

Fulfilling Lane's Mission in the Midst of Pandemic

At the time of this writing, our community is experiencing a major public health emergency with unprecedented economic disruptions. Lane Community College campuses are closed. Lane employees are at home.

And, over 6,000 students are enrolled in Lane credit courses, making progress toward academic and life goals.

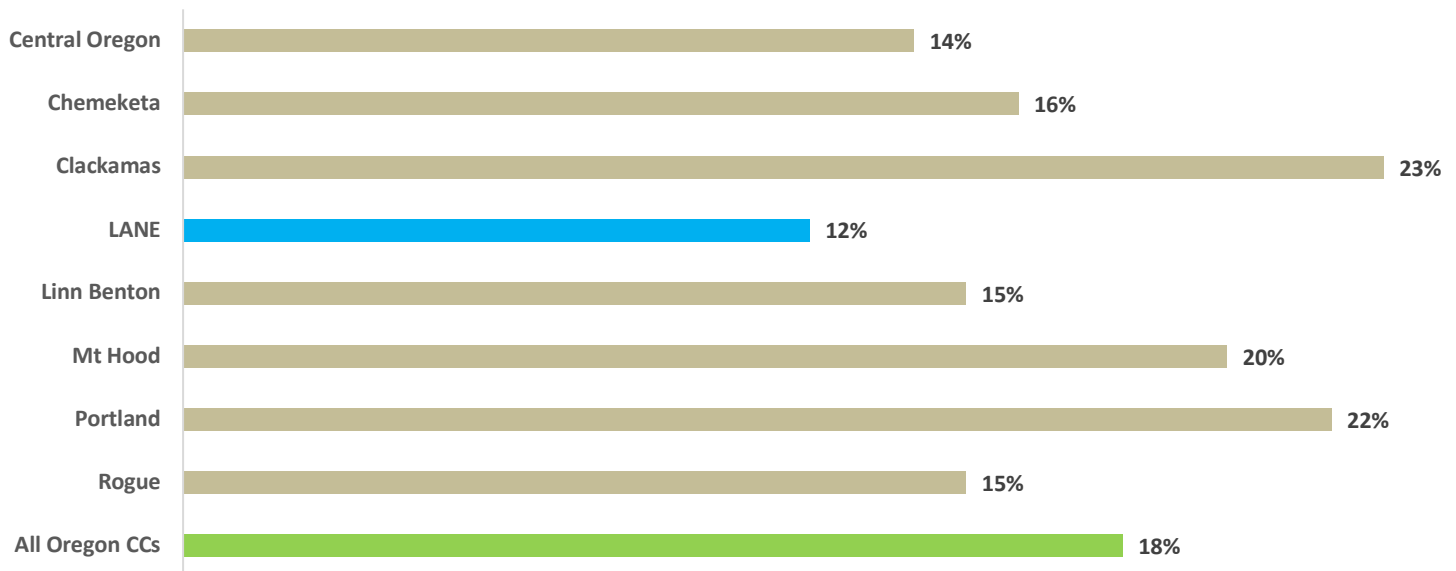
In response to Governor Brown's stay-at-home order, Lane faculty prepared over 700 additional sections in over 450 courses for remote delivery, or, in select cases, in-person delivery with accommodations for social distancing. In total, Lane offered over 1,000 spring sections via remote formats. The college fulfilled 139 faculty requests for headphones, microphones, webcams, laptops, or tablets, and checked out 260 assorted computers to students. Advising, Tutoring, Testing, Enrollment Services, the Library, IT, ATC, the Student Help Desk, and other services pivoted on a dime to lend support and promote student success under difficult conditions.

There is no sugar coating the fact that we are living through a pandemic. But data suggest that the efforts and resilience of Lane students and employees are making a difficult situation somewhat less terrible.

By week 5 of spring term, 1,027 Lane students applied for graduation, 92% as many as at the same time last year.

A recent report from the Oregon Community College Association shows that Lane retained 72% of credit students from winter 2020 to week 2 of spring, only 4% fewer than last year, and substantially more than the average of 63% for all other Oregon community colleges. Lane's Spring FTE declined 12% from last year, but this was the smallest decline among Oregon's eight largest community colleges and just two-thirds of the statewide average of 18%.

Percent Decrease in FTE (start of week 2), Spring 2019 to Spring 2020



source: Spring Enrollment Survey, Oregon Community College Association

Many colleagues and community members have suffered directly or indirectly as a result of the coronavirus outbreak, and we know that further challenges, uncertainty, and economic losses lie ahead. But as we continue to grapple and cope, let us take solace in the fact that our efforts are making a difference. **The work we are doing to promote student success while also prioritizing safety is fulfilling Lane's mission and limiting economic impacts even as it saves lives.**