

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2201 - A3

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2019 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

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

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Measure Description:

Establishes the Veteran Educational Bridge Grant Program within the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

| | 2019-21 Biennium | 2021-23 Biennium |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Lottery Funds | 447,719 | |
| Total Funds | \$447,719 | \$0 |
| Positions | 1 | |
| FTE | 0.88 | |

Analysis:

The measure establishes the Veteran Educational Bridge Grant Program within the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) and provides \$447,719 expenditure limitation for Lottery Funds allocated from the Veterans' Services Fund to the Veteran Educational Bridge Grant Program Fund. Funding will be used to provide grants of up to \$5,000 to veterans enrolled in an approved course of study, eligible to receive federal financial assistance due to their service in the U.S. Armed Forces, and unable to complete their degree within the expected completion date due to course availability. ODVA may also use funds for conducting outreach and administering the program. ODVA is directed to report to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly on or before September 15, 2020, regarding the status of this program.

ODVA anticipates costs of this program in 2019-21 will include:

- \$300,000 for grants issued through the program.
- \$133,919 in personal services for a Program Analyst 1 (0.88 FTE) to oversee the program.
- \$13,800 in services and supplies costs related to the new position.

The Program Analyst 1 will conduct rulemaking for this program, develop grant program requirements and forms, perform outreach, and provide verification of veteran status, financial need, and course requirements.

This fiscal reflects no ongoing expenditure impact in the 2021-23 biennium, as the program is scheduled to sunset on January 2, 2022 and funding is indeterminate after the close of the 2019-21 biennium. If ODVA anticipates that funds will be available in the Veteran Educational Bridge Grant Program Fund after the end of the 2019-21 biennium, they may request continuing expenditure limitation and staffing during the 2021-23 budget development process.

As noted above, the Veteran Educational Bridge Grant Program sunsets on January 2, 2022 and the Veteran Educational Bridge Grant Program Fund is repealed. Unspent lottery allocations will be reverted to the Veterans' Services Fund, and any remaining monies will be transferred to the Veterans' Educational Aid Account at that time.