

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 702 A

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

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

Prepared by: Tim Walker
Reviewed by: Doug Wilson
Date: 03/29/2013

Measure Description:

Directs Oregon Student Access Commission to award at least 25 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:

Summary of Expenditure Impact		
	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 25% of Oregon Opportunity Grant funds to qualified students majoring in science, technology, engineering or mathematical (STEM) fields. 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.

The provisions of this bill would require substantive changes to program administration and database programming for the Oregon Opportunity Grant program. OSAC, most likely with the assistance of an advisory committee, would need to define and specify which programs would qualify to receive prioritized funding., Since the current application for the program does not collect the information needed, OSAC would have to develop processes and procedures for collecting data. Currently OSAC uses the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (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 application form or new procedure. OSAC would also need to track students to insure they are in an eligible STEM major which would require. developing data-sharing agreements with all 41 institutions that currently participate in the Opportunity Grant

program. Finally significant changes or additions would need to be made to the current OSAC information system and data base to collect and store this new information. There would also be 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.