



OHIO COMMUNITY COLLEGES' BUDGET & POLICY PRIORITIES

135TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PREPARING OHIO'S WORKFORCE & TALENT PIPELINE

1. Ohio Work Ready Grants

- Create the Ohio Work Ready Grant Program to provide financial aid that supports community college students pursuing targeted career pathways in regional in-demand or critical fields.

2. State Funding for Responsive Workforce Training Pathways

- Provide state funding for responsive workforce and skills training programs at community colleges through a new line item. Currently, the State provides zero support to colleges for workforce training.
- Re-establish the Jobs Challenge to help offset the costs for colleges to deliver business-driven job training programs, including customized workforce training programs.

3. Re-engaging Learners

- Continue funding the Second Chance grant program, while seeking to amend the current program to address barriers and expand allowable uses of these funds to incentivize Ohioans with some college, no degree to earn a credential.
- Support a targeted adult reconnect program (if proposed during the 135th GA).

4. College Credit Plus Statewide Innovative Waiver

- Create statewide innovative waivers for technical, IT, or other STEM-related pathways, and career exploration courses, to increase number of minority, female, and other underrepresented workers in the semiconductor or advanced manufacturing fields.

5. Targeted Use of Federal Stimulus Funding

- Fund the proposed Accelerate Ohio Capital Program to provide funding to allow community colleges, in collaboration with local business and industry, to upgrade or modernize facilities to train workers in targeted in-demand jobs.
- Support the "Super RAPIDS" proposal to provide additional funding for purchase of machinery and equipment that incentivizes regional collaboration with education and higher education institutions.

STUDENT SUCCESS & SUPPORT INITIATIVES

1. Access Challenge 2.0

- Re-establish the Access Challenge to provide colleges with additional resources to enhance student success initiatives, wrap-around services, career counseling and holistic advising for traditionally underrepresented, lower-income, minority, and first-generation students.

2. Emergency Aid Grant Program

- Establish a state grant program to supplement college emergency aid programs that provide emergency funds to help students to with an unexpected, one-time expense.

3. Open Educational Resources

- Provide additional funding to maintain current open educational resources (OER) materials, while also incentivizing the creation and adoption of other OER or free textbooks and course materials and require ODHE to collect data on courses that utilize OER.

CORE FUNDING

1. State Share of Instruction

- Support an increase of the overall SSI line item to reflect the increases in student success rates in the community college sector.
- Provide increases to SSI targeted for community college sector to provide greater parity in funding to help community colleges meet the new and additional demands of employers.
- Support legislative language that would separate the SSI Line Items that would create two SSI Line Items: SSI – Community Colleges and SSI – Universities.

2. Tuition

- Support a tuition increase of up to \$5 per credit hour each academic year or a maximum \$10 per credit increase over the biennium.

COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS

1. Statewide Innovative Waiver

- Support adoption of statewide pathways or innovative waivers for semiconductor and advanced manufacturing careers . (Item #4 under “Workforce”)

2. CCP Performance Audit Recommendations

- Support key recommendations included in Auditor Faber’s “CCP Performance Audit Report” to help close the equity gaps in CCP participation, increase the number of qualified HS teachers, and improve the oversight of the program.

3. College Ready Corequisite Pilot Programs in HS

- Create pilot programs for colleges to design corequisite programs with partnering high schools to close learning gaps and help get more HS students college ready.