

2009 Regular Legislative Session
FISCAL ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION
Prepared by the Oregon Legislative Fiscal Office

MEASURE NUMBER: SB 738

STATUS: A Engrossed

SUBJECT: Access to accelerated college credit programs

GOVERNMENT UNIT AFFECTED: Local education agencies (school districts), Oregon Department of Education, Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

PREPARED BY: Erica Kleiner

REVIEWED BY: Monica Brown

DATE: April 29, 2009

	<u>2009-2011</u>	<u>2011-2013</u>
EXPENDITURES: See Analysis		

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2012

LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANDATE: This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

ANALYSIS: Senate Bill 738 requires school districts to provide high school students with accelerated college credit programs including, programs related to English, mathematics and science or to ensure that students have online access to accelerated college credit programs. The bill requires the Department of Education (ODE) and the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) to adopt rules for training teachers to provide instruction in accelerated college credit programs. The bill directs ODE to seek federal funding for the teacher training and assisting students in paying for tests and other fees relating to accelerated college credit programs. The bill allows ODE to accept and expend funding for the purposes of this bill from public or private sources. The requirements of this bill first apply to the 2012-2013 school year.

There is an indeterminate fiscal impact to school districts in the 2011-13 biennium. The measure requires school districts to provide or ensure access to accelerated college credit programs, including programs in the areas of English, mathematics and science no later than the 2012-2013 school year. Currently some school districts are providing accelerated college credit programs through advanced placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB) and two-plus-two programs. The school districts that are offering these courses are currently adhering to the standards through these programs. ODE reports that it would work with TSPC to integrate the standards used by these programs for training teachers to provide this type of instruction. Teachers are currently required to submit the course syllabus for the accelerated college credit program to the College Board that administers the AP course standards and to the International Baccalaureate Program; teachers also currently meet professional development requirements through these programs. The number of school districts that would be required to add accelerated college credit programs is unknown. To the extent that school districts already offer accelerated college credit programs, including programs related to English, mathematics and science, through AP, IB or two-plus-two the fiscal impact may be limited. If however, school districts are not offering these programs already, the cost to schools and districts is unknown as class time, availability of teachers and materials cannot be determined at this time.

There is a fiscal impact to ODE for the 2011-2013 biennium. Current ODE staff would work with TSPC to create teaching standards to be in place by the 2012-13 school year and to secure and administer an unknown amount of federal funding for teacher training and test fee assistance. The payment for students to take AP exams is \$84 and the payment for students to take IB exams is \$125-130. The number of students who will require financial assistance to take tests or fees related to accelerated college credit programs is unknown. ODE estimates the impact on staffing to create the accelerated college credit teaching standards to be a workload equivalent of one Education Specialist 2 at 0.10 FTE and one Office Specialist at 0.10 FTE. ODE values this staff time at \$14,000 for the 2011-13 biennium. ODE would not need to hire additional staff, only to re-prioritize duties and responsibilities of existing staff. The \$14,000 equivalent serves as an estimate of possible incremental staffing cost if ODE needs to hire additional staff in the event that re-prioritization of duties and responsibilities of existing staff were not feasible or if the cumulative effect of workload from the enactment of other bills exceeds levels assumed in the ODE budget. Other bills are pending before this Legislative Assembly that also would require an expenditure of ODE staff time. ODE reports that incremental services and supplies costs associated with the requirements of this measure will be minimal, totaling and estimated \$400.

There is a minimal fiscal impact to TSPC. TSPC reports that it could use existing staff resources to work with ODE to develop rule standards for training teachers to provide accelerated college credit instruction. TSPC reports that a minimal amount of staff time would be required to make changes to teacher preparation requirements.