



- 2) **Background.** Current law authorizes a community college to admit non-resident students but requires such students pay out-of-state tuition equal to 1 ½ the amount established for in-state resident students, except under specific exemptions. Typically, non-resident students are not counted for purposes of state apportionment funding under the SCFF except under certain conditions.

The COS and the State of Oregon have an existing reciprocity agreement allowing up to 50 Oregon resident students to attend the COS at a discounted rate below the full out-of-state tuition. Likewise, under this agreement California resident students attending the COS may transfer to and attend Southern Oregon University or Oregon Institute of Technology at in-state tuition rates. Geographically, some students living in the three neighboring Oregon counties listed in the bill may live closer to the COS than any Oregon college or university.

Current law allows CCDs meeting specific geographic requirements, and serving fewer than 1,500 students, to provide a non-resident tuition fee exemption to an unlimited number of non-resident students from a neighboring state and count them towards the SCFF for apportionment. Previously, the COS was eligible for this existing provision, however, in December of 2024 the CCCCCO informed the COS that it had exceeded 1,500 total students and would be subject to a cap of 100 non-resident students pursuant to statute for purposes of the tuition fee exemption and would need to adjust their programming accordingly for academic year 2025-26. This bill would allow up to 200 eligible Oregon resident students per academic year to attend the COS and pay in-state tuition while also counting the students towards the COS's SCFF apportionment. Similarly, SB 605 (Gaines), Chapter 657, Statutes of 2015, created a temporary exemption for non-resident students from Nevada attending the Lake Tahoe Community College, capped at 200 students per academic year, and allowed these students to count towards the college's SCFF apportionment funding, which SB 436 (Dahle), Chapter 573, Statutes of 2021, made permanent.

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