minimum rates charged in these programs.

RECOMMENDATION: That the following tuition rates for credit and two non-credit courses become effective for the biennium 2013-2015.

1. Credit Courses:

Resident

Oregon residents, who are under the age of 62, will be charged \$88.00 per credit hour effective Summer Term, 2013 and \$93.00 per credit hour effective Summer Term, 2014.

Border State Resident

Residents of states bordering Oregon (Washington, Idaho, Nevada and California), who are under the age of 62, will be charged \$88.00 per credit hour effective Summer Term, 2013 and \$93.00 per credit hour effective Summer Term, 2014.

Non-Resident

Persons not residing in Oregon or bordering states (including all international students) will be charged \$216.00 per credit hour effective Summer Term, 2013 and \$220.00 per credit hour effective Summer Term 2014.

Students who are 62 years and older

As mandated under ORS 341.534 (HB 2011 in 2009), the College will waive tuition for Oregon residents who are 62 or older who enroll in credit courses, on a space available basis when the course is taken for an audit grade.

Exception for Credit Courses

Higher rates for the respective tuition categories will not be charged. Reductions to credit course rates must be approved on a case-by-case basis by the College President.

2. Non-Credit Courses:

ESOL:

Level 1-3: 10% of Credit Courses per contact hour (\$8.80 and \$9.30 per contact hour respectively for 2013-14 and 2014-15)

Level 4-5: 30% of Credit Courses per contact hour (\$26.40 and \$27.90 per contact hour respectively for 2013-14 and 2014-15)

ABE

Level 1-3: 10% of Credit Courses per contact hour

(\$8.80 and \$9.30 per contact hour respectively for 2013-14 and 2014-15)

No change for the following programs:

Community Education (CED)

The minimum rate charged for CED courses will remain at \$5.50 per contact hour for the 2013-2015 biennium.

Continuing Education (CEU)

The minimum rate charged for CEU courses will remain at \$5.70 per contact hour for the 2013-2015 biennium.