

JOINTLY PREPARED BY CENTRAL OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
AND CENTRAL OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

2022

Central Oregon Community College

GRANTS IMPACT REPORT

A summary of grant activities and the educational
initiatives and programs they support at
Central Oregon Community College



Central Oregon Community College

received over **\$4.6 million in new grant funds** in 2022. In total, COCC managed nearly **\$12 million in grant funds last year**, impacting **83 different grant-funded projects**. New grants ranged from **\$800 to \$1.4 million** in size, awarded by private, local, state and federal funders. Forty different organizations and agencies contributed grant funds to COCC in 2022, with funded projects representing the depth and diversity of COCC offerings — from public health workforce development and electric vehicle technician training to child care business guidance and scholarships for students. Grant funds helped students from across the COCC district — 10,000 square miles in size — achieve their academic and career goals, with funding spread across all four COCC campuses: Bend, Redmond, Prineville and Madras. **This report highlights just some of the impactful grant-funded projects implemented in 2022.**



2022 GRANTS IMPACT SUMMARY



\$12 MILLION
TOTAL GRANT FUNDS MANAGED



\$4.6 MILLION+
NEW GRANTS AWARDED



83 GRANTS
MANAGED

FUNDERS IN 2022

Central Oregon Health Council	Oregon Department of Education
Central Oregon STEM Hub	Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs
City of Bend	Oregon Education Association
City of Sisters	Choice Trust
Deschutes County	Oregon Small Business Development Network
Deschutes Cultural Coalition	Oregon State Fire Marshall
Early Learning Hub of Central Oregon	PacificSource Health Plans
East Cascades Works	Pacific Power
The Environmental Center	Reser Family Foundation
Ford Family Foundation	Roundhouse Foundation
Gene Haas Foundation	St. Charles Health System
Maybelle Clark Macdonald fund	State Library of Oregon
Meyer Memorial Trust	State of Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission
National Science Foundation	U.S. Bank Foundation
National Security Agency	U.S. Department of Education
NeighborImpact	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Oregon Black United Fund	U.S. Department of Labor
Oregon Associated of Educational Service Districts	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Oregon Business Development Department	U.S. Health Resources and Service Administration
Oregon Community Foundation	U.S. Small Business Administration
Oregon Department of Education-Early Learning Division	

CHANDLER LECTURE SERIES AND SEASON OF NONVIOLENCE.

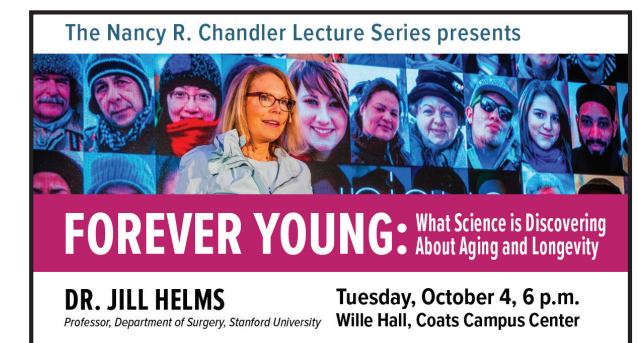
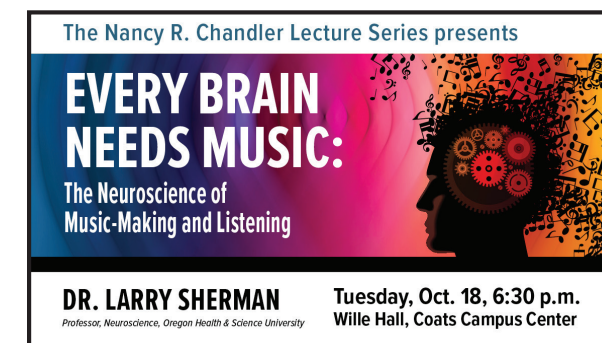
Funders: Deschutes Cultural Coalition (\$2,900), Maybell Clark Macdonald Fund (\$45,000), St. Charles Health System (\$1,000) and Oregon Humanities (\$1,000).

Amount: \$49,900.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: various.

A group of funders provided grants for the COCC Foundation to continue its Chandler Lecture Series (CLS) and Season of Nonviolence (SNV). CLS, partially endowed by the Nancy R. Chandler Foundation, brings renowned speakers, lecturers and experts to the region to deliver broad-based programming on a diverse range of educational and topical subjects. SNV hosts events inspired by the work of Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., César Chávez and Chief Wilma Mankiller, and honors their vision for an empowered, nonviolent world. In 2022, CLS offered 11 programs for students and the community, with a total of 1,870 participants, 469 of whom were new attendees to the program. The 2022 SNV programming included 3 virtual presentations, 1 virtual panel discussion, 2 virtual facilitated conversations and a community book read. In the fall of 2022, programs saw a return to in-person programming with high attendance and strong community support.



* EXPANDING THE PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE IN CENTRAL OREGON.

Funders: Deschutes County, Central Oregon Health Council and PacificSource Health Plans.

Amount: \$383,096.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022-26.

There is a great need in Central Oregon for public health workers to address various pressing community health issues, including homeless health services and public health education. With the help of grant funding, COCC is now offering Community Health Worker and Peer Support Specialist training where participants can earn a credential needed to immediately enter the workforce. Grant funds help pay for curriculum development, scholarships and paid student internships in the community. Some 140 public health paraprofessionals will be added to the local workforce over two years as a result of this grant.

*** CHINESE LANGUAGE CAMPS FOR YOUTH.**

Funder: National Security Agency.

Amount: \$114,674.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022-24.



With this grant, COCC will offer a 4-week intensive Chinese language camp for high school and middle school students in the summer of 2023. There will also be pre-camp and post-camp remote instruction to help students further their language skills. Courses will be taught by local high school teachers with curriculum co-developed by COCC and Stanford University faculty. Students will learn Chinese language and culture through interactive classroom and field trip experiences in Central Oregon. COCC was one of the only community colleges in the U.S. to be awarded funding through STARTALK this past year. STARTALK is a highly respected language program of the National Security Agency, which seeks to increase the number of students enrolled in the study of critical need languages such as Chinese, Russian, Arabic, Persian and Korean.



*** IMPROVING RECYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR WICKIUP RESIDENCE HALL.**

Funder: The Environmental Center's Rethink Waste Project Community Innovation Fund.

Amount: \$800.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022.

The goal of The Environmental Center's Community Innovation Fund is to implement new ways to prevent and reduce waste from schools, multifamily facilities, tourism impacts and local businesses throughout Deschutes County. With grant funding, COCC Campus Services developed and installed permanent waste-sorting signage outside of the Wickiup Residence Hall, as well as infrastructure for indoor and outdoor event recycling, in an effort to increase recycling and reduce waste.



*** PATHWAYS TO INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH CAREERS.**

Funder: National Science Foundation.

Amount: \$258,404.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022-28.

Funds were awarded to COCC from the National Science Foundation as part of a \$4 million consortium project led by the University of Oregon. The Oregon Pathways to Industrial Research Careers project develops pathways for community college students (from COCC, Lane CC and Umpqua CC) to pursue industrial research careers. Sixty-four unique scholars from these community colleges will be supported through scholarships during their final year of community college, then as transfer students through two years as UO biochemistry, chemistry or physics majors, and then through the Knight Campus Graduate Internship Program at UO before moving into industry-paid internships. Students in their final year at COCC will be eligible for up to \$10,000 in scholarships through this project.

*** BUILDING THE PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE IN RURAL OREGON.**

Funder: U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration.

Amount: \$60,110.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022-26.

Healthy Rural Oregon is a partnership between over 20 organizations to strengthen the rural public health workforce by increasing the number of community health workers (CHWs) and community paramedics (CPs) serving rural Oregonians. The project's emphasis is on "home-growing" the public health workforce. Partners will work together to recruit people from within their rural communities and train them as CHWs and CPs, develop curriculum, support participants as they complete their training, and employ CHWs and CPs and support their ongoing training and career advancement. As a partner in this project, COCC faculty will develop online curriculum to train CHWs and health information management students.

* PRE-APPRENTICESHIPS IN CONSTRUCTION.

Funders: Higher Education Coordinating Commission and Central Oregon Health Council.

Amount: \$108,307.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022-23.

COCC received funding to start and expand pre-apprenticeship programs for construction in Central Oregon. Funds will be used to build curriculum, purchase needed materials and pay tuition for participants. Grant funds are being combined with significant investment from local construction companies to grow these workforce programs and build a pipeline of trained workers for the construction and trades industries. Pre-apprenticeship programs give participants the basic skills and education needed to enter a registered apprenticeship program with a local company. Construction jobs are among the highest in-demand jobs in Central Oregon with many job openings expected over the next 10 years. COCC pre-apprenticeship programs will partner with rural high schools and other organizations that assist underserved youth to diversify this critical workforce.

* SUMMER PROGRAMS FOR K-12 STUDENTS.

Funder: Oregon Association of Educational Service Districts.

Amount: \$247,819.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022.

COCC ran several youth programs in the summer of 2022 focused on benefitting students who are traditionally underserved. Programs funded through this grant included summer camps in Prineville and Madras, such as aviation and culinary, summer courses offered across the COCC district, including writing and math, a culturally specific science preparation program for incoming COCC freshman that teaches science through research and field trips, and culturally specific college preparation symposiums for Black, Native American and Latinx students. A total of 363 youth enrolled in programs supported by this grant.



* IMPROVING CAREER CONNECTED LEARNING.

Funder: Oregon Department of Education.

Amount: \$220,000.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022-24.

This grant funds a Career Connected Learning (CCL) Navigator at every Oregon community college in collaboration with the Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission. The goal of this grant is twofold: 1) Strengthen partnerships with K-12 schools, community organizations and industry to expand how youth are prepared to participate in high-wage, high-demand careers and, 2) Address barriers and equity gaps to ensure all students have access to CCL learning. The COCC CCL Navigator will research best CCL practices as well as create and maintain an online, local resource hub for students, parents, industry, community organizations and K-12 educators. The goal of the resource hub is to support communication and partnership; increase access to CCL resources, curriculum, tools and opportunities; connect K-12 learning with postsecondary programs and career opportunities; and, promote work-based learning partnerships.

* IMPROVING TRAINING FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLE TECHNICIANS AND EXPANDING THE ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING NETWORK.

Funders: Pacific Power and Deschutes County.

Amount: \$114,491.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022-24.

As the use of electric vehicles continues to accelerate across Central Oregon and the U.S., the need for trained technicians to service these vehicles is immense. COCC's Automotive Technology program obtained grant funds to help further develop their electric vehicle training programs through the purchase of several electric vehicles. Students will be able to practice their skills on these vehicles while COCC will be able to use them as fleet vehicles. Additionally, funding will allow COCC to install EV-charging stations on the Bend and Prineville campuses, expanding the charging network to all four campuses after chargers were previously installed on the Redmond and Madras campuses. Chargers will be available for use by the COCC community and the general public.



*** IMPROVING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE COMMUNITY.**

Funders: Black United Fund of Oregon and St. Charles Health System.
Amount: \$9,000.
Year Awarded: 2022.
Grant Period: 2022-23.



COCC's Afrocentric student program is leading a community collaboration to bring the Evolve Experience to the Tower Theatre in downtown Bend in 2023. The Evolve Experience is a unique arts-based workshop designed for criminal justice professionals and community stakeholders that combines dramatic storytelling and audience engagement. The Evolve Experience includes stories based on the lived experiences of African Americans, police officers and other individuals who live at the intersection of race and criminal justice. The theatrical portion of the program is accompanied by curriculum designed to encourage participants to self-reflect and listen to others who may have different or polarizing viewpoints.

HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY FOR MIGRANT WORKERS.

Funder: U.S. Department of Education.
Amount: \$296,000.
Year Awarded: 2019.
Grant Period: 2019-22.

The High Desert Education Service District and the nonprofit Better Together were awarded a grant to help migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their children earn GEDs and gain upgraded employment or be placed in an institution of higher education. COCC received funding from the grant to employ a Spanish-speaking instructor to help students earn their GED.

*** EXPANDING COCC'S MADRAS CAMPUS TO INCLUDE HEALTH CAREERS AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.**

Funder: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
Amount: \$152,000.
Year Awarded: 2022.
Grant Period: 2022-23.

COCC is embarking on a major project to build an approximately 15,000-square-foot expansion of the Madras campus. Funding for the project will come from a mix of federal and state resources, institutional funds, private donors and grants. The first grants for the project were obtained in 2022, including this one from Congressionally directed spending advocated by Oregon Senators Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden. The Madras campus expansion project will address three of the largest workforce and community needs in Central Oregon and the state: the need for well-trained early childhood educators, the shortage of health care workers and the shortage of available child care slots. These needs will be addressed with the expansion of highly successful, existing programs at COCC: Early Childhood Education (ECE), Nursing, Nursing Assistant, Medical Assisting and the opportunity for several new health technician programs. The ECE program will serve both as a workforce development center for future educators and as a child care center for the local community, with up to 100 child care slots operated by a licensed partner agency. The ECE and health programs will graduate up to 88 students per year, giving students the needed skills and credentials to immediately enter the workforce.

“COCC has met with business and community leaders in Madras over the last few years and all of our partners have identified the lack of child care and the lack of both health care staff and child educators among the community’s gravest needs. This new college facility in Madras will help meet those needs for the long term, supporting local students, employers and their families.”

– Dr. Laurie Chesley, president of COCC, on the Madras campus expansion



* PREPARING LATINX HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE SUCCESS.

Funder: Oregon Department of Education.

Amount: \$45,000.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022-23.

A collaborative of numerous educational institutions and community partners received \$250,000 in funding to implement projects that improve educational outcomes for Latinx youth in Central Oregon. Funding for COCC will focus on outreach to students and their families to highlight educational opportunities in Early Childhood Education, including family nights and student ambassadors. The other portion of funding will contribute to operation of ¡AVANZA! and GANAS, COCC's college preparation courses and a summer symposium, respectively, for Latinx high school students. Together, these projects will help increase Latinx enrollment and student success at COCC. Partners on the grant include Juntos Aprendemos, High Desert Educational Service District, Latino Community Association and NeighborImpact, as well as the school districts of Bend-La Pine, Redmond and Crook County.

* IMPROVING WELDING EDUCATION AT COCC.

Funders: Reser Family Foundation and the Gene Haas Foundation.

Amount: \$58,000.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022-23.

As the manufacturing sector continues to grow in Central Oregon, the need for skilled welders has steadily increased. To help address this need, COCC is working to expand the capacity of the welding program to serve more students. Funding from the Reser Family Foundation allowed COCC to purchase new welders that can be used in a future expanded welding space, and combined funding from Reser and the Gene Haas Foundation will provide up to five full scholarships to welding students from rural parts of Central Oregon.



* SMALL BUSINESS ADVISING FOR SPANISH SPEAKERS.

Funder: U.S. Bank Foundation.

Amount: \$10,000.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022-23.

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) received funds to increase its small business advising focused on Spanish speakers in Central Oregon. The SBDC offers confidential, one-on-one, complimentary, professional business advising services to small business entrepreneurs throughout Central Oregon. The SBDC advising staff assists with starting new businesses, expanding the market, navigating impacts of COVID-19 and planning for resiliency. Through a dedicated business adviser who understands the needs of the Spanish-speaking community, the SBDC is able to better serve a diverse population.

* GROWING THE NUMBER OF CHILD CARE PROVIDERS IN CENTRAL OREGON AND BEYOND.

Funder: NeighborImpact.

Amount: \$485,400.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022-24.

COCC's Small Business Development Center, in partnership with the local nonprofit NeighborImpact, was awarded funds to expand a successful program to help more early childhood education centers open. In the first year of this program, 30 new Oregon registered or certified home-based child care businesses were created, opening 250 new child care slots in Central Oregon. With additional funding awarded in 2022, the program seeks to help open another 60 child care businesses in Central Oregon. Additionally, new funding will focus on helping open large center-based child care centers and helping other areas in Oregon enact similar programs. Courses are taught in English and Spanish, are free to attend and each participant who completes the course receives \$5,000 toward opening a new child care center. This program was developed in response to Central Oregon's "child care desert," where there is only 1 open spot for every 5 children in the region.

“They’re supporting, in my point of view, a better future for us. With your own business, you can have higher income and that gives you better opportunities in life. That’s the value the program is providing: They want people to grow. The resources are there, the support is there. It’s not just that you take the class and they give you money and that’s it. They are always there to help you.”

– Participant in the Small Business Development Center’s child care business accelerator program

* PREPARING STUDENTS FOR CAREERS IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS.

Funder: National Science Foundation.

Amount: \$749,759.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2023-29.

COCC's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Computer Information Systems (CIS) programs collaborated on a grant to help prepare students for careers in information systems, an industry with many job openings in Central Oregon and the state as a whole. Through a prestigious grant from the National Science Foundation, COCC will be able to offer annual scholarships up to \$10,000 per student for those looking to complete a CIS or GIS degree. Along with the scholarships, participating students will receive enhanced one-on-one advising from faculty and will participate in career-readiness workshops with faculty and local employers. Workshops will focus on learning career "soft skills" such as communication, which local technology employers often cite as a major issue for new employees entering the workforce. Over the course of the grant, at least 45 scholarships of up to \$10,000 each will be awarded to COCC students.

“This project will integrate career development directly into our curriculum. Technical ‘hard’ skills will be furthered by increased faculty- and peer-mentoring, while ‘soft’ career skills will be developed through employment-readiness workshops with local employers and career counselors. Soft skills, such as organizational and collaborative skills, are an oft-cited barrier to employment in the IT industry.”

– Patrick Kennelly, GIS faculty and program director, regarding the National Science Foundation S-STEM grant

* COLLEGE PREPARATION FOR NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS.

Funder: Central Oregon Health Council.

Amount: \$74,462.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2023-24.

Funding from the Central Oregon Health Council will help COCC continue to operate the highly successful college preparation programs for Native American youth. These programs consist of college preparation courses (The Good Road) taught at high schools throughout Central Oregon, and a summer symposium (STRIVE) focused on introducing students to the college experience. College preparation courses are taught at local high schools such as Madras High School, Redmond High School, Redmond Proficiency Academy and Bridges Career and Technical High School. These programs have led to a 98% high school graduation rate for participating students, a rate that surpasses the state graduation rate for Native American students. Additionally, approximately 76% of the students in the college preparation programs go on to college.

* EXPANDING LIBRARY SERVICES AT THE REDMOND CAMPUS.

Funder: State Library of Oregon

Amount: \$15,000.

Year Awarded: 2022

Grant Period: 2022.

COCC received funds from two grant programs to continue to expand student services at the COCC Redmond branch campus. With grant funding, the COCC library purchased laptops that students can check out and started a collection of textbooks related to educational offerings at the Redmond campus. This is part of a larger effort to bring more services to branch campuses so students can remain in their own communities for their COCC education.

* DIGITIZING TEXTBOOKS.

Funder: State Library of Oregon.

Amount: \$6,558.

Year Awarded: 2022

Grant Period: 2022.

COCC received funds to run a pilot program to purchase, digitize and make course texts available electronically. This is part of a national Controlled Digital Lending (CDL) initiative, an emerging method that allows libraries to loan print books to digital patrons in a "lend-like-print" fashion.

* INCREASING TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY FOR GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS.

Funder: Open Oregon.

Amount: \$11,000.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022-23.

This grant will allow COCC faculty to redesign Geography 101 with Open Educational Resources (OER). OER are freely and publicly available teaching, learning and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license to permit free use and repurposing by others. OER can include textbooks, course materials and full courses, modules, streaming videos, tests, software and any other tools, materials or techniques used to support access to knowledge. This is part of a college-wide effort to incorporate OER wherever possible to reduce educational costs for students.

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION.

Funder: Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

Amount: \$278,947.

Year Awarded: 2017.

Grant Period: 2017-22.

COCC has a longstanding grant to offer instruction to adults looking to gain basic education and work toward a high school diploma. This program offers courses in English as a second language; reading, writing and math; GED test credential preparation; high school diploma preparation; and, workplace skills, including critical thinking, digital literacy, locating and using information, and interpersonal skills.

EQUIPMENT FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL PROGRAMS.

Funder: U.S. Department of Education.

Amount: \$80,455.

Year Awarded: 2006.

Grant Period: Annual.

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act is a principal source of federal funding for the improvement of secondary and postsecondary career and technical education programs across the nation. Its purpose is to more fully develop the academic, career and technical skills of secondary and postsecondary students who elect to enroll in career and technical education (CTE) programs. CTE programs at COCC use the funds to make large equipment purchases that will advance the education of students and help prepare them for industry careers. In 2022, notable purchases included a smoker for the Cascade Culinary Institute to help students learn various cooking techniques, a Use of Force training simulator for the Criminal Justice program, manikins for the Emergency Medical Services program and battery diagnosis systems for the Automotive Technology program.



SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER SUPPORT.

Funders: U.S. Small Business Administration and Oregon Business Development Department.

Amount: \$220,700.

Year Awarded: 2021.

Grant Period: Various.

COCC's Small Business Development Center (SBDC) receives regular grant funding from various sources to provide general operating support. The SBDC provides a wide range of services for small business owners in Central Oregon, including: pro-bono guidance and advising in all aspects of funding and developing small business; practical courses and workshops to help business owners make smart business decisions and prosper; capital asset advising; comprehensive business plan assistance; financial forecasts; marketing tactics; identifying funding sources; and, general operations input.

IMPROVING TRAINING FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLE TECHNICIANS.

Funder: National Science Foundation.

Amount: \$875,035.

Year Awarded: 2017.

Grant Period: 2017-22.

In 2022, COCC's Automotive program concluded a five-year grant to improve electric vehicle (EV) technician training nationwide. The program established EV training standards, created a nationwide EV technician training and testing program with the Society of Automotive Engineers, and conducted outreach to high school students in Oregon and California to increase the diversity of students entering EV technician training programs. This grant helps set the stage for further development of community college EV training programs, including COCC's own efforts to train the future EV technician workforce.

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING.

Funder: U.S. Department of Labor.

Amount: \$373,700.

Year Awarded: 2021.

Grant Period: 2021-25.

COCC and a consortium of seven other Oregon community colleges received a grant to improve advanced manufacturing and cybersecurity programs. Funding will help COCC's Welding and Machining programs work closer with industry partners to meet the region's workforce demands and allow more instruction to occur via hybrid online/in-person instruction. Funds will be used to invest in new equipment, create more short-term certifications and stackable credentials, as well as offer more hands-on training, including internships and apprenticeships. In 2022, funds were used to train faculty in new state-of-the-art machining equipment and to bring in a manufacturing education expert to lead workshops with local employers to determine their future training needs. These employer needs will help inform COCC's design of a retrofitted welding and manufacturing space at the Redmond Manufacturing and Applied Technology Center.

LOW-COST CHILD CARE FOR COCC STUDENTS.

Funder: U.S. Department of Education.

Amount: \$242,700.

Year Awarded: 2021.

Grant Period: 2021-25.

This grant allows COCC to offer discounted child care to low-income students who meet academic criteria at the new joint child care venture between OSU-Cascades and COCC, housed on the OSU-Cascades campus. In 2022, funds allowed seven COCC students to have access to low-cost child care and keep them focused on their educational goals.

LATINX, NATIVE AMERICAN AND AFROCENTRIC COLLEGE PREPARATION AND COLLEGE SUCCESS PROGRAMS.

Funders: Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Meyer Memorial Trust and Ford Family Foundation.

Amount: \$988,000.

Year Awarded: Various.

Grant Period: Various.

Grants from four organizations contributed to the operation of COCC's culturally specific college preparation and college success programs for Latinx, Native American and Afrocentric students. These programs operate college preparation courses in local high schools, support college program coordinators at COCC, hold summer symposiums for high school students to become familiar with COCC, and coordinate cultural clubs at the college. Culturally relevant instruction and support is provided and students are encouraged to celebrate their cultural heritage and bring their heritage into the classroom. Students in these programs have significantly higher-than-average high school graduation rates, with nearly 100% of participants graduating high school.

DEER RIDGE EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

Funder: Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

Amount: \$786,000.

Year Awarded: 2017.

Grant Period: 2017-22

COCC has several multi-year grants to provide educational services at Deer Ridge Correctional Institution (DRCI). These grants pay for COCC Adult Basic Skills instructors at DRCI and fund the institution's Welding program. Adult Basic Skills courses provide an accessible educational experience that supports student success and enhances the lives and well-being of the students, assists with transitions to post-secondary education, and develops the skills necessary for students to achieve their goals and participate and thrive in the workforce and community. The welding shop at DRCI is approximately 2,500 square feet and features state-of-the-art equipment. Students currently earn a 45-credit, one-year certificate from the college and learn various welding techniques.

ACADEMIC AND CAREER COACHING FOR LOW-INCOME STUDENTS.

Funder: Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

Amount: \$175,000.

Year Awarded: 2019.

Grant Period: 2019-22.

COCC has a multi-year grant from several funding sources to operate a program that helps students gain skills and access training to increase their ability to gain employment through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Training and Employment (STEP) and Pathways to Opportunity (PTO) programs. Students who qualify for SNAP benefits at any of the COCC campuses can regularly meet with a coach to help achieve their goals. Additionally, the STEP program can provide eligible students with some assistance to overcome certain financial barriers to their education such as transportation, food, course fees, testing fees, textbooks and more.

RECRUITING STUDENTS FOR CAREERS IN HEALTH CARE.

Funder: East Cascades Works.

Amount: \$180,000.

Year Awarded: 2019.

Grant Period: 2019-22.

COCC operates a grant to fund a recruiter for its Allied Health programs, which includes Nursing, Medical Assisting, Nursing Assistant and others. This recruiter attends many events throughout the community to connect with students, including at many of the local Central Oregon high schools. A special emphasis is placed on recruiting students who are underrepresented in health careers. As the East Cascades Works grant funds expired in 2022 for this position, COCC has secured other grant funds to continue the position in 2023 and beyond.

ADVANCING LITERACY ACQUISITION FOR YOUNG CHILDREN.

Funder: Central Oregon Health Council.

Amount: \$26,696.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022-23.

This project focuses on improving the early identification of reading difficulties and subsequent support for young children through increased training for faculty and education of students in COCC's Early Childhood Education (ECE) program. In 2022, COCC's ECE program received funding to continue the program for a second year. The project focuses on the development needs of the early learning workforce, including: increased preparation in early identification of reading difficulties; enhanced programming to support the five pillars of reading and comprehension; access to materials to practice classroom engagement strategies (such as decodable books); and, engagement in regional programs throughout Central Oregon, in which rising educators can work alongside mentors in programs that support children. COCC faculty will receive state-of-the-art training in early identification of reading difficulties to inform ECE course redesign and ECE students with financial need will be given scholarships to complete the course.

SUPPLIES FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION STUDENTS.

Funder: Roundhouse Foundation.

Amount: \$30,000.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022-23.

For the third year in a row, COCC was awarded funds for students enrolled in select Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs to help alleviate the financial burden of required supplies. In 2022, students in Fire Science, Early Childhood Education, Welding, Machining, Automotive Technology and Forest Resources Technology received funds to purchase required supplies such as automotive tool sets, welding gloves and helmets, forestry field kits, children's books and fire boots. While these items are required, they are not eligible for financial aid, and are therefore often a financial barrier for students in these programs.

SUPPORTING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION STUDENTS.

Funders: Oregon Department of Education and the Early Learning Hub of Central Oregon.

Amount: \$440,000.

Year Awarded: 2021.

Grant Period: 2021-23.

Partners in Practice (PIP) is a collaboration that's been in place since 2014, involving COCC, the Early Learning Hub of Central Oregon and NeighborImpact Child Care Resources. The program includes flexible class offerings, intentional outreach, course relevancy, alignment with state and regional goals and diverse opportunities for professional growth and whole student support, all of which are available for early childhood education providers, employees and volunteers. In the past, PIP was funded through a variety of sources, but starting in 2021, this project is now fully funded by the Oregon Department of Education. NeighborImpact manages the overall grant, while COCC receives funding for student tuition. A primary aim of this work is to support access through affordability, where early learning professionals can grow in their expertise and qualifications through college degrees and certificates. Students who identify as Latinx, Hispanic, Native American, Indigenous, First Nations and Alaskan Native are prioritized. The STEM Hub of Central Oregon has also helped COCC's Early Childhood Education program purchase materials related to STEM for the past several years.

“Child care has been a need in Central Oregon for quite some time, and COVID-19 has only exacerbated the demand for high-quality, supportive, nurturing spaces for children. When our students know that their children are in safe, supportive, nurturing spaces, they are able to focus on their other commitments, including their academic and professional goals.”

– Amy Howell, director of COCC's Early Childhood Education program, speaking on the grant to offer low-cost child care to COCC students

MEETING STUDENTS' BASIC NEEDS.

Funder: Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

Amount: \$170,000.

Year Awarded: 2021.

Grant Period: 2021-23.

Starting in fall 2021, COCC partnered with the local nonprofit Thrive to provide students with support in accessing local, state and federal assistance programs for services such as housing, food, clothing and other needs. Services are provided across the COCC district. Funding for this on-site position is provided by the Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission and will continue through June 2023. Thanks to this funding stream, similar services are offered at all Oregon community colleges.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.

Funder: U.S. Department of Education.

Amount: \$650,000.

Year Awarded: 2021.

Grant Period: 2021-25.

A consortium of Oregon community colleges, including COCC, in partnership with the Oregon Department of Human Services-Vocational Rehabilitation, received an \$18.2 million federal grant to advance educational and economic equity for people with disabilities. Across the state, this project will serve 500 people with disabilities to help them get support and services needed to reach their career goals, advance in their career and ultimately reach their career potential. Services for students will begin to be offered at COCC in fall term of 2023.

SUPPORTING STUDENT VETERANS.

Funder: Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Amount: \$41,029.

Year Awarded: 2021.

Grant Period: 2021-23.

In 2021, COCC was awarded a grant to recruit and support student veterans. This funding, along with institutional funding from COCC, allowed the College to hire its first-ever veterans coordinator. The coordinator provides assistant to prospective student veterans, supports enrolled student veterans and advises the student Veterans club. Overall, the coordinator helps military-connected students meet their academic, career and personal goals.

Future Ready Oregon grants



Future Ready Oregon is a comprehensive \$200 million investment package from the State of Oregon that supports the education and training of Oregonians' need for family-wage careers. This package, from a law passed in 2022, includes strategic and targeted investments focused on advancing opportunities for historically underserved communities. Future Ready

Oregon invests in existing successful programs and in innovative equity-focused solutions to bolster recruitment, retention and career-advancement opportunities for priority populations. There are several grant programs within Future Ready Oregon, and in 2022 COCC received three Future Ready Oregon grants totaling more than \$1.5 million.

* SUPPORT FOR PROGRAMS THAT LEAD TO HIGH-DEMAND, HIGH-WAGE JOBS.

Funder: Higher Education Coordinating Commission through Future Ready Oregon.

Amount: \$801,440.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022-23.

COCC Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs that lead to high-demand, high-wage jobs received significant funds to grow and improve educational offerings. Several investments were made with these funds, including the creation of a storage area for the Fire Science program's fire truck, the purchase of an electric vehicle for the Automotive program, computer lab upgrades to keep up with industry standards for the Digital Arts program, development of short-term certificates, outreach and recruitment for CTE programs, and tuition waivers for students entering select CTE programs.

“This is one of only a few illustration certificate programs in the state, and we're very excited to be bringing these programs to Central Oregon. For aspiring artists, or other professions where these skills expand one's employability, it's a great way to launch a career.”

– Venus Nguyen, COCC assistant professor of Art, speaking about the new digital arts programs at COCC

* AWARDING CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING AND WORK EXPERIENCE.

Funder: Higher Education Coordinating Commission through Future Ready Oregon.

Amount: \$412,614.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022-23.

Many community members have tremendous knowledge and skills gained from academic as well as non-academic experiences, such as work and life. For example, even without academic training, someone may be a highly skilled welder with 20-plus years of on-the-job and personal experience. Through COCC's Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) grant, the College will focus efforts to expand opportunities for these students to earn college credit if they are able to demonstrate the knowledge and skills equivalent to what they would learn in a college-level course. This expands opportunities for non-traditional students to earn a college degree and reduces the costs associated with earning a degree. With these funds, COCC hired a CPL coordinator and is offering extensive training opportunities for staff and faculty to incorporate CPL opportunities into their programs.

* EXPANDING HEALTH CAREERS AND MANUFACTURING EDUCATION AT COCC'S BRANCH CAMPUSES.

Funder: Higher Education Coordinating Commission through Future Ready Oregon.

Amount: \$300,000.

Year Awarded: 2022.

Grant Period: 2022-23.

Through the Future Ready Oregon initiative, COCC received a “Workforce Ready” grant to expand its capacity to offer Health Careers and Manufacturing programs at the Madras and Redmond campuses. Approximately half of the funding will go toward purchasing needed equipment to start Nursing, Nursing Assistant and Medical Assisting programs as part of the Madras campus expansion. This includes over 100 pieces of equipment, such as hospital beds, IV kits and blood-pressure cuffs. The other half of the funding will go toward design of an expanded Manufacturing and Applied Technology Center (MATC) on the Redmond campus. A retrofit of the MATC will allow COCC to expand and improve its manufacturing programs in Welding and Machining.





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