Tuition Structure and Process at OSU

Budget Conversation
January 11, 2024
Tuition structure and process

- How tuition is structured at OSU
- Concepts that differentiate tuition for students
- Key process steps for tuition setting
Sources of OSU Budget

FY24 OSU Operating Budget ($1.7B)

- Corvallis E&G: 43%
- Restricted: 30%
- Self Support: 16%
- SWPS: 9%
- Cascades E&G: 2%

Grants and Contracts, Federal Financial Aid, State Financial Aid, Gifts, etc.

Instruction, Research, Administrative Units (Provost, Executive Office, DFA, etc.)

All Tuition, State Approps.

Auxiliaries (Athletics, UHDS, Parking, etc.)

Service Centers (Motor Pool, P&M, Telecom)

Designated Operations

Incl: Mandatory & Incidental Fees (SHS & CAPS)

Instruction, research, Outreach, Facilities, Support Services
Structure of OSU tuition

• Many different rates of tuition
  • By Campus: Corvallis, Cascades, Ecampus
  • By Level: Undergraduate, Graduate, Professional
  • By Residency: Resident, Non-Resident
  • By Term: Academic Year, Summer
Undergraduate tuition

• Cohort structure
  • 6 different cohorts (5 currently, 6th for FY 2025)
  • Each entering class of undergraduates comes in at a different rate
  • Annual rates of change differ for incoming vs. returning students
  • Students pay per credit, regardless of load (no plateau)

• Differential tuition
  • Some colleges add a differential on top to account for higher costs of instruction or program-specific features
Graduate & Professional Tuition

• University-wide standard rate of graduate tuition
  • Business & Engineering Differentials

• Graduate tuition has a plateau (9-16 credits)

• Professional schools/programs charge different rates based on market and cost considerations
Other factors

• Resident/Non-resident rates
  • Oregon State, as a public university, charges lower rates to Oregon resident students (both undergraduate & graduate/professional)
  • Reflects the State’s investment in the public universities

• Ecampus
  • One rate charged regardless of residency
  • Pricing reflects the market and the different student experience (currently between resident/non-resident)
  • Separate rates for undergraduate and graduate students
Key process steps

• Analysis of “continuing service level” (CSL) expense needs of the institution
  • Inflation-like evaluation
  • Price and volume consideration for expense analysis
  • Personnel costs largest share of expense base (70%)
    ▪ Salaries
    ▪ Other Payroll Expenses (OPE)

• University Budget Committee (UBC)
  • OSU’s statutorily-required tuition advisory body
  • UBC evaluates and makes recommendations to University leadership on all tuition and mandatory fee changes

• Student Incidental Fees developed by Student Fee Committee of ASOSU and ASCC
Key process steps (cont.)

• President’s recommendation to the Board of Trustees (BoT)

• Board of Trustees review and approval
  • All tuition and fees are BoT purview

• Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC)
  • HECC review and approval needed if weighted rate of resident undergraduate increase in tuition plus mandatory fees is greater than 5.0%