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Despite Statewide Declines, Rogue Community College Enrollment Grows

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MEDFORD, Ore. (Nov. 19, 2026) — Rogue Community College continued to increase student enrollment this fall, bucking a statewide trend that saw most Oregon community colleges report declining numbers.

The college's fourth-week headcount reached 5,633 students in fall 2026, a 1.3% increase from 5,560 students during the same period last year, according to data released Wednesday by the Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

The increase marks RCC's sixth consecutive year of enrollment growth and places it among just five of Oregon's 17 community colleges that reported higher student headcounts this fall.

Statewide, community college enrollment declined 2.9%, dropping from 98,393 students in fall 2025 to 95,583 in fall 2026. Enrollment also declined at five of Oregon's seven public universities, contributing to a 2.5% decrease in statewide public university enrollment.

Oregon's downward trend contrasts with national figures. Community college enrollment across the country increased 1.6% this fall, according to the HECC.

RCC's enrollment has grown substantially since reaching a pandemic-era low of 3,619 students in fall 2020. The college's current headcount represents an increase of nearly 56% over that figure.

Although RCC's full-time equivalent enrollment declined slightly compared with fall 2025, it remains nearly 4% above fall 2019 levels. Unlike headcount, which measures

the number of individual students, full-time equivalent enrollment measures the overall volume of student instructional hours.

The college is also on pace to serve more than 10,000 students during the 2026-27 academic year. RCC served 10,247 students during the previous academic year through its credit courses, workforce training and other educational programs.

“Rogue Community College is an important part of the educational and economic vitality of Southern Oregon,” RCC President Randy Weber said. “Our continued enrollment growth reflects the value our community places on accessible education, career training and opportunities to build a better future.”

The college offers university transfer pathways, career and technical education, apprenticeships, workforce training and adult education programs.