

Oregon House Interim Committee on Education May 29, 2020

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THANK YOU

- ▶ **Concorde Career College appreciates the opportunity to address the Oregon House Education Committee**
- ▶ **We appreciate the support of Governor Brown and her staff in providing guidance on the reopening of colleges in the state and addressing the unique needs of students training to become healthcare professionals**
- ▶ **Further, we cannot thank enough Ben Cannon and the staff of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for their guidance during these challenging times**

BACKGROUND ON THE COLLEGE

- ▶ **Concorde Career College has been educating students in Portland since 1966**
- ▶ **Concorde focuses solely on healthcare programs**
 - **Respiratory Therapy, Surgical Technology, Practical Nursing, Medical Assistant, Dental Assistant, Medical Office Administration, Polysomnographic Technology**
- ▶ **Concorde has placed over 1700 graduates into healthcare jobs in the past five years**
- ▶ **Student Population – 323 students currently -- 86% female; 53% minorities with an average age of 27**

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE REQUIRED IN ALL PROGRAMS

- ▶ **Each healthcare program requires either clinical hours or an externship experience in order to graduate**
- ▶ **Students train in the College's labs prior to entering healthcare facilities supporting them with clinical or externship opportunities**
 - **During this time of COVID, the College has been educating small groups of these essential workers on campus to speed their entry into jobs to support the healthcare crisis**
- ▶ **Without hands on training, our students would not be adequately prepared to enter the workforce**

EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON THE COLLEGE

- ▶ **Moved to fully online education on March 23, 2020**
- ▶ **Online education included all lecture and virtual simulation of hands on experience**
 - **Monitoring student attendance daily in the online environment**
- ▶ **Began small group lab work (adhering to CDC guidelines) for essential worker programs in mid-April**
- ▶ **Preparing to return students to campus to complete lab portions of healthcare programs, again adhering to CDC guidelines**
- ▶ **Will continue online lectures to limit students on campus solely doing lab work**

COVID-19 AND COLLEGE WORKFORCE

- ▶ College's healthcare programs that train many essential workers have been viewed favorably by new students
 - Interest in programs has remained steady to hold to current enrollment
- ▶ Moving to online education had most employees working from home
- ▶ Limited reduction in staff or hours despite increased cost related to COVID response
 - PPE for returning to do lab work on campus
 - Sanitizing the College
 - Technology expenses to make workforce remote
- ▶ Development of systemwide policies to safely return faculty, staff and students to the campus

THANK YOU

QUESTIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE?