



Oregon Student Association Legislative Agenda 2019

The following have been selected as priority issues for the 2019 session by Oregon Student Association membership.

Tuition Affordability and Budget Asks

Students are currently advocating for funding to achieve tuition freezes. Our budget asks for the 2019 session are:

- \$1 billion for the Public Universities Support Fund
- \$787 million for the Community College Support Fund
- \$252 million for the Oregon Opportunity Grant

Textbook Affordability

High textbook prices are a huge burden to students who struggle to pay for tuition and the cost of living. Additionally, the cost of tuition is increasing disproportionately to the increase in wages. OSA will partner with the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to ensure the continuation of a fully funded coordinator for the Open Educational Resources and promote utilization and promotion.

5% Tuition Cap for Community Colleges

A 5% tuition cap on community colleges ensures accountability and consistency in Community Colleges. It builds upon HB 4141, the Tuition and Transparency Act, which helped craft the basis for a more stabilized and consumer friendly higher education system.

Tuition Equity 4.0

Clarifies that graduate students qualify for Tuition Equity and ensures that undocumented Oregonians can obtain professional licensing without being discriminated against.

Additionally, undocumented Oregonians have access to limited funding sources to pay for school. OSA is advocating for a statewide student loan to support undocumented Oregonians to pursue and finish their degrees.

“As a student at WOU, at times I have had to work one or two jobs to keep myself alive while my parents try to help pay for tuition. We had to take out loans too. Last winter term I took on an extra paid internship so I could keep up with bills. Most days I left home at 6am for work, went to class, then went to my internship, and didn’t get home to start homework until midnight. My education would absolutely be more quality if it was more affordable.”

Kevin Figueroa,
Sophomore, Western
Oregon University