## **Grant Progress Update**

Reporting Period: January 30, 2023 – July 31, 2023 PR Award #: P116W220024

Institution Name: Eastern Oregon University

Project Title: Rural Post-Secondary Economic Development Grant

RPED Project Director (PD): Kathleen Brown (Associate Director of Early College Initiatives)

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## **Program Management**

1. Are there any changes to key personnel positions? If so, explain. Final position, Irrigon Specialist was filled in June, 2023.

Are there any changes to your scope, activities, or objectives? If so, explain.
 We are seeing a need to have student worker support for additional development of a college-level voice and student navigator support of our students who come to events and take courses directly from us.

## **Program Performance –**

Major Task #2: Intensify rural recruitment strategy by relocating positions to rural, regional				
high schools.				
	Year One: 2023			
Hire recruitment advisors (RA) to be placed in rural, regional high schools.	This was shifted to three regional specialists placed in rural high schools instead. The grant is under admissions and will team up with admissions counselors to get the same effect but do more.	Projected start 5/23	Complete N/A	
Train recruitment advisors and introduce to EOU staff as well as rural partner school teachers, staff, and students.	On-campus training as well as travel to rural schools.	Projected start 5/23	Complete N/A (See above)	
Develop new rural- centered recruitment advising strategy.	Develop materials and coordinate with regional partners on programs primarily for high school juniors and seniors. (This is currently being done by the Regional Specialist in partnership with admissions counseling, so there is a cohesive focus to visits across all parts of EOU.	Projected start 5/23 In progress currently. Assessment by end of the school year.	Complete/On Going additions	

**Major Task #3: Launch Early Outreach Program** to engage younger rural students with a college-going mindset. (Younger has been redefined as 7-11<sup>th</sup> grade with opportunities available for elementary on a school-by-school basis.)

Hire two (3) college engagement specialists (CES) to be placed in rural, regional ESD offices.  Train staff and introduce to EOU staff as well as rural partner school teachers, staff, and students.  Begin planning 7th and 8th grade activity development.  (Ongoing annually)  Retention-based focus and college-going culture in the region.  Retention-based focus and college-going culture in the region.  Three specialists and one project manager are funded with only .25 of their position to maximize effectiveness.  Two hired expectation of the 3rd on board at ready to interact with all schools 3/15  Projected Start 6/23 Start 6/23 All specialists in place.  Projected start 1/23 Estimated time for placement.  Specialists on board at ready to interact with all schools and on-campus faculty and admissions campus visit coordinator (CVC) in order for academic-focused visits. Add focus of faculty visits out to the schools.  Retention-based focus and college-going culture in the higher grades with GPA tracking and support so students are aligned with college readiness. For example, having students come to campus for CLEP tests or going to schools that currently have students taking classes to help them stay academically aware of the	elementary on a school-by-school basis.)			
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current class load they are taking.		current class load they are taking.		
Major Task #4: Offer Pre-College Success Courses to remote rural students via hybrid, online				
and in-person formats.				
Years One through Three: 2023-2025				
Provide stipends for Regular curriculum and assessment Projected 9/24	Provide stipends for		Projected	9/24
faculty to revise the development. Professional development is start 5/23 Complete				
program curriculum. offered to facilitate course redesign and best Completed 11/22	•			-
(Repeat in year 2) practices. (First Changes have been made for 11/22	1 0		-	

		I	
	moving forward with all subject areas		
	connected to dual credit.)		
Recruit and train new	Regular teacher training. Professional learning	Projected	7/23 ongoing
instructors in rural high	community (PLCs) offered. New offerings for	Start 5/23	each summer.
schools to qualify to	all of our teachers so they are completely	First on	
teach Pre-College	ready for their courses when the faculty are	campus	
Success courses.	off contract.	training	
(Ongoing)		being	
		developed	
		for July	
		2023	
		training	
Create and offer online	Provide faculty course release time to teach	Projected	9/24
dual credit Pre-College	online program specific to remote rural	start 5/23	Complete
Success course	students. (Started in Winter and now in the	Completed	
offerings for remote	process of enhancing marketing to get more	and	
rural students.	students in all of the courses this year.)	currently	
(Ongoing)		being taught	
		in Winter	
		2023 and	
		Spring 2023	

Major Task #5: Align Dual Credit Offerings with Career Pathways to remote rural students via hybrid, online, and in-person formats.

	Year One: 2023		
Recruit new instructors in rural high schools to qualify to teach career pathways-aligned courses. (Ongoing)	Summer training is being planned and aligned. Once completed planning is in place, regular communication with rural school teachers on summer training.	Projected start 5/23 Should be able to have most training and communicati ons in summer of 2023	12/24
Annual Summer K-12 Instructor Training offered for 12 new rural educators. (Ongoing)	Currently have trainings in three areas of health on campus this summer. Many of our PLCs are packet and zoom based. Will be working with faculty to help any teachers coming from rural locations with cost to get to campus for any trainings during the year.	Projected start 5/23	7/23 ongoing throughout the year
Create and offer online dual credit course offerings for remote rural students for career pathways- aligned courses that do	Created faculty taught courses for rural students who don't have schools with capacity to teach high school and college level courses for their districts. Also working with local Virtual Learning Academy and Web	Projected start 7/23 Should be in place by this summer and be	Started 12/22 and ongoing

not have qualified on-	Academies to give further options for	implemented	
site instructors.	students.	in the Fall.	
(Ongoing)			
•	rate Career Pathways into the high school and		ence with
Summer Career Acaden	nies and career pathways-aligned Experiential L	earning.	
	Year One: 2023		
Market Summer Career	Distributed marketing materials to schools.	Projected	5/24
Academies to rural	Communicate with teachers and officials.	start 1/24	
students throughout the	(5 summer institutes are in development for	3 Institutes	
region. (Repeat in	Summer 2023) (Will start this process in the	in June 2023	
years 2 and 3)	Fall of next year so we have set information even earlier.)	and 2 in July 2023	
Administer Summer	Academies coordinated and taught. –	Projected	8/24
Career Academies for	Working with Career Center and Focus 2 for	start 5/24	
pre-college students to	pre-college coordination in the region. Added	Program	
gain hands-on	Career Connection to Business Summer	Planning	
experience. (Repeat in	Institute. (Summer 2023 94 students in	started	
years 2 and 3)	institutes on campus with EOU and partner		
	NEOAHEC)		
Establish a Summer	Summer Career Academy development into	Projected	12/24
Career Academy	be a component of the planning of five	start 7/23	
course development	Summer 2023 courses and enhancement for		
fund for faculty to	Summer 2024 and 2025 and then additional		
create Academies	Career Academy focused specific academy		
specific to career	added in Summer 2024.		
pathways for high-			
wage, high-demand			
occupations in the			
region for courses			
beginning in the			
summer 2024. Repeat			
in years 2 and 3)			

- 1. What task or objective is the priority for the next reporting period?
  - a. Working with all three specialists to get into the rural schools they have struggled to make connections with.
  - b. Start process for next summer's institutes with sooner marketing and goal development now that we have one year under us and how we can make sure there is a career connection with all of them.
- 2. Please discuss any challenges you are experiencing. Being aware of the school district challenges so we can help without creating additional burden on the schools.

## Budget -

Are you on track to spend funds in accordance with the timeline of proposed activities/expenditures? If not, explain. I will have some shifts in funding, but I will know more after the final cost of all three summer institutes and the training of the PLC teachers is completed in August.

3. Have you drawn down funds in G5 to pay bills or invoices in a timely manner? Drawdowns are still done on a regular basis, typically monthly but occasionally quarterly. The last drawdown was for 4/1-6/26/23 expenses, done 6/27/23.