Pay It Forward: The Debt-Free Degree Plan for Oregon

John Burbank Economic Opportunity Institute, Seattle, Washington

Presentation to the Oregon House Higher Education Committee, February 25, 2013



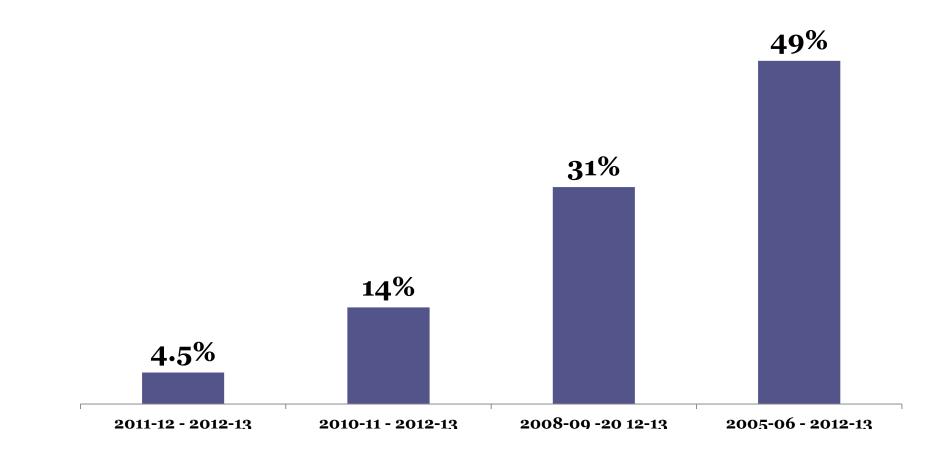
How does it work?

- **Replaces** tuition with postgraduate contributions into a state trust fund
- **Funds** future students from this trust fund
- **Future students** will also participate in Pay It Forward





Increases in Tuition and Fees at Oregon State University



The Pay It Forward Solution





Contribute a fixed percent of income

for a pre-determined number of years.

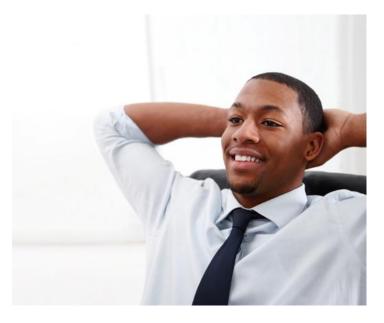
to a higher education trust fund after graduation

The fund enables access for future students

No upfront costs.

- Abolishes and replaces tuition
- Free and open access to all qualified students
- Increases career choice at college and after graduation







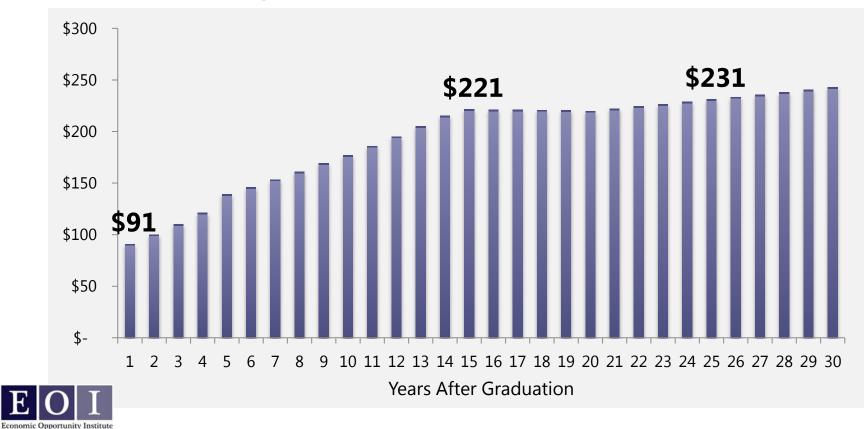
Contributions proportional to income.

 Amount based on market income; it is a rough estimate of human capital development gained through higher education.

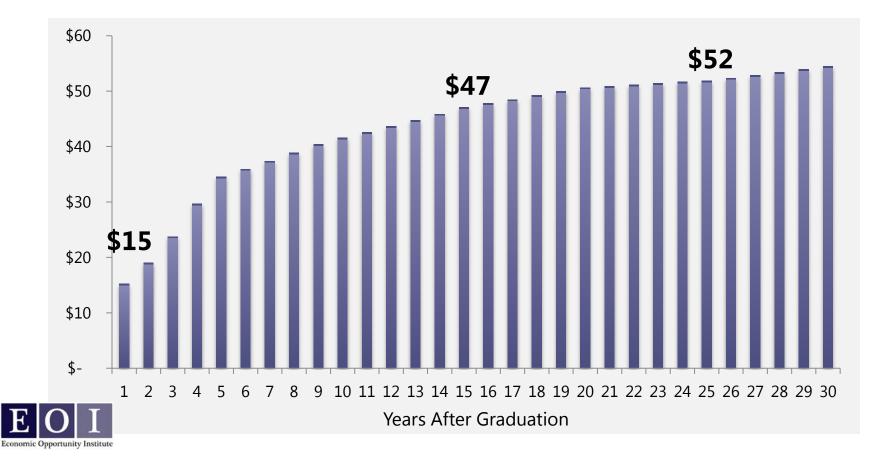




Hailey is a high school senior. If she goes to a four year college, she will pay 4% of AGI for 25 years.



If she goes to a community college, she will pay 1.5% of AGI for 25 years.



Statewide Implementation

- Transition to PIF in all public colleges and universities
- \$600 million in Year 1
- \$1.4 billion in Year 4
- Year 25: Net Revenue

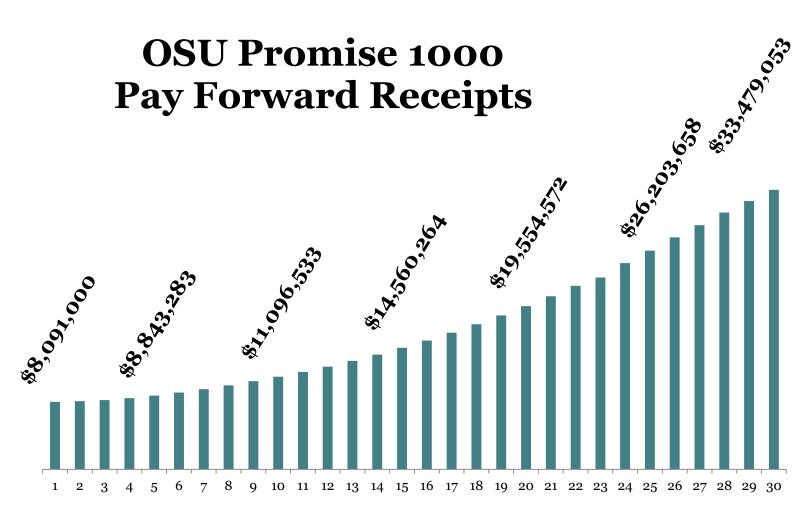




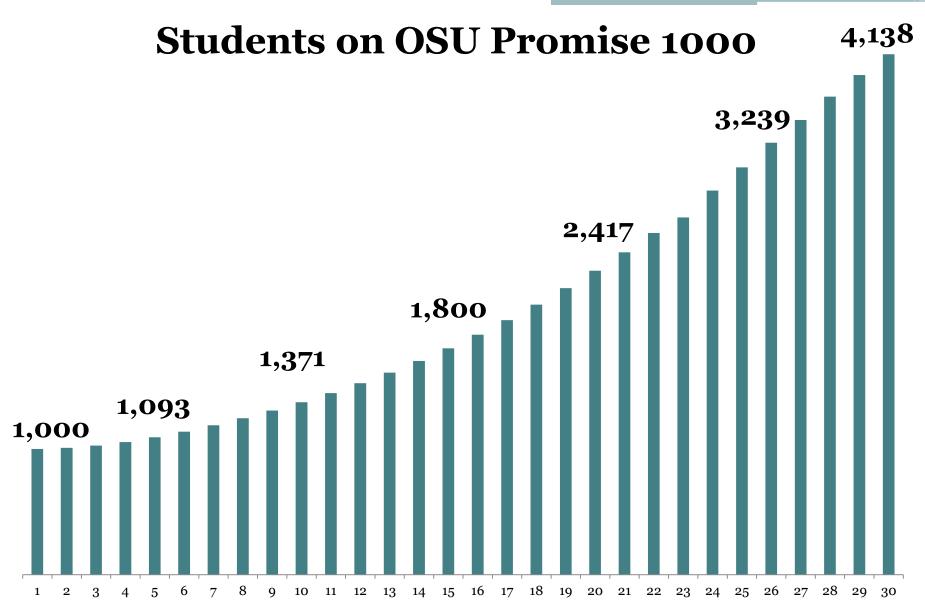
Pilot Programs

- Smaller universities or community colleges
- State Need Grant eligible students who did not receive the grant
- STEM majors
- Medical professions
- Parental participation: pre-funding PIF



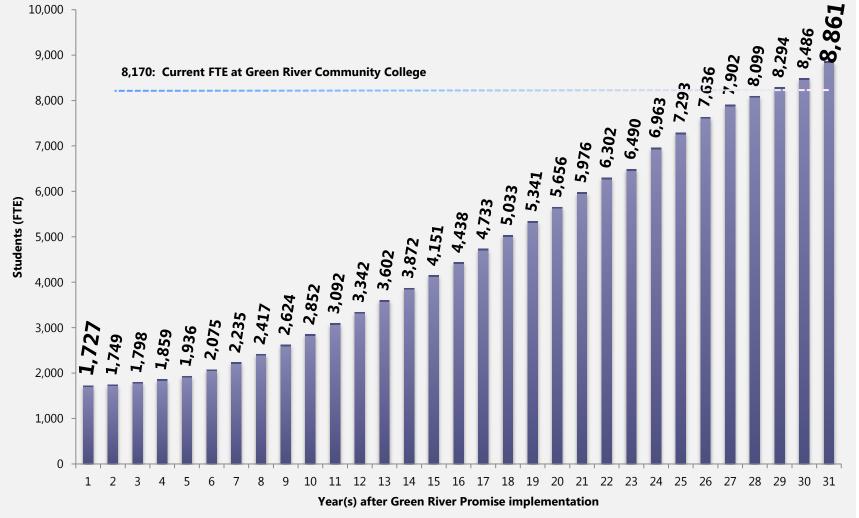


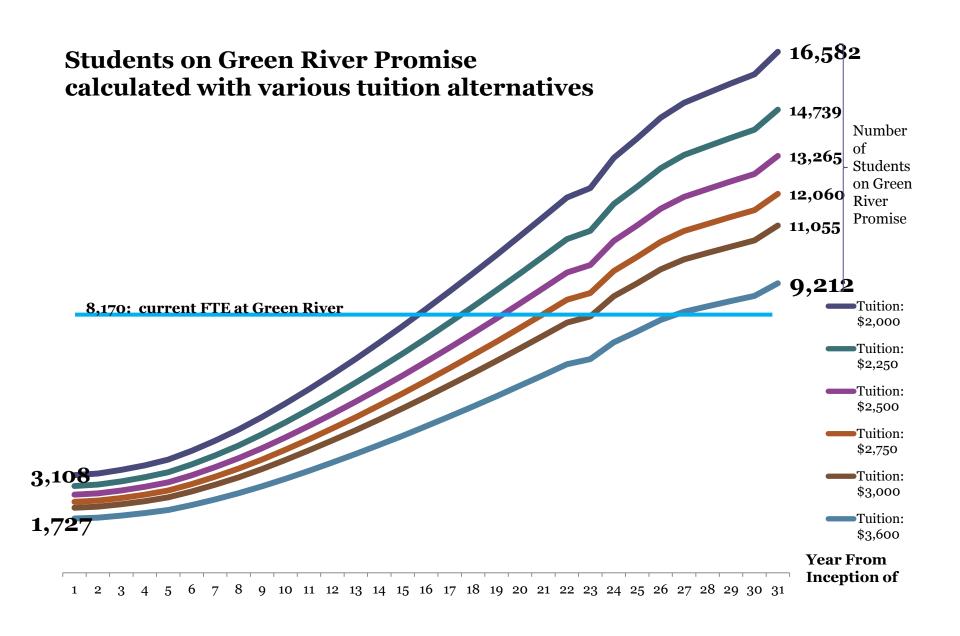
YEAR



YEAR

PAY IT FORWARD AT GREEN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE: GROWTH IN NUMBER OF STUDENTS





Partnering with other states would increase students' options and mobility.

- Pennsylvania
- New York
- Vermont
- Oregon
- California





Right now, we are:

- Consulting with legislators
- Working with stakeholders
- Figuring out how to start pilot programs
- Developing tighter actuarial calculations
- Developing interactive spreadsheets
- Working with the US Treasury
- Working with other states about their efforts



