

Opportunity Grant Redesign

HOUSE BILL 2407



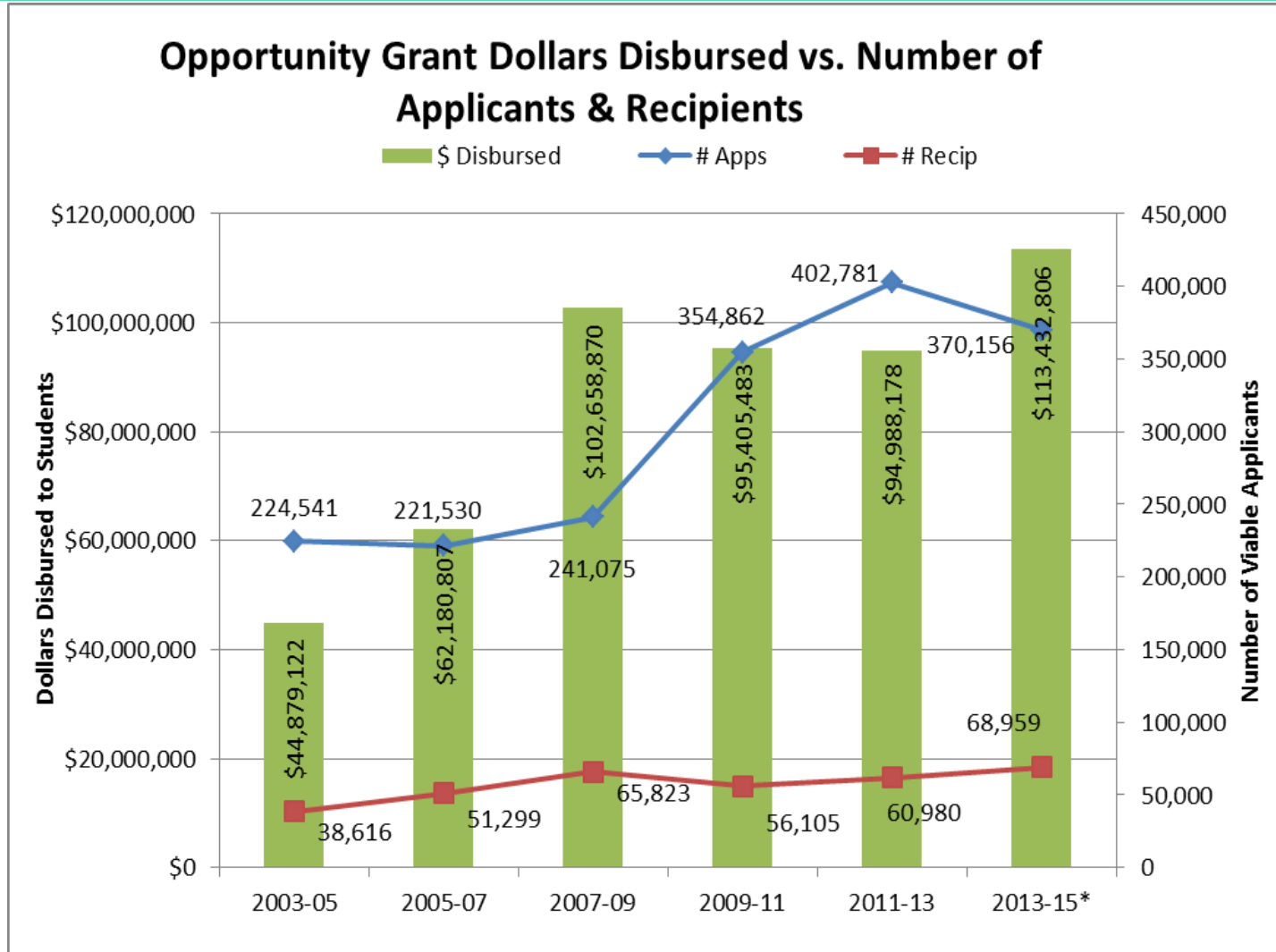
February 20, 2015

Ben Cannon, Executive Director, HECC

Bob Brew, Executive Director, OSAC

Larry Roper, HECC Commissioner, Vice Provost for Student Affairs and
Professor of Ethnic Studies, OSU

OOG DOLLARS DISBURSED VS APPLICANTS AND RECIPIENTS



OPPORTUNITY GRANT REDESIGN – TIMELINE

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November 2013 - OEIB directs HECC to convene State Financial Aid Work Group to study structure for state financial aid and Oregon Opportunity Grant, with the following goal:

To recommend a restructured Oregon Opportunity Grant program that will both achieve the goal of improving access to higher education and vocational and technical education for promising, financially-needy underrepresented students, and stimulate the achievement of the State of Oregon's 40-40-20 goals.

WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

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- Larry Roper – HECC Member, work group chair
- Randy Choy – The Oregon Community Foundation
- Rob Fullmer – HECC Member
- Gerald Hamilton – Interim CCWD Commissioner
- Anayeli Jimenez – HECC Member
- Larry Large – Oregon Alliance of Independent Colleges and Universities
- Eric Noll – Oregon Student Association
- Melody Rose – Oregon University System
- Mike Selvaggio – Office of the Treasurer
- Gary Weeks – Oregon Student Access Commission

WORKING GROUP RESOURCE SPECIALISTS

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- Bob Brew – Executive Director, Oregon Student Access Commission
- Kathy Campbell – Dean of Financial Aid, Chemeketa Community College
- Kate Peterson – Assistant Provost, Enrollment Management, Oregon State University
- Joe Holliday – Assistant Vice Chancellor, Student Success Initiatives, OUS
- Karen Marrongelle – Interim Vice Chancellor, Academic Strategies, OUS
- Endi Hartigan – Executive support to Work Group, Communications Manager, OUS

WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

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- Restructure the Grant to serve the most financially needy students.
- Within these students, prioritize funding for students from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups;
- Adopt requirements of student academic progress and achievement for renewal eligibility;
- Endorse predictability by guaranteeing awards for the first two years, if renewal eligibility requirements are met
- Eliminate “first come-first served” and award grants on a rolling application basis;

WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS – CONTINUED

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- Pursue additional funding to more fully meet current and future financial need;
- Establish an implementation team to develop an implementation plan and timeline to transition the Oregon Opportunity Grant, consistent with the recommendations proposed by the Work Group; and
- Recommend to the HECC and OEIB to consider, separately from the OOG recommendations, a “pipeline affordability commitment” for K-12 low-income students.

DESIGN TEAM RECOMMENDATIONS

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- Prioritize awarding an Oregon Opportunity Grant (OOG) to qualified students with the highest financial need or whose circumstances would enhance the promotion of HECC-adopted equity guidelines.
 - Award maximum OOG to students who have an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of \$0 and meet Federal Pell Grant eligibility requirements.
 - If funds are available, award grants to students with EFCs up to \$500, then to those with EFCs up to \$1,000, and so on.

DESIGN TEAM RECOMMENDATIONS – CONTINUED

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- Increase access for new applicants by setting a later OOG application deadline, potentially as late as August. (Deadline has been February 1 for three or more years.)
- Guarantee OOG for second year of attendance, provided students meet all of the following criteria for renewal:
 - Maintain satisfactory academic progress
 - Apply for renewal timely each year
 - Continue to meet other eligibility criteria

TUITION PROMISE CONCEPT

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- HECC may establish a supplemental award to reward persistence and completion.
- HECC may establish eligibility criteria for supplemental award by rule.
- Supplemental award based on 3-year average of tuition increases or similar measure.