Oregon State University seeks the Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission's approval to offer an existing <u>BS in Psychology</u> degree program at a New Location: in Portland.

1. *Describe the purpose and relationship of the proposed program to the institution's mission and strategic plan.*

The School of Psychological Science in the College of Liberal Arts currently offers the Bachelor of Arts (BA), Bachelor of Science (BS) in Psychology on the OSU-Main campus in Corvallis, at the OSU-Cascades branch campus in Bend, and at distant locations via fully online delivery of the program by OSU's Extended Campus. The School of Psychological Science intends to create an innovative pathway for students to earn the BA, BS in Psychology degree at the new OSU facility in Portland. In addition, the School of Psychological Science proposes to expand its partnerships with community colleges to offer a variant of the 2+2 degree completion model and to supplement its existing upper-division courses in the online degree program with a blended modality (50% face-to-face (f2f) and 50% online). This innovative pathway to an OSU undergraduate degree will be unique and is not currently delivered by either Portland State University or the University of Oregon.

The School of Psychological Science proposes to offer affordable access to a high-quality, quantitatively-focused Psychology degree program to students who are place-bound and who are unable to attend on-campus programs in Corvallis or Bend. In addition, the proposed program in Portland is built on a model that meets the intent of House Bill 2998 which mandates that public universities identify the optimal number of credits that may be taken at a community college in order for a student to efficiently receive a bachelor's degree and minimize student debt.

The proposed program is fully compatible, and fully supports, OSU's stated mission
https://leadership.oregonstate.edu/trustees/oregon-state-university-mission-statement
and strategic plan.
https://leadership.oregonstate.edu/provost/osu-strategic-plan

2. *What evidence of need does the institution have for the program?*

According to an Eduventures study of the Portland market in 2016, the proposed expansion of the proposed OSU program into the Portland MSA will be positively responsive to market demand:

- "Oregon State could consider offering programs in business administration, health professions, and liberal arts at the undergraduate level."
- Over 65% of the 1400 survey respondents were looking for bachelor or master degrees.

The Eduventures study further found that more than half of the survey respondents in the Portland Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) would prefer a program that offers blended modalities of face-to-face and online delivery.

Oregon State University and the School of Psychological Science also have a successful fully online Ecampus program that currently enrolls 309 majors, of whom 49 reside in the

Portland area. The number of Portland area students who enroll in the Ecampus fully online major has been growing over the past 5 years.

3. *Are there similar programs in the state? If so, how does the proposed program supplement, complement, or collaborate with those programs?*

In the Portland MSA, the Department of Psychology at Portland State University (PSU), offers a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. The PSU degree does not require college-level algebra, upper-division statistics, a particular set of breadth courses, or a Research Methods course with labs. OSU's degree is a quantitative-focused Psychology degree that differs substantially from PSU's applied psychology degree.

There is no difference between the proposed BA/BS Psychology program and the Psychology programs currently offered in Corvallis, Bend or fully online. By offering this hybrid version of the existing degree program, the School of Psychological Science plans build upon successful partnerships with Oregon public universities and community colleges, dual degree and transfer partnerships, and a successful online program to establish a unique program that is designed to provide flexibility for Portland area students.

4. *What new resources will be needed initially and on a recurring basis to implement the program? How will the institution provide these resources? What efficiencies or revenue enhancements are achieved with this program, including consolidation or elimination of programs over time, if any?*

OSU has leased the second floor of the Meyer & Frank building in downtown Portland. This new facility will be the hub for its Portland programs.

Library needs are currently being met for the equivalent online Psychology degree program. Students in the hybrid modality version of the degree program will use the online access for their library materials.

Finally, all students in the proposed hybrid modality program will have access to all student services that are currently provided to online students, including financial aid assistance, course registration, and textbook purchases. The College of Liberal Arts already has academic advisors working with online Psychology students.

All appropriate academic unit, faculty governance committees and councils, and the OSU Provost have positively reviewed the proposed program.

Recommendation to the Commission

Oregon State University would like to request that the Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission authorize the School of Psychological Science in the College of Liberal Arts at OSU to establish a hybrid instructional program leading to a BA, BS in Psychology degree program in Portland, effective Summer Term 2018.