

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
A-ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 81**

1 On page 1 of the printed A-engrossed bill, delete lines 4 through 26 and
2 delete page 2 and insert:

3 **“SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2015 Act is added to and made a part**
4 **of ORS chapter 341.**

5 **“SECTION 2. (1) The Office of Student Access and Completion shall**
6 **administer the Oregon Promise program as provided by this section.**

7 **“(2) Subject to subsections (5) and (6) of this section, the office shall**
8 **provide a waiver of tuition for community college courses to a person**
9 **who meets the criteria described in subsections (3) and (4) of this sec-**
10 **tion. The waiver shall be a grant and limited as provided by sub-**
11 **sections (5) and (6) of this section.**

12 **“(3) A grant shall be awarded under this section to a person who**
13 **meets the following criteria:**

14 **“(a) Is enrolled in courses that are:**

15 **“(A) Offered at a community college in this state; and**

16 **“(B) Determined by the office, in accordance with rules adopted by**
17 **the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, to be required for**
18 **completion of:**

19 **“(i) A one-year curriculum for students who plan to transfer to**
20 **another post-secondary institution of education;**

21 **“(ii) An associate degree; or**

22 **“(iii) A program in career and technical education;**

1 “(b) Has been a resident of this state for at least 12 months prior
2 to enrolling in the courses described in paragraph (a) of this sub-
3 section;

4 “(c) Attained the person’s highest level of education in this state
5 prior to:

6 “(A) Receiving a diploma under ORS 329.451;

7 “(B) Receiving a General Educational Development (GED) certifi-
8 cate as provided by ORS 351.768; or

9 “(C) Completing grade 12 in compliance with the requirements of
10 ORS 339.035;

11 “(d) Attained the person’s highest level of education as described
12 in paragraph (c) of this subsection within six months from the date
13 that the person first enrolls in courses described in paragraph (a) of
14 this subsection for the purpose of receiving a grant under this section;

15 “(e) Earned a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better in
16 high school or otherwise demonstrated an equivalent academic ability,
17 as determined by the office according to rules adopted by the com-
18 mission;

19 “(f) Completed and submitted the Free Application for Federal
20 Student Aid for each academic year and accepted all state and federal
21 aid grants available to the person, if eligible to file the application; and

22 “(g) Has not completed either of the following:

23 “(A) More than a total of 90 credit hours, or the equivalent, at a
24 post-secondary institution of education; or

25 “(B) A curriculum, degree or program, as described in paragraph
26 (a)(B) of this subsection.

27 “(4)(a) A person continues to remain eligible to receive a grant un-
28 der this section if the person, in addition to satisfying the criteria
29 specified in subsection (3) of this section, meets the following criteria:

30 “(A) Maintains a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better

1 during each term for which the person has received a grant under this
2 section;

3 “(B) Makes satisfactory progress toward a curriculum, degree or
4 program, as described in subsection (3)(a)(B) of this section, as deter-
5 mined by the office according to rules adopted by the commission; and

6 “(C) Enrolls in courses described in subsection (3)(a) of this section
7 for a sufficient number of credit hours to be considered at least a
8 half-time student each term for at least three terms in each consec-
9 utive academic year.

10 “(b) A person who fails to maintain the cumulative grade point
11 average specified in paragraph (a)(A) of this subsection becomes inel-
12 igible to receive a grant under this section for the term after which
13 the person fails to maintain the cumulative grade point average, un-
14 less the eligibility requirement of paragraph (a)(A) of this subsection
15 is waived by the office according to rules adopted by the commission.

16 “(5)(a) The total amount of a grant awarded under this section shall
17 be based on each term that a person is enrolled in courses described
18 in subsection (3)(a) of this section. After the amount of tuition for the
19 person for the term is reduced by \$50, to be paid by the person, and
20 reduced by any amounts received by the person in state and federal
21 aid grants, the person shall be eligible for a grant under this section
22 in an amount that equals:

23 “(A) Except as provided by paragraph (b) of this subsection, not less
24 than the greater of:

25 “(i) \$1,000; and

26 “(ii) The person’s actual cost for tuition.

27 “(B) Not more than the lesser of:

28 “(i) The average cost of tuition at a community college in this state,
29 as determined by the office; and

30 “(ii) The person’s actual cost for tuition.

1 “(b) The minimum amount of a grant, as calculated under para-
2 graph (a) of this subsection, may be prorated for a person who is en-
3 rolled in courses described in subsection (3)(a) of this section for a
4 sufficient number of credit hours to be considered at least a half-time
5 student but not a full-time student.

6 “(c) The commission may prescribe by rule whether to include fees,
7 and any limitations related to the inclusion of fees, when determining
8 the actual cost of tuition or the average cost of tuition under this
9 subsection.

10 “(6) The total amount in grants awarded under this section by the
11 office may not exceed \$10 million per fiscal year, or any lesser amount
12 available to the office for the purpose of this section. The commission
13 may adopt by rule the priority by which grants are awarded, which
14 may allow for preference to be given to persons enrolled in school
15 districts or high schools that meet specified criteria.

16 “(7) The commission shall adopt any rules necessary for the ad-
17 ministration of this section, including any requirements related to:

18 “(a) Specifying the form and timelines for submitting an application
19 for a grant under this section;

20 “(b) Determining whether a person is eligible for a grant under this
21 section, including whether the person shall be given priority as allowed
22 under subsection (6) of this section;

23 “(c) Implementing programs or policies that improve the academic
24 success or completion rates for persons who receive a grant under this
25 section;

26 “(d) Prescribing eligibility requirements and grant calculations for
27 persons dually enrolled in a community college and a public univer-
28 sity; and

29 “(e) Evaluating the impact of the program established under this
30 section, including any requirements for reporting data needed for

1 evaluations.

2 “(8) No later than December 31 of each even-numbered year, the
3 commission shall submit to an interim legislative committee related
4 to education a report that summarizes the commission’s findings on
5 the impact of the program established under this section. The report
6 shall include:

7 “(a) Student completion rates of curricula, degrees and programs
8 described in subsection (3)(a)(B) of this section;

9 “(b) The amount of federal aid grants received by persons who re-
10 ceived a grant under this section;

11 “(c) The financial impact of the program on school districts that
12 had students receive a grant under this section;

13 “(d) The financial impact and the enrollment impact of the program
14 on community colleges and public universities in this state; and

15 “(e) The overall success rate of the program and financial impact
16 of the program.

17 **“SECTION 3.** (1) Section 2 of this 2015 Act becomes operative on
18 July 1, 2016.

19 “(2) Section 2 of this 2015 Act first applies to courses enrolled in for
20 the 2016-2017 academic year.

21 “(3) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission, the Office of
22 Student Access and Completion or a community college district may
23 take any action before the operative date specified in subsection (1)
24 of this section that is necessary for the commission, office or district
25 to exercise, on or after the operative date specified in subsection (1)
26 of this section, all of the duties, functions and powers conferred on the
27 commission, office or district by section 2 of this 2015 Act.

28 **“SECTION 4.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropri-
29 ation, there is appropriated to the Higher Education Coordinating
30 Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, out of the Gen-

1 eral Fund, the amount of \$10 million, which may be expended for the
2 creation and implementation of the program established under section
3 2 of this 2015 Act, including the provision of grants under the program.

4 “SECTION 5. This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate
5 preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is
6 declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect on its passage.”.

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