

**B-Engrossed**  
**House Bill 4076**

Ordered by the House February 26  
Including House Amendments dated February 4 and February 26

Sponsored by Representatives JOHNSON, READ; Representatives DOHERTY, GORSEK, HUFFMAN, MCKEOWN, RAYFIELD, REARDON, WHISNANT (Presession filed.)

**SUMMARY**

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Requires persons who receive grant under Oregon Promise program to complete first-year experience. **Provides temporary expansion of eligibility requirements.**

Appropriates moneys to Higher Education Coordinating Commission for purpose of distributing moneys **as grants** to community colleges to provide support services to persons who, under Oregon Promise program, may be eligible to receive grant, or have received grant.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

1  
2 Relating to enabling students to be successful in the Oregon Promise program; creating new pro-  
3 visions; amending ORS 341.522; and declaring an emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 341.522 is amended to read:

6 341.522. (1) The Office of Student Access and Completion shall administer the Oregon Promise  
7 program as provided by this section.

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

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

13 (a) Is enrolled in courses that are:

14 (A) Offered at a community college in this state; and

15 (B) Determined by the office, in accordance with rules adopted by the Higher Education Coor-  
16 dinating Commission, to be required for completion of:

17 (i) A one-year curriculum for students who plan to transfer to another post-secondary institution  
18 of education;

19 (ii) An associate degree; or

20 (iii) A program in career and technical education;

21 (b) Has been a resident of this state for at least 12 months prior to enrolling in the courses  
22 described in paragraph (a) of this subsection;

23 (c) Attained the person's highest level of education in this state prior to:

24 (A) Receiving a diploma under ORS 329.451;

25 (B) Receiving a General Educational Development (GED) certificate as provided by ORS 350.175;

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 [or]

2 (C) Completing grade 12 in compliance with the requirements of ORS 339.035; **or**

3 **(D) Completing grade 12 at a private or parochial school, as described in ORS 339.030**  
4 **(1)(a);**

5 (d) Attained the person's highest level of education as described in paragraph (c) of this sub-  
6 section within six months from the date that the person first enrolls in courses described in para-  
7 graph (a) of this subsection for the purpose of receiving a grant under this section;

8 (e) Earned a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better in high school or otherwise dem-  
9 onstrated an equivalent academic ability, as determined by the office according to rules adopted by  
10 the commission;

11 (f) Completed and submitted the Free Application for Federal Student Aid for each academic  
12 year and accepted all state and federal aid grants available to the person, if eligible to file the ap-  
13 plication; and

14 (g) Has not completed either of the following:

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

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

18 (4)(a) A person continues to remain eligible to receive a grant under this section if the person,  
19 in addition to satisfying the criteria specified in subsection (3) of this section, meets the following  
20 criteria:

21 (A) Maintains [a] **at least the minimum** cumulative grade point average [of 2.5 or better during  
22 each term for which the person has received a grant under this section] **prescribed by the commis-**  
23 **sion based on federal aid grant requirements;**

24 (B) Makes satisfactory **academic** progress toward a curriculum, degree or program, as described  
25 in subsection (3)(a)(B) of this section, as [determined by the office according to rules adopted] **pre-**  
26 **scribed by the commission based on federal aid grant requirements; [and]**

27 (C) Enrolls in courses described in subsection (3)(a) of this section for a sufficient number of  
28 credit hours to be considered at least a half-time student each term for at least three terms in each  
29 consecutive academic year[.]; **and**

30 **(D) Completes a first-year experience, as identified by the community college and re-**  
31 **ported by the community college to the commission.**

32 (b) A person who fails to [maintain the cumulative grade point average specified in paragraph  
33 (a)(A) of this subsection] **meet an eligibility requirement described in paragraph (a) of this**  
34 **subsection** becomes ineligible to receive a grant under this section for the term after which the  
35 person fails to [maintain the cumulative grade point average] **meet the eligibility requirement**, un-  
36 less the eligibility requirement [of paragraph (a)(A) of this subsection] is waived by the office ac-  
37 cording to rules adopted by the commission.

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

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

44 (i) \$1,000; and

45 (ii) The person's actual cost for tuition.

1 (B) Not more than the lesser of:

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

4 (ii) The person's actual cost for tuition.

5 (b) The minimum amount of a grant, as calculated under paragraph (a) of this subsection, may  
6 be prorated for a person who is enrolled in courses described in subsection (3)(a) of this section for  
7 a sufficient number of credit hours to be considered at least a half-time student but not a full-time  
8 student.

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

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

17 (7) The commission shall adopt any rules necessary for the administration of this section, in-  
18 cluding any requirements related to:

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

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

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

24 (d) Prescribing eligibility requirements and grant calculations for persons dually enrolled in a  
25 community college and a public university; and

26 (e) Evaluating the impact of the program established under this section, including any require-  
27 ments for reporting data needed for evaluations.

28 (8) No later than December 31 of each even-numbered year, the commission shall submit to an  
29 interim legislative committee related to education a report that summarizes the commission's  
30 findings on the impact of the program established under this section. The report shall include:

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

33 (b) The amount of federal aid grants received by persons who received a grant under this sec-  
34 tion;

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

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

39 (e) The overall success rate of the program and financial impact of the program.

40 **SECTION 2. Notwithstanding ORS 341.522 (3)(d), for the 2016-2017 academic year only, a**  
41 **person who attained the person's highest level of education as described in ORS 341.522 (3)(c)**  
42 **between September 1, 2015, and August 31, 2016, is eligible to receive a grant under ORS**  
43 **341.522 if the person otherwise meets the criteria described in ORS 341.522 and first enrolls**  
44 **in courses described in ORS 341.522 (3)(a) no later than the fall term of the 2016-2017 aca-**  
45 **demie year.**

1       **SECTION 3.** Section 2 of this 2016 Act and the amendments to ORS 341.522 by section 1  
2 of this 2016 Act become operative on July 1, 2016.

3       **SECTION 4.** (1) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall distribute moneys  
4 as a grant to every community college for the purpose of providing support services for  
5 persons who enroll in courses offered at a community college in this state within one year  
6 of attaining the highest level of education described in ORS 341.522 (3)(c) or who receive a  
7 grant under ORS 341.522.

8       (2) A community college must use moneys received under this section to provide support  
9 services at each campus of the community college. The support services must implement  
10 proven multiyear strategies that incorporate elements of student services and faculty and  
11 staff development to improve academic success or completion rates, and must provide at  
12 least all of the following:

13       (a) A first-year experience for persons described in subsection (1) of this section that is  
14 provided through a series of intentional, strategic interventions.

15       (b) A student success team to serve persons described in subsection (1) of this section.

16       (c) Professional development for community college faculty and staff to enable the fac-  
17 ulty and staff to provide intentional, strategic interventions to persons described in sub-  
18 section (1) of this section.

19       (3)(a) No later than November 30, 2016, and April 7, 2017, each community college shall  
20 report to the commission regarding the use of the moneys received under this section.

21       (b) No later than December 31, 2016, and April 30, 2017, the commission shall submit to  
22 the interim legislative committees related to education a report that summarizes the dis-  
23 tributions made under this section and the information received under paragraph (a) of this  
24 subsection.

25       **SECTION 5.** Section 4 of this 2016 Act is repealed on June 30, 2017.

26       **SECTION 6.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the General Fund appropriation  
27 made to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission by section 1 (5), chapter 642, Oregon  
28 Laws 2015, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, for the Community College Support Fund  
29 for distribution to community colleges and community college service districts, is increased  
30 by \$1,659,800 for the distributions described in section 4 of this 2016 Act.

31       **SECTION 7.** This 2016 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
32 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2016 Act takes effect  
33 on its passage.

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