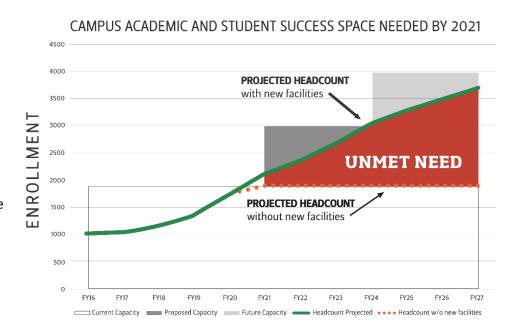
## Serving a Growing Economy and an Education Desert

Oregon State University - Cascades in Bend is Oregon's fastest growing public university campus, and has been since 2011. Yet by 2021, the current academic facilities on the 10-acre campus will be at capacity.

Without the investment of \$39 million in state funding for an additional academic building, OSU-Cascades will be unable to meet the educational needs of the state's fastest growing and most underserved region.



## **ECONOMIC IMPACT**

Central Oregon's economy is growing fast and diversifying.

Employers are looking to OSU-Cascades to provide skilled workers in growing industries such as high-tech, biosciences, healthcare, and outdoor products.

According to a study by ECONorthwest, by 2025 OSU-Cascades will contribute:

\$197.8m

economic output

In statewide

2,083

Jobs

\$3.43m

Additional annual state income taxes

## **RURAL CHALLENGES**

A 2016 American Council on Education study describes Central Oregon as an *Education Desert*.

The region lags behind the rest of Oregon in higher educational attainment, and the gap in rural Crook and Jefferson counties is significant.

The study shows most freshmen who attend a public university do so within 50 miles of home, so OSU-Cascades is critical for serving Central Oregon's rural families.

But without additional capacity, OSU-Cascades will be unable to serve these students, and most are unlikely to move in order to attend another university. The nearest university is OSU in Corvallis, almost 3 hours away.

## UNDERSERVED STUDENTS

OSU-Cascades' student body reflects the demographics of an underserved and rural community:

67%	Central Oregonians
32%	First generation college students
52%	Pell Grant eligible, indicating financial need
16%	US minority students

With additional capacity, OSU-Cascades can continue to serve these populations, transforming students' and families' lives.