

**A-Engrossed**  
**Senate Bill 233**

Ordered by the Senate April 16  
Including Senate Amendments dated April 16

Printed pursuant to Senate Interim Rule 213.28 by order of the President of the Senate in conformance with pre-session filing rules, indicating neither advocacy nor opposition on the part of the President (at the request of Senate Interim Committee on Education)

**SUMMARY**

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission to establish common course numbering system for *[all]* introductory and lower level courses **with similar learning outcomes** offered at **accelerated college credit programs**, public post-secondary institutions of education **and participating nonpublic post-secondary institutions of education**. Requires all public post-secondary institutions of education to adopt system and accept transfers of academic credit **subject to common course numbering system** earned at other *[public post-secondary]* institutions of education.

*[Requires commission to confer with administrators, faculty and students on how to best create common course numbering system and to report annually to Legislative Assembly on progress made towards creating system. Requires system to be fully implemented no later than September 1, 2024.]*

**Establishes Transfer Council to advise commission on development, coordination and maintenance of common course numbering system, serve as primary venue for collaboration between community colleges and public universities for development of foundational curricula and unified statewide transfer agreements and develop best practices to facilitate student acceleration and transfer of students and academic credits among institutions. Establishes composition of council and reporting requirements for commission and council.**

**Requires establishment of initial common course numbering system that must be implemented by post-secondary institutions of education by beginning of 2023-2024 academic year. Requires establishment of final common course numbering system that must be implemented by post-secondary institutions of education by beginning of 2025-2026 academic year.**

**Declares emergency, effective on passage.**

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

1  
2 Relating to the transfer of academic credit; creating new provisions; amending ORS 350.395, 350.404  
3 and 350.412; and declaring an emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1. Notwithstanding ORS 352.087 (1)(q) or any other provision of law, each public**  
6 **post-secondary institution of education in this state shall:**

7 (1) **Adopt a common course numbering system, established by the Higher Education Co-**  
8 **ordinating Commission by rule, for introductory and other lower division courses with simi-**  
9 **lar learning outcomes that are taught in accelerated college credit programs, public**  
10 **post-secondary institutions of education and participating nonpublic post-secondary insti-**  
11 **tutions of education in this state.**

12 (2) **Accept a transfer of academic credit for each course that is subject to the system**  
13 **described in subsection (1) of this section as if the academic credit was earned at the insti-**  
14 **tution that is accepting the transfer of academic credit with respect to:**

15 (a) **The total amount of academic credit awarded;**

16 (b) **Satisfying general education requirements for graduation; and**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (c) Satisfying any requirements for a major in a baccalaureate or associate degree pro-  
2 gram.

3 **SECTION 2.** Notwithstanding sections 4 (3) and 8 (3) of this 2021 Act:

4 (1) The Transfer Council established in section 6 of this 2021 Act shall submit its first  
5 report to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission by January 15, 2022.

6 (2) The report described in subsection (1) of this section shall:

7 (a) Describe any subcommittees the council intends to establish under section 6 (5) of  
8 this 2021 Act for the purpose of assisting the council in the development of the common  
9 course numbering system described in section 1 of this 2021 Act;

10 (b) Establish a list of initial courses for the common course numbering system that will  
11 first apply during the 2023-2024 academic year;

12 (c) List the courses or subject areas the council has identified as likely to be included  
13 when the common course numbering system first applies to public post-secondary insti-  
14 tutions of education during the 2025-2026 academic year; and

15 (d) List the courses or subject areas, which may include career and technical education  
16 studies, that the council anticipates adding to the common course numbering system after  
17 the 2025-2026 academic year.

18 (3) The commission shall:

19 (a) Submit its first report to the Legislative Assembly no later than March 15, 2022. The  
20 report shall inform the Legislative Assembly of the activities of the council described in  
21 subsection (2) of this section and may include recommendations for additional legislation the  
22 commission determines would assist in the development of the common course numbering  
23 system described in section 1 of this 2021 Act.

24 (b) Adopt rules necessary to establish an initial common course numbering system con-  
25 sisting of the courses described in subsection (2)(b) of this section in a manner that ensures  
26 the system will first apply to the 2023-2024 academic year.

27 (4) Each public post-secondary institution of education in this state shall be in compli-  
28 ance with rules adopted by the commission under this section by the beginning of the  
29 2023-2024 academic year.

30 **SECTION 3.** Section 2 of this 2021 Act is repealed on January 2, 2025.

31 **SECTION 4.** (1) The Transfer Council established in section 6 of this 2021 Act shall make  
32 its final recommendations on the establishment of the common course numbering system  
33 described in section 1 of this 2021 Act no later than July 1, 2024.

34 (2) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall by rule establish the common  
35 course numbering system described in section 1 of this 2021 Act no later than September 1,  
36 2024.

37 (3) Each public post-secondary institution of education in this state shall be in compli-  
38 ance with section 1 of this 2021 Act no later than the beginning of the 2025-2026 academic  
39 year.

40 **SECTION 5.** Section 4 of this 2021 Act is repealed on January 2, 2027.

41 **SECTION 6.** (1) The Transfer Council is established, consisting of 15 voting members,  
42 appointed by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, and one nonvoting, ex officio  
43 member.

44 (2) Before appointing the voting members, the commission shall request nominations  
45 from official student, faculty and administrator organizations at public universities listed in

1 **ORS 352.002, community colleges operated under ORS chapter 341 and high schools in this**  
2 **state. The 15 voting members of the council shall consist of:**

3 (a) **Five academic officers, two of whom are currently employed at a public university,**  
4 **two of whom are currently employed at a community college and one of whom is currently**  
5 **employed at a public high school in this state;**

6 (b) **Four faculty members, two of whom are currently employed at a public university and**  
7 **two of whom are currently employed at a community college;**

8 (c) **One teacher who both teaches accelerated college credit programs as defined in ORS**  
9 **340.315 and is currently employed at a public high school in this state;**

10 (d) **Two individuals who specialize in assisting students who transfer between insti-**  
11 **tutions, one of whom is currently employed at a public university and one of whom is cur-**  
12 **rently employed at a community college; and**

13 (e) **Three students, one of whom is currently enrolled at a public university, one of whom**  
14 **is currently enrolled at a community college and one of whom is currently enrolled at a high**  
15 **school in this state.**

16 (3) **The chairperson of the commission, or a designee of the chairperson of the commis-**  
17 **sion, shall serve as a nonvoting, ex officio member.**

18 (4)(a) **The term of office of each voting member of the council is two years. Before the**  
19 **expiration of the term of a member, the commission shall appoint a successor. A member is**  
20 **eligible for reappointment.**

21 (b) **In order to serve as a member of the council, an individual must at all times meet**  
22 **the qualifications for the appointment. If at any time a member fails to meet the qualifica-**  
23 **tions for the member's appointment, the position is vacant.**

24 (c) **If there is a vacancy for any cause, the commission shall make an appointment to**  
25 **become immediately effective for the unexpired term.**

26 (5)(a) **The council:**

27 (A) **Shall select one or more of its members as chairperson or as cochairpersons; and**

28 (B) **May establish, in the manner set forth in this subsection, one or more subcommittees**  
29 **for the purpose of advising the council on how to best fulfill its duties.**

30 (b) **For a subcommittee established under this subsection that will make recommen-**  
31 **dations to the council on a subject that will be submitted by the council to the commission**  
32 **under section 8 (1)(d)(A) to (D) of this 2021 Act, the council may appoint any faculty member**  
33 **who is employed by a public university listed in ORS 352.002 or a community college operated**  
34 **under ORS chapter 341, provided that the subcommittee consists of equal numbers of faculty**  
35 **from public universities and community colleges.**

36 (c) **For a subcommittee established under this subsection that will not make recommen-**  
37 **dations to the council on a subject that will be submitted by the council to the commission**  
38 **under section 8 (1)(d)(A) to (D) of this 2021 Act, the council may appoint any individual em-**  
39 **ployed by a public university listed in ORS 352.002 or a community college operated under**  
40 **ORS chapter 341, including faculty, registrars, academic advisors and academic administra-**  
41 **tors.**

42 (d) **Appointment to a subcommittee established under this subsection does not entitle an**  
43 **individual to vote as a member of the council.**

44 (6)(a) **A majority of the voting members of the council constitutes a quorum for the**  
45 **transaction of business.**

1 (b)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, official action by the  
2 council requires the approval of a majority of the voting members of the council.

3 (B) Official action by the council on recommendations to be made to the commission  
4 under section 8 (1)(d)(A) to (D) of this 2021 Act requires the approval of three-fifths of the  
5 voting members of the council.

6 (c) Two or more voting members of the council who disagree with recommendations that  
7 are submitted to the commission under section 8 (1)(d)(A) to (D) of this 2021 Act may jointly  
8 submit a minority report to the commission that contains alternate recommendations. A  
9 minority report created under this paragraph shall be submitted to the commission with the  
10 majority recommendations.

11 (7)(a) A majority of the members of a subcommittee established under subsection (5) of  
12 this section constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business of the subcommittee.

13 (b)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, official action by a  
14 subcommittee established under subsection (5) of this section requires approval of a majority  
15 of the members of the subcommittee.

16 (B) Official action by a subcommittee on recommendations to be made to the council on  
17 a subject that will be submitted by the council to the commission under section 8 (1)(d)(A)  
18 to (D) of this 2021 Act requires the approval of three-fifths of the members of the subcom-  
19 mittee.

20 (c) Two or more members of a subcommittee who disagree with recommendations that  
21 are submitted to the council on a subject that will be submitted by the council to the com-  
22 mission under section 8 (1)(d)(A) to (D) of this 2021 Act may jointly submit a minority report  
23 to the council that contains alternate recommendations. A minority report created under  
24 this paragraph shall be submitted to the council with the majority recommendations.

25 (8)(a) The council shall meet at least every three months at a place, day and hour de-  
26 termined by the chairperson or cochairpersons.

27 (b) In addition to the meetings required under paragraph (a) of this subsection, the  
28 commission may call a meeting of the council if the commission finds a meeting to be nec-  
29 essary and a meeting is not called by the chairperson or cochairpersons.

30 SECTION 7. Notwithstanding the term of office specified in section 6 of this 2021 Act, the  
31 Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall adopt by rule a method for establishing the  
32 initial terms of office of members of the Transfer Council so that:

33 (1) The initial term of office for each member of the council is either two years or three  
34 years; and

35 (2) One-half, as nearly as possible, of the members of the council are appointed annually.

36 SECTION 8. (1) The Transfer Council established under section 6 of this 2021 Act shall:

37 (a) Advise the Higher Education Coordinating Commission on the development, coordi-  
38 nation and maintenance of the common course numbering system described in section 1 of  
39 this 2021 Act;

40 (b) Serve as the primary venue for community colleges and public universities to collab-  
41 orate to develop foundational curricula described in ORS 350.400 and unified statewide  
42 transfer agreements described in ORS 350.404;

43 (c) Develop best practices in order to improve program planning, increase communication  
44 among all participants and facilitate student acceleration and the transfer of students and  
45 academic credits between public school districts, public post-secondary institutions of edu-

1 cation and participating nonpublic post-secondary institutions of education; and

2 (d) Make recommendations to the commission on the adoption of rules necessary to:

3 (A) Establish and maintain the common course numbering system described in section 1  
4 of this 2021 Act;

5 (B) Establish an auditing process to determine how well public post-secondary insti-  
6 tutions of education are complying with the common course numbering system;

7 (C) Establish a process that enables a student to appeal a decision by a public post-  
8 secondary institution of education to refuse the transfer of academic credit;

9 (D) Ensure the cooperation and successful implementation of the common course num-  
10 bering system by all public post-secondary institutions of education;

11 (E) Ensure the coordination, establishment, alignment, effectiveness and maintenance  
12 of foundational curricula described in ORS 350.400 and unified statewide transfer agreements  
13 described in ORS 350.404; and

14 (F) Ensure that each community college and each public university listed in ORS 352.002  
15 submits an annual report to the commission that includes all information necessary for the  
16 commission to determine the effect of common course numbering, foundational curricula and  
17 unified statewide transfer agreements on a demographically and institutionally disaggregated  
18 basis.

19 (2) The commission shall:

20 (a) Adopt rules based on the work and recommendations of the council on matters de-  
21 scribed in subsection (1)(d) of this section;

22 (b) Establish by rule an annual date by which the commission will submit a report in the  
23 manner provided by ORS 192.245 to the appropriate interim committees of the Legislative  
24 Assembly responsible for higher education that sets forth the determinations the commission  
25 has made on the effect of common course numbering, foundational curricula and unified  
26 statewide transfer agreements on a demographically and institutionally disaggregated basis,  
27 based on the information provided to the commission pursuant to subsection (1)(d)(F) of this  
28 section;

29 (c) Provide staff support for the council;

30 (d) Provide logistical support for the council; and

31 (e) Host an Internet website for the council.

32 (3)(a) No later than September 1 of each year, the council shall report to the commission  
33 on the progress the council is making in enhancing and maintaining the common course  
34 numbering system described in section 1 of this 2021 Act and on any other current work  
35 regarding the transfer of academic credit on which the council is focused.

36 (b) No later than December 15 of each year, the commission shall report to the interim  
37 committees of the Legislative Assembly responsible for higher education on the progress the  
38 council is making in enhancing and maintaining the common course numbering system de-  
39 scribed in section 1 of this 2021 Act and on any other current work regarding the transfer  
40 of academic credit on which the council is focused.

41 (4) The commission may adopt rules necessary to effectively implement this section.

42 **SECTION 9.** Not later than December 15, 2021, the Higher Education Coordinating Com-  
43 mission shall submit a report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related  
44 to education describing any additional legislation or funding that is required to develop an  
45 electronic system for the dissemination of information regarding foundational curricula es-

1 **ablished under ORS 350.400 and unified statewide transfer agreements established under**  
2 **ORS 350.404.**

3 **SECTION 10. Section 9 of this 2021 Act is repealed on December 31, 2022.**

4 **SECTION 11. ORS 350.395 is amended to read:**

5 350.395. (1) As used in this section:

6 (a) "Associate transfer degree" means an associate degree that is awarded by a community  
7 college and that is intended to allow a student to apply the credits earned for the degree toward a  
8 baccalaureate degree.

9 (b) "Community college" means a community college operated under ORS chapter 341.

10 (c) "Public university" means a public university listed in ORS 352.002.

11 (d) "Transfer program" means a one-year program that is designed to allow a student to apply  
12 the credits earned through the program toward a baccalaureate degree.

13 (2) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall develop standards related to the ability  
14 of students to apply credits earned through courses of study at community colleges to baccalaureate  
15 degrees awarded by public universities. The standards shall be known as the "Transfer Student Bill  
16 of Rights and Responsibilities."

17 (3) The standards developed under this section must include:

18 (a) Admission standards to public universities for students who have earned an associate trans-  
19 fer degree.

20 (b) Processes to align requirements for community college courses and public university courses  
21 to ensure that credits earned for completion of sufficiently similar courses are fully transferable  
22 between all community colleges and public universities.

23 (c) Processes to minimize the number of credits that students who have earned an associate  
24 transfer degree would need to complete prior to receiving various types of baccalaureate degrees  
25 at public universities, including identifying majors in baccalaureate degree programs that require  
26 more than two years to complete after a student has earned an associate transfer degree.

27 (d) Processes to minimize the number of credits that students who have completed a transfer  
28 program would need to complete prior to receiving various types of baccalaureate degrees at public  
29 universities.

30 (e) Processes by which a community college would award an associate degree to a student upon  
31 completion of necessary credits, regardless of whether the student applied to receive the degree or  
32 whether the student earned the credits for the degree at a community college or a public university.

33 (f) Processes to evaluate and make recommendations for the development of associate transfer  
34 degrees in specific areas of study, including engineering.

35 (g) Any other issues identified by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission that relate to  
36 courses of study at community colleges and the ability of a student to transfer credits to a commu-  
37 nity college or a public university, to be admitted to a public university or to earn a degree at a  
38 community college or a public university.

39 (h) Requirements that students must meet in order to benefit from the standards described in  
40 paragraphs (a) to (g) of this subsection.

41 *[(4) Each community college and public university shall submit annual reports to the Higher Edu-  
42 cation Coordinating Commission related to:]*

43 *[(a) The number of students who attend a community college and then a public university, or a  
44 public university and then a community college.]*

45 *[(b) The number of students who attend one community college and then a different community*

1 college.]

2 [(c) The number of students who transfer from a community college to a public university and who  
3 have an associate transfer degree or have completed a transfer program.]

4 [(d) The average number of credits students have when they transfer from a community college to  
5 a public university.]

6 [(e) The average number of credits students have when they attend one community college and then  
7 a different community college.]

8 [(f) The average number of credits that a student earning an associate transfer degree completed  
9 at a community college.]

10 [(g) The average number of credits students who have transferred from a community college to a  
11 public university must earn prior to receiving a baccalaureate degree compared to the average number  
12 of credits students who did not transfer from a community college must earn prior to receiving a  
13 baccalaureate degree.]

14 **SECTION 12.** ORS 350.404 is amended to read:

15 350.404. (1) Community colleges and public universities listed in ORS 352.002 shall collaborate  
16 **through the Transfer Council established in section 6 of this 2021 Act** to develop a unified  
17 statewide transfer agreement, based on the foundational curricula established under ORS 350.400,  
18 for each major course of study. Each unified statewide transfer agreement developed under this  
19 section must:

20 (a) Enable a student to transfer from a community college to a public university listed in ORS  
21 352.002 without the loss of academic credit or the requirement to retake a course at a public uni-  
22 versity that the student has successfully completed at a community college, provided that the grade  
23 in each course that is transferred meets the degree requirements established by the unified state-  
24 wide transfer agreement;

25 (b) Contain provisions that identify the optimal number of academic credits, including credits in  
26 the major course of study, that the student should have when the student transfers from a commu-  
27 nity college to a public university listed in ORS 352.002 in order for the student to efficiently receive  
28 a bachelor's degree;

29 (c) Define the classes and completion standards for the optimal number of academic credits  
30 identified in paragraph (b) of this subsection that may be taken at a community college;

31 (d) Except as provided in paragraph (e) of this subsection, ensure that if a student at a com-  
32 munity college has completed 90 academic credits of coursework in conformity with the completion  
33 standards identified in paragraph (c) of this subsection and transfers to a public university listed in  
34 ORS 352.002, the student will:

35 (A) Receive junior status in the major course of study at the public university; and

36 (B) Be able to receive a bachelor's degree in the major course of study by completing the addi-  
37 tional academic credits identified in the unified statewide transfer agreement after transferring,  
38 based on the total number of academic credits and standards approved by the accrediting body for  
39 the public university; [and]

40 (e) For unified statewide transfer agreements that in paragraph (b) of this subsection identify  
41 an optimal number of academic credits to transfer other than 90, ensure that if a student at a  
42 community college has completed the identified number of academic credits of coursework in con-  
43 formity with the completion standards identified in paragraph (c) of this subsection and transfers to  
44 a public university listed in ORS 352.002, the student will:

45 (A) Receive status at the public university, based on the number of academic credits referenced

1 in the transfer agreement, that is comparable to the status of students with the same number of  
2 academic credits in the major course of study who began their post-secondary studies at the public  
3 university; and

4 (B) Be able to receive a bachelor's degree in the major course of study by completing the addi-  
5 tional academic credits identified in the unified statewide transfer agreement after transferring,  
6 based on the total number of academic credits and standards approved by the accrediting body for  
7 the public university[.]; **and**

8 **(f) Explore alignment, to the greatest extent possible, of lower-division requirements in**  
9 **the major courses of study.**

10 (2) In designing unified statewide transfer agreements under subsection (1) of this section, com-  
11 munity colleges and public universities listed in ORS 352.002 shall:

12 (a) Focus on ensuring that community college students who transfer to public universities to  
13 complete a bachelor's degree are able to obtain the bachelor's degree with a similar number of ac-  
14 ademic credits to those required for students who begin their post-secondary studies at a public  
15 university;

16 (b) Seek to minimize student debt;

17 (c) Seek to increase the rate at which community college students who transfer to public uni-  
18 versities receive bachelor's degrees; and

19 (d) Seek to maintain the standards of intellectual and academic rigor at community colleges and  
20 public universities.

21 (3)(a) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall **use the council to** regularly [*con-*  
22 *vene and*] consult with community colleges and public universities listed in ORS 352.002 in order to  
23 determine the major courses of study for which a unified statewide transfer agreement will be es-  
24 tablished.

25 (b) Determinations made under this subsection must identify a sufficient number of major  
26 courses of study to enable colleges and public universities to comply with subsection (4) of this  
27 section.

28 (c) The commission shall publicly identify the criteria used to make determinations under this  
29 subsection, which must include, but need not be limited to, a consideration of:

30 (A) The major courses of study with the most workforce demand; and

31 (B) The most common major courses of study among students who transfer from a community  
32 college to a public university.

33 (4) Community colleges and public universities listed in ORS 352.002 shall establish a unified  
34 statewide transfer agreement for [*three*] **one** major [*courses*] **course** of study per year.

35 **SECTION 13.** ORS 350.404, as amended by section 12 of this 2021 Act, is amended to read:

36 350.404. (1) Community colleges and public universities listed in ORS 352.002 shall collaborate  
37 through the Transfer Council established in section 6 of this 2021 Act to develop a unified statewide  
38 transfer agreement, based on the foundational curricula established under ORS 350.400, for each  
39 major course of study. Each unified statewide transfer agreement developed under this section must:

40 (a) Enable a student to transfer from a community college to a public university listed in ORS  
41 352.002 without the loss of academic credit or the requirement to retake a course at a public uni-  
42 versity that the student has successfully completed at a community college, provided that the grade  
43 in each course that is transferred meets the degree requirements established by the unified state-  
44 wide transfer agreement;

45 (b) Contain provisions that identify the optimal number of academic credits, including credits in



1 the major course of study, that the student should have when the student transfers from a commu-  
2 nity college to a public university listed in ORS 352.002 in order for the student to efficiently receive  
3 a bachelor's degree;

4 (c) Define the classes and completion standards for the optimal number of academic credits  
5 identified in paragraph (b) of this subsection that may be taken at a community college;

6 (d) Except as provided in paragraph (e) of this subsection, ensure that if a student at a com-  
7 munity college has completed 90 academic credits of coursework in conformity with the completion  
8 standards identified in paragraph (c) of this subsection and transfers to a public university listed in  
9 ORS 352.002, the student will:

10 (A) Receive junior status in the major course of study at the public university; and

11 (B) Be able to receive a bachelor's degree in the major course of study by completing the addi-  
12 tional academic credits identified in the unified statewide transfer agreement after transferring,  
13 based on the total number of academic credits and standards approved by the accrediting body for  
14 the public university;

15 (e) For unified statewide transfer agreements that in paragraph (b) of this subsection identify  
16 an optimal number of academic credits to transfer other than 90, ensure that if a student at a  
17 community college has completed the identified number of academic credits of coursework in con-  
18 formity with the completion standards identified in paragraph (c) of this subsection and transfers to  
19 a public university listed in ORS 352.002, the student will:

20 (A) Receive status at the public university, based on the number of academic credits referenced  
21 in the transfer agreement, that is comparable to the status of students with the same number of  
22 academic credits in the major course of study who began their post-secondary studies at the public  
23 university; and

24 (B) Be able to receive a bachelor's degree in the major course of study by completing the addi-  
25 tional academic credits identified in the unified statewide transfer agreement after transferring,  
26 based on the total number of academic credits and standards approved by the accrediting body for  
27 the public university; and

28 (f) Explore alignment, to the greatest extent possible, of lower-division requirements in the major  
29 courses of study.

30 (2) In designing unified statewide transfer agreements under subsection (1) of this section, com-  
31 munity colleges and public universities listed in ORS 352.002 shall:

32 (a) Focus on ensuring that community college students who transfer to public universities to  
33 complete a bachelor's degree are able to obtain the bachelor's degree with a similar number of ac-  
34 ademic credits to those required for students who begin their post-secondary studies at a public  
35 university;

36 (b) Seek to minimize student debt;

37 (c) Seek to increase the rate at which community college students who transfer to public uni-  
38 versities receive bachelor's degrees; and

39 (d) Seek to maintain the standards of intellectual and academic rigor at community colleges and  
40 public universities.

41 (3)(a) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall use the council to regularly consult  
42 with community colleges and public universities listed in ORS 352.002 in order to determine the  
43 major courses of study for which a unified statewide transfer agreement will be established.

44 (b) Determinations made under this subsection must identify a sufficient number of major  
45 courses of study to enable colleges and public universities to comply with subsection (4) of this

1 section.

2 (c) The commission shall publicly identify the criteria used to make determinations under this  
3 subsection, which must include, but need not be limited to, a consideration of:

4 (A) The major courses of study with the most workforce demand; and

5 (B) The most common major courses of study among students who transfer from a community  
6 college to a public university.

7 (4) Community colleges and public universities listed in ORS 352.002 shall establish a unified  
8 statewide transfer agreement for *[one]* **three** major *[course]* **courses** of study per year.

9 **SECTION 14. The amendments to ORS 350.404 by section 13 of this 2021 Act become op-**  
10 **erative on January 1, 2026.**

11 **SECTION 15.** ORS 350.412 is amended to read:

12 350.412. (1) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall regularly *[convene]* **use the**  
13 **Transfer Council established in section 6 of this 2021 Act to work with** representatives from  
14 community colleges and public universities listed in ORS 352.002 in order to:

15 (a) Facilitate the coordination and establishment of foundational curricula described in ORS  
16 350.400; and

17 (b) Facilitate the development, and ensure the continued alignment, of the unified statewide  
18 transfer agreements described in ORS 350.404.

19 *[(2) The commission shall provide staffing for each meeting held under subsection (1) of this sec-*  
20 *tion.]*

21 *[(3)]* **(2)** The commission shall seek to ensure that community colleges, public universities listed  
22 in ORS 352.002 and students are informed and engaged on the current status and developments of  
23 foundational curricula and unified statewide transfer agreements.

24 *[(4) Each community college and public university listed in ORS 352.002 shall report annually to*  
25 *the commission, for each unified statewide transfer agreement established under ORS 350.404, the*  
26 *number of academic credits that were successfully transferred in that major course of study by students*  
27 *who transfer from a community college to a public university.]*

28 *[(5) To the extent relevant data is available, the commission shall report annually to the Legislative*  
29 *Assembly on whether existing unified statewide transfer agreements are meeting the goals set forth in*  
30 *ORS 350.404 (2).]*

31 **SECTION 16. This 2021 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**  
32 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2021 Act takes effect**  
33 **on its passage.**

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