

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 3670

Seventy-Sixth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2011 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

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Measure Description:

Allows qualified student to apply Oregon Opportunity Grant moneys toward certain for-profit post-secondary institutions.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC)

Summary of Expenditure Impact: See Analysis

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:

The measure allows qualified students at eligible for-profit independent institutions of higher education to apply for Oregon Opportunity Grant moneys. The measure is effective on July 1, 2011 and students may first apply for grants on January 1, 2013.

The measure establishes the For-Profit Independent Colleges Student Assistance Account, continuously appropriates the moneys to Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC) to award Oregon Opportunity Grants to students accepted into degree granting for-profit independent institutions of higher education that have been approved and certified by the Office of Degree Authorization. The measure allows the OSAC to accept funds from any source and interest earned is credited back to the account. The measure provides that the Oregon Opportunity Grants shall be disbursed from monies in the For-Profit Independent Colleges Student Assistance Account.

Currently, Oregon Opportunity Grant moneys are awarded to qualified students at state higher education institutions, community colleges, Oregon Health and Science University, and Oregon-based not-for-profit institutions of higher education.

The fiscal impact is indeterminate. The measure identifies possible funding sources, but the amount of funds available for grants from the For-Profit Independent Colleges account is unknown. The Commission will utilize existing staff to establish rules for the program and wait until a source and amount of funds are determined before implementing the program.

The Legislative Fiscal Office notes that the demand for individual grants to be awarded are indeterminate and that excessive demand may require additional staff to administer the program.