

May 2025 Financial Aid Standard of Excellence (SOE) Review Statement

College of the Siskiyous recently underwent a proactive Standards of Excellence (SOE) review of our financial aid programs which was conducted by the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA). While the peer review confirmed our ongoing commitment to providing crucial financial assistance to our students, it also identified areas of compliance challenges and provided proper recommendations.

Integrity and adherence to all applicable regulations are paramount to our mission of ensuring equitable access to higher education. We understand the importance of responsible stewardship of financial aid resources and are fully committed to implement recommended changes swiftly and effectively.

Upon receiving the peer review results, we immediately initiated a Financial Aid Taskforce and contracted with NASFAA to update our Policy and Procedures manual. We are working diligently to develop a detailed corrective action plan that will address the identified challenges. This plan will include specific steps, timelines, and responsible parties to ensure full compliance is achieved and maintained.

Our commitment to our students remains our number one priority. We want to assure our current and future students that we are taking all necessary steps to resolve these issues and ensure the continued integrity and availability of financial aid resources. We will provide updates to our community as progress is made.

College of the Siskiyous is dedicated to providing accessible and affordable education, and a well-managed and compliant financial aid program is essential to achieving that goal. We are confident that through our focused efforts, we will strengthen our financial aid processes and continue to serve our students effectively and ethically.