

March 28, 2019

To: Oregon Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education

From: Danny Jacobs, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.C.S.
President, Oregon Health & Science University



RE: Support for the Community College Budget Request

OHSU is profoundly grateful for the many ways that the state supports higher education in Oregon. It is essential so that we may guide students towards career paths that continue to serve the state and our nation, and in OHSU's case, create a pipeline of the best and brightest to provide health care for Oregonians, educate future providers and conduct groundbreaking research. We support that continued investment in our state's future.

OHSU is proud of our strong, collaborative partnership with community colleges across the state. Community colleges provide the bedrock for a robust training ground for highly qualified health care providers that can care for Oregonians for generations to come. Years of partnership across multiple areas of education have taught us that when Oregon's academic health center and community colleges work together in service to our students, we achieve great things for our state.

The Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education (OCNE) is just one example of these successes in action. OCNE is a nationally recognized model under which 11 community colleges and five universities collaborate to offer quality curriculum and a streamlined education for Oregonians to receive nursing degrees across the state, no matter where they are in Oregon.

We are confident that through sustained support for Oregon's community colleges we will continue to achieve amazing things together. Our commitment to training the best health care workforce to care for our state's citizens is unwavering, and we could not do it without your support.

Thank you,

Danny Jacobs, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.C.S.
President, Oregon Health & Science University