

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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

Measure: HB 3070

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

Prepared by: Tim Walker
Reviewed by: Doug Wilson
Date: 03/26/2019

Measure Description:

Extends maximum period Oregon Opportunity Grant may be renewed from equivalent of four full-time undergraduate years to equivalent of six full-time undergraduate years.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Analysis: This bill makes two major changes to the Oregon Opportunity Grant (OOG) program, within the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, by extending the maximum period of eligibility from 4 years of full-time enrollment to six years of full-time enrollment and would allow HECC to award additional funds to OOG recipients if they can demonstrate economic hardship that was not known at the time the original grant was awarded.

The bill would increase the number of eligible students in any given year and awarding overall larger grants to certain students. At this time, all the ramifications of this measure cannot be fully predicted and therefore the fiscal impact cannot be determined. It is not known how many students may choose to extend their eligibility or the additional amount awarded due to economic hardship. The agency also will face additional costs to reprogram the financial aid management system, make changes to existing program rules and procedures, and to communicate the change to eligible students. The OOG is funded with a combination of General Funds and Lottery Funds and due to the unknown magnitude of the fiscal impact, this measure warrants a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for consideration of its budgetary impact on the State's General Fund.