



# Oregon Cybersecurity Center of Excellence

**Joint Legislative Committee Information Technology and Management**  
**January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Birol Yeşilada, Director

Reza Rejaie, Associate Director

Rakesh Bobba, Associate Director

Oliver Grant, Finance and Operations Manager



# Agenda

- First Biennium Recap
- Amplifying State's Investment
- Current Run Rate
- Expansion of Center
- Protecting Voter Security



# First Biennium Recap



## Operating:

- Filled all staff positions:
  - Fiscal and Operations Manager
  - Outreach Coordinator
  - Office Specialist
  - Program Manager, Certificate Program
  - Sr. Program Manager, Cyber Camps
  - Program Manager
- Participated at 20+ events across the state to build cyber awareness
- Hosted a research seminar series to share educational methodologies

## Workforce Development:

- Support and scale ORTSOC at OSU
  - 57 students have gone through
  - 15 public sector entities served
- Launched TSOC at UO
  - TSOC Engineer hired
  - Facility remodeled and furnished
  - Creating an experimental curriculum
  - Evaluating clients to serve
- Certificate Building Cyber Resilience
  - 96 graduates
  - 148 participants in TTX
- NW Cyber Camps
  - 16 student camps served 286 students
  - 11 High school teachers
  - 9 Middle school teachers
- MHCC Scholarship fund - 107 vouchers



# Amplifying State's Investment

2X

Revenue  
Growth

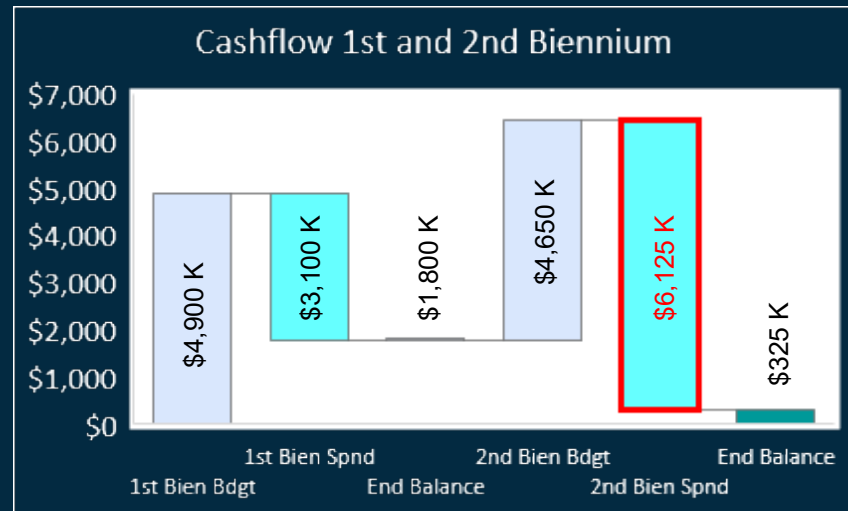
GRANT	SOURCE	AMOUNT
NW Region Cybersecurity Risk Management and Roadmapping for Smart Grid Critical Infrastructure	NSA	\$2M
GenCyber Camp 2023	NSA	\$250K
Cybersecurity Resilience Training (Local Government)	DOE	\$600K
GenCyber Camp 2024	NSA	\$552K
Workforce Ready Round III: Technology (Tribes)	HECC	\$604K
NICE: Nurturing Inclusive Cybersecurity Education	HECC	\$500K
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$4,506K</b>

**NOTE:** Cybersecurity funds through the Federal government are drying up and can't be relied upon.



# Current Run Rate

- The waterfall chart illustrates expenses and carryover for 1st and 2nd biennium
- First biennium had carryover of \$1.8M due to ramping of the Center staff and programs
- Forecasted spend in the 2nd biennium of **\$6.1M** exceeds our budget leaving a 7% buffer
- If additional funding is not provided, there will be a significant reduction in programs and certainly nothing additional the Center can do over the next 2 years





# Expansion of Center

OCCoE identified additional funding need totaling \$6.8M beyond current service level (CSL) for FY27-29. However, given current environment, have reduced the ask to **\$3.4M** for the following critical items (*numbers are preliminary and subject to change*):

1. <b>Setting up TSOC</b> at UO and <b>maintaining ORTSOC</b> at OSU	\$1,648.5K
2. <b>Expanding workforce development</b> through other universities (OIT) and undergraduate degree programs at PSU	\$1,000.0K
3. A <b>non-credit cybersecurity certificate</b> for local and regional government staff *	\$456.2K
4. Hiring <b>security analysts</b> for incident reporting, assessment, and information sharing	\$253.8K
5. Expansion of <b>outreach awareness programs</b> targeting communities	\$50.0K
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FUNDING NEED FOR FY27-29</b>	<b>\$3,408.5K</b>

\* NOTE: Congressional Earmark ended



# Election Security

## **Situation:**

- With 2026 being an election year, opportunity to help safeguard Oregon's election process.
- OCCoE approached by OACC and the Secretary of State's Office to discuss how it can assist with election security.
- Two meetings held and more to follow.

## **If Additional Funding is Available, OCCoE Can:**

- Provide awareness training to Counties' Elections Personnel.
- Attend OACC meetings/conferences for broader reach.
- Assess cybersecurity assessment of country elections centers.
- If the Legislator permits, OCCoE would redirect unused Local Grant Program (Local Governments) funds to perform a risk assessment for a limited number of counties.
- The unused Local Grant Program funds were going to be used for risk assessments for Special Districts (mostly water districts).



# Election Security

## Excerpt from HB2049:

### 7.3. The Center shall:

- 7.3.a. Serve as the statewide advisory body** to the Legislative Assembly, Governor and State Chief Information Officer on cybersecurity and cybersecurity-related issues for local governments, regional governments, special districts, education service districts, school districts and libraries.
  - 7.3.b.** Provide to public, private and nonprofit sectors in this state information and recommend best practices concerning cybersecurity, cyber resilience and recovery measures, including legal, insurance and other topics.
  - 7.3.d. Provide cybersecurity assessment, scanning and analysis, monitoring and incident response services to public bodies...**
- 
- 7.7.a.** All agencies of state government **are directed to assist** the center in the performance of the center's duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to confidentiality, shall furnish information and advice the center considers necessary to perform the center's duties.
  - 7.7.b.** As used in this subsection, "state government" has the meaning given that term in ORS 174.111, except that "state government" does not include the Secretary of State or State Treasurer.





# Election Security: Cost Estimates

## A. Cybersecurity Awareness Training for Election Officials

Description	Low Estimate	High Estimate
Fundamentals of Cybersecurity	\$5,000	\$15,000
Phishing Awareness	\$1,500	\$6,500
Password Security	\$1,500	\$3,000
Data Protection Best Practices	\$1,000	\$2,500
Incident Response Protocols	\$2,000	\$4,000
Secure Use of Technology	\$1,500	\$3,000
Regulatory Compliance	\$1,000	\$2,500
Training Delivery Methods	\$4,000	\$13,500
Evaluation and Feedback	\$500	\$1,500
Continuous Learning	\$2,000	\$5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$19,500</b>	<b>\$56,500</b>

## B. Cybersecurity Assessment of County-Level Election Centers

Description	Low Estimate	High Estimate
External Penetration Testing	\$10,000	\$25,000
Internal Penetration Testing	\$8,000	\$20,000
Vulnerability Assessment	\$5,000	\$15,000
Security Audit	\$7,000	\$20,000
Social Engineering Testing	\$3,000	\$10,000
Red Team Assessment	\$15,000	\$50,000
Report and Remediation Recommendations	\$2,000	\$5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>\$145,000</b>



# Recommendations

## A. For Elections Security (2026):

1. Allow unused LGP funds to be used for cybersecurity assessment of selected counties.
2. Provide additional funding for workforce awareness training and more comprehensive cybersecurity assessment of counties.
3. OCCoE also recommends that the election security officers of the offices of the Governor, Secretary of State, OEM, State CISO, Titan Fusion Center, OACC, the Oregon National Guard, and other appropriate agencies, hold monthly meeting to address this issue and draft a comprehensive plan of action.
4. OCCoE can facilitate this coordination through its good offices.

## B. For the Center's Operational and Financial Requirements in FY 27-29:

1. Increase OCCoE's budget by \$3.5M - \$4.0M to enable expanded delivery of the Center's mandate.
2. Address complication created by Type Three Agreements between the three founding universities of OCCoE and HECC.



Thank You for Listening