Public University Venture Development Fund (UVDF) Tax Credit

House Committee on Education | HB 2441 | 3/18/2021

Legislative Revenue Office



Legislative Tax Credit Review

- Tax credit review process
 - Conducted every odd year session
 - 6-year sunsets
 - Individual bill extending sunset facilitates review
 - Reviewed first by committee with policy link, subsequent referral to a revenue committee
- LRO prepares tax credit report supporting review
 - Identify policy purpose | Description | Policy analysis



Public University Venture Development Funds (UVDF)

- What is a UVDF and what is the purpose
 - UVDF distributes funds through Venture Grant program

ORS 350.550 states the purpose of the UVDFs

Facilitate the commercialization of university research and development

- (2) The purposes of a university venture development fund are to provide:
 - (a) Capital for university entrepreneurial programs
 - (b) Opportunities for students to gain experience in applying research to commercial activities
 - (c) Proof-of-concept funding for transforming research and development concepts into commercially viable products and services and
 - (d) Entrepreneurial opportunities for persons interested in transforming research into viable commercial ventures that create jobs in this state.



UVDF Tax Credit

- Enacted in 2005
- Policy purpose of the credit:
 - To encourage contributions to respective university venture development funds
- Credit= 60% of taxpayer's contribution to UVDF
 - Unused credits can be carried forward up to 3 succeeding years
 - Available to individuals and businesses making contributions



Potential Value of Credit to Taxpayer

Illustrative Example of Tax Credit Value					
	With UVDF	Without UVDF			
	Credit	Credit			
Contribution	\$10,000	\$10,000			
Oregon Credit	\$6,000	\$0			
Oregon Deduction	N/A ¹	\$990			
Federal Deduction ²	\$1,280	\$3,200			
Total "cost" to Taxpayer	\$2,720	\$5,810			

¹ORS 315.640(6) effectively disallows a taxpayer that claims the credit from also claiming an Oregon deduction for the same donation.

 Potential individual incentive to make UVDF donations

²IRS regulations require taxpayers to reduce their charitable contribution deductions by the amount of any state tax credit they receive in return.



Contributions, Credits, UVDFs, Flow of Funds

Taxpayer



Taxpayer Donates to a
University Venture
Development Fund
(UVDF)



UVDF Distributes funds per Venture Grant Program





Tax credit = 60% of donation (indirectly funded from State General Fund)



20% of realized income from commercialization transferred to State General Fund



Commercialization of university research & development



• Total outstanding credits limited to \$8.4 million

Certified Tax Credit Limit by Education Institution								
Oregon State	\$3,947,720	Eastern Oregon	\$7,500					
University of Oregon	\$2,122,670	Southern Oregon	\$7,500					
Portland State	\$1,275,840	Western Oregon	\$7,500					
Oregon Health & Science	\$1,023,770	Oregon Institute of Tech.	\$7,500					



Public University Venture Development Funds (\$'s in Millions)

	OSU	UO	OHSU	PSU	Total
Deposits					
Fund Donations	\$6.3	\$1.7	\$1.6	\$1.5	\$11.1
Income to the Fund	\$0.0	\$0.1	\$0.1	\$0.0	\$0.1
Income and Royalties from Disbursement	\$0.0	\$5.0	\$0.4	\$0.2	\$5.6
Withdrawals					
Disbursements and Grants	\$4.4	\$1.3	\$1.2	\$1.8	\$8.7
Tax Credits					
Total Certificate Authority	\$6.6	\$3.5	\$1.7	\$2.1	\$14.0
Total Credits Allowed	\$3.9	\$2.1	\$1.0	\$1.3	\$8.4
Credits Issued	\$3.8	\$1.0	\$1.0	\$0.9	\$6.6
Credits Available to be Issued	\$0.2	\$1.9	\$0.2	\$0.4	\$2.7
General Fund					
Transfers to the General Fund	\$0.0	\$0.8	\$0.1	\$0.0	\$0.9
General Fund Net	-\$3.8	-\$0.2	-\$0.9	-\$0.9	-\$5.7

As of June 30, 2020

Questions?

More detail available in LRO's Tax Credit Report: 2021 Session

https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/lro/Pages/publications.aspx