

Assessing the Viability of Tuition-Free Community Colleges in Oregon: A Progress Report



Student Success & Institutional Collaboration Subcommittee
August 13, 2014



NCHEMS

National Center for Higher Education Management Systems
3035 Center Green Drive, Suite 150
Boulder, Colorado 80301

Activities to Date

- Meetings on July 16 & 17
 - with HECC Staff and Board Chair – project design
 - CCWD Staff – acquisition of data
 - Senator Hass – sponsor's expectations
- Design the analyses to be conducted – the model to be built
- On-going conversations with CCWD staff regarding acquisition of data
 - Student flow data received
 - Student financial aid data not received

Project Design

A model that will provide estimates of cost of free community college tuition under different assumptions about

- Student eligibility
 - Recent high school completers
 - Adults
 - Transfers
 - FT/PT status
- Student rates of participation
 - Recent high school completers
 - Adults
 - Transfers
- Duration of eligibility (e.g., continuous enrollment, 2 years, 3 years, etc.?)

Other Program Design Features

- Can assume either first or last dollar in
- Shared responsibility as overarching design
- Allows interaction with OOG



Potential Pool
of Beneficiaries

Filters that will allow
selection of subsets

Participation
Rates

Levers that allow changing
assumptions

Characteristics
of Recipients

income	Dep.	Indep.

Numbers of Recipients
of different characteristics
under assumptions specified
in previous steps

Model that
Calculates
Costs

Allows variation in
program design

Shared Responsibility Model

Cost of Attendance		
	Dep.	Indep.
FT		
PT		

The basic cost factors that drive shared responsibility

↓ minus

	Dep.	Indep.
FT		
PT		

Student contribution

↓ minus

EFC		
Inc. Cat.	Dep.	Indep.

Family contribution

↓ minus

PELL		
------	--	--

Federal Government

↓ minus

OOG - \$1,000		
---------------	--	--

Some portion of students

↓ equal

Free Tuition		
--------------	--	--

Last dollar in



Share Responsibility

- Model can be run as first dollar in by
 - Calculating the number of students
 - That meet different eligibility requirements
 - Under different assumptions about participation
 - Multiplying by tuition rate (adjusted as necessary for part-timeness)
 - In this scenario, cost to the state is managed by changing eligibility requirements