

# Senate Bill 730

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

## 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 **as introduced**.

Integrates foundational curricula and unified statewide transfer agreements into Transfer Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities.

Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission to establish advisory committee to advise commission staff on designing standards to implement Transfer Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities and developing electronic system for disseminating information regarding foundational curricula and unified statewide transfer agreements.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to transfer of academic credits; creating new provisions; amending ORS 350.395; and de-  
3 claring an emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 350.395 is amended to read:

6 350.395. (1) As used in this section:

7 (a) "Associate transfer degree" means an associate degree that is awarded by a community  
8 college and that is intended to allow a student to apply the credits earned for the degree toward a  
9 baccalaureate degree.

10 (b) "Community college" means a community college operated under ORS chapter 341.

11 (c) **"Foundational curriculum" means a curriculum established under ORS 350.400.**

12 [(c)] (d) "Public university" means a public university listed in ORS 352.002.

13 [(d)] (e) "Transfer program" means a one-year program that is designed to allow a student to  
14 apply the credits earned through the program toward a baccalaureate degree.

15 (f) **"Unified statewide transfer agreement" means an agreement established under ORS**  
16 **350.404.**

17 (2) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall develop standards related to the ability  
18 of students to apply credits earned through courses of study at community colleges to baccalaureate  
19 degrees awarded by public universities. The standards shall be known as the "Transfer Student Bill  
20 of Rights and Responsibilities." **In developing these standards, commission staff shall consult**  
21 **with the advisory committee established under section 2 of this 2019 Act.**

22 (3) The standards developed under this section must include:

23 (a) Admission standards to public universities for students who have earned an associate trans-  
24 fer degree **or who have attained the optimal number of academic credits identified in a unified**  
25 **statewide transfer agreement.**

26 (b) Processes to align requirements for community college courses and public university courses  
27 to ensure that credits earned for completion of sufficiently similar courses are fully transferable  
28 between all community colleges and public universities.

**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 (c) Processes to minimize the number of credits that students who have **either** earned an asso-  
 2 ciate transfer degree **or who have completed all coursework in a transfer program, founda-**  
 3 **tional curriculum or unified statewide transfer agreement** would need to complete prior to  
 4 receiving various types of baccalaureate degrees at public universities[, *including identifying majors*  
 5 *in baccalaureate degree programs that require more than two years to complete after a student has*  
 6 *earned an associate transfer degree*].

7 [(d) Processes to minimize the number of credits that students who have completed a transfer pro-  
 8 gram would need to complete prior to receiving various types of baccalaureate degrees at public uni-  
 9 versities.]

10 [(e) (d) Processes by which a community college would award an associate degree to a student  
 11 upon completion of necessary credits, regardless of whether the student applied to receive the de-  
 12 gree or whether the student earned the credits for the degree at a community college or a public  
 13 university.

14 [(f) (e) Processes to evaluate and make recommendations for the development of associate  
 15 transfer degrees **or unified statewide transfer agreements** in specific areas of study[, *including*  
 16 *engineering*].

17 [(g) (f) Any other issues identified by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission that re-  
 18 late to courses of study at community colleges and the ability of a student to transfer credits to a  
 19 community college or a public university, to be admitted to a public university or to earn a degree  
 20 at a community college or a public university.

21 [(h) (g) Requirements that students must meet in order to benefit from the standards described  
 22 in paragraphs (a) to [(g)] (f) of this subsection.

23 (4) [Each community college and public university shall submit annual reports to] The Higher  
 24 Education Coordinating Commission [related to] **shall annually submit a report in the manner**  
 25 **provided by ORS 192.245 to the appropriate interim committees of the Legislative Assembly**  
 26 **setting forth:**

27 (a) The number of students who attend a community college and then a public university[, *or a*  
 28 *public university and then a community college*].

29 (b) The number of students who attend one community college and then a different community  
 30 college.

31 (c) The number of students who transfer from a community college to a public university and  
 32 who have an associate transfer degree or have completed a transfer program.

33 (d) The average number of credits students have when they transfer from a community college  
 34 to a public university **and the average number of credits accepted by the public university**.

35 (e) The average number of credits students have when they attend one community college and  
 36 then a different community college.

37 (f) The average number of credits that a student earning an associate transfer degree completed  
 38 at a community college.

39 (g) The average number of credits students who have transferred from a community college to  
 40 a public university must earn prior to receiving a baccalaureate degree compared to the average  
 41 number of credits students who did not transfer from a community college must earn prior to re-  
 42 ceiving a baccalaureate degree.

43 **SECTION 2. The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall establish an advisory**  
 44 **committee consisting of faculty, staff and administration representatives from community**  
 45 **colleges and public universities listed in ORS 352.002, and any other parties the commission**

1 **deems necessary. The advisory committee shall provide advice and recommendations to**  
2 **commission staff on:**

3 **(1) Designing standards to effectively implement ORS 350.395; and**

4 **(2) Developing an electronic system for the dissemination of information regarding**  
5 **foundational curricula established under ORS 350.400 and unified statewide transfer agree-**  
6 **ments established under ORS 350.404.**

7 **SECTION 3. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**  
8 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect**  
9 **on its passage.**

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