

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 702

Seventy-Seventh Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2013 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*

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Date: 03/13/2013

Measure Description:

Directs Oregon Student Access Commission to award at least 50 percent of Oregon Opportunity Grant moneys awarded each year to qualified students majoring in science, technology, engineering or mathematical fields.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC)

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

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	2013-15 Biennium	2015-17 Biennium
General Fund	\$152,210	\$162,042
Lottery Funds		
Other Funds		
Federal Funds		
Total Funds	\$152,210	\$162,042
Positions	1	1
FTE	1.00	1.00

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: This bill directs the Oregon Student Access Commission (OSAC) to award at least 50% of Oregon Opportunity Grant funds to qualified students majoring in science, technology, engineering or mathematical (STEM) fields.

The provisions of this bill would require substantive changes to program administration and database programming for the Oregon Opportunity Grant program. OSAC would need to define and specify which programs would qualify to receive prioritized funding, develop processes and procedures for collecting data that is not currently collected on the financial aid application forms, develop data-sharing agreements with all 41 institutions that currently participate in the Opportunity Grant program, and implementation and ongoing maintenance of the database. OSAC does not have resources available to accomplish this work and would need additional General Fund allocation and position authority. Currently OSAC uses the FAFSA, an application form used by many higher education institutions across the nation. The FAFSA does not collect "major" specific information so it would have to be collected and processed using a new procedure.

The total number of eligible STEM students in any given year is unknown and adds complexity to a program currently designed to treat all majors equally.