



# FAFSA and State Financial Aid Updates

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# 2024-25 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Issues and Updates

## Major Delays Throughout Cycle

- Timeline (based on the typical Oct 1 cycle):
  - FAFSA launched 3 months late
  - Applications processed and sent to colleges and states 5 months late
  - Students with undocumented parents' ability to complete FAFSA 7 months late
  - Paper applications still not processed

## Major Communication and Technical Glitches

- Delayed/vague communications from U.S. Department of Education
- Institutions still cannot complete FAFSA verification, corrections, dependency overrides
- Student Aid Index (SAI) formula change to include inflation occurred after application launch
- Numerous SAI calculation errors



109,404 submitted FAFSA/ORSAA applications, down 11.7% year-to-date from 2023-24 cycle.

# What is Oregon doing to help FAFSA/ORSAA completion efforts?

- Oregon Dept. of Education (ODE) and HECC have sent joint messages to urge high school seniors to complete the FAFSA or ORSAA
- HECC is also working on targeted messaging to students with authorized state aid to apply to college, and to encourage students to enroll.
- Multiple trainings conducted to the Migrant Education Program through partnership with ODE.

## Partner Collaborations



- The statewide mentoring program, ASPIRE, through the HECC Office of Student Access and Completion (OSAC) has been supporting over 180 sites across the state.
- The FAFSA Plus+ program has been a critical asset this year to 250 participating sites, mostly high schools, to access student-level FAFSA data on their seniors.

## Direct Support to High Schools



- Since November 2023, OSAC increased its online webinar output with a focus on FAFSA/ORSAA updates as they were made available.
- OSAC frequently participated and presented statewide trainings and updates to partners, students, and families to help disseminate FAFSA communications and be a go-to resource for folks who had questions.

## Statewide Trainings



# Oregon Opportunity Grant and Oregon Promise Grant: 2023-24 cycle

## 2023-24 Estimated Recipients and Expenditures

Oregon Opportunity Grant	Total Recipients	Total Disbursements
Community Colleges	19,899	\$45,034,616
State Universities + OHSU	16,557	\$92,301,998
Private Institutions	2,473	\$14,392,656
<b>Totals</b>	<b>38,929</b>	<b>\$151,729,270</b>
<b>2023-25 LAB</b>	<b>\$308,400,000</b>	

Oregon Promise Grant	Total Recipients	Total Disbursements
New Students (2023 Cohorts)	6,919	\$16,415,940
Renewal Students	3,757	\$8,499,371
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10,676</b>	<b>\$24,915,311</b>
<b>2023-25 LAB</b>	<b>\$44,252,681</b>	

# Oregon Opportunity Grant Awarding: 2024-25

The number of students authorized for 2024-25 awards is only 10% behind this time in 2023. This shows the strong FAFSA/ORSA completion efforts of Oregon's lowest income families.

Headcount per Award Tier	SAI Range	% of Authorized Students
30,209	-1500 to 0	73.20%
1,155	1 to 1,000	2.80%
1,331	1,001 to 2,000	3.23%
1,684	2,001 to 3,000	4.08%
1,596	3,001 to 4,000	3.87%
1,506	4,001 to 5,000	3.65%
1,428	5,001 to 6,000	3.46%
2,360	6,001 to 8,000	5.72%

**Over 41,200** students have been authorized and notified of their award for the Fall Term.

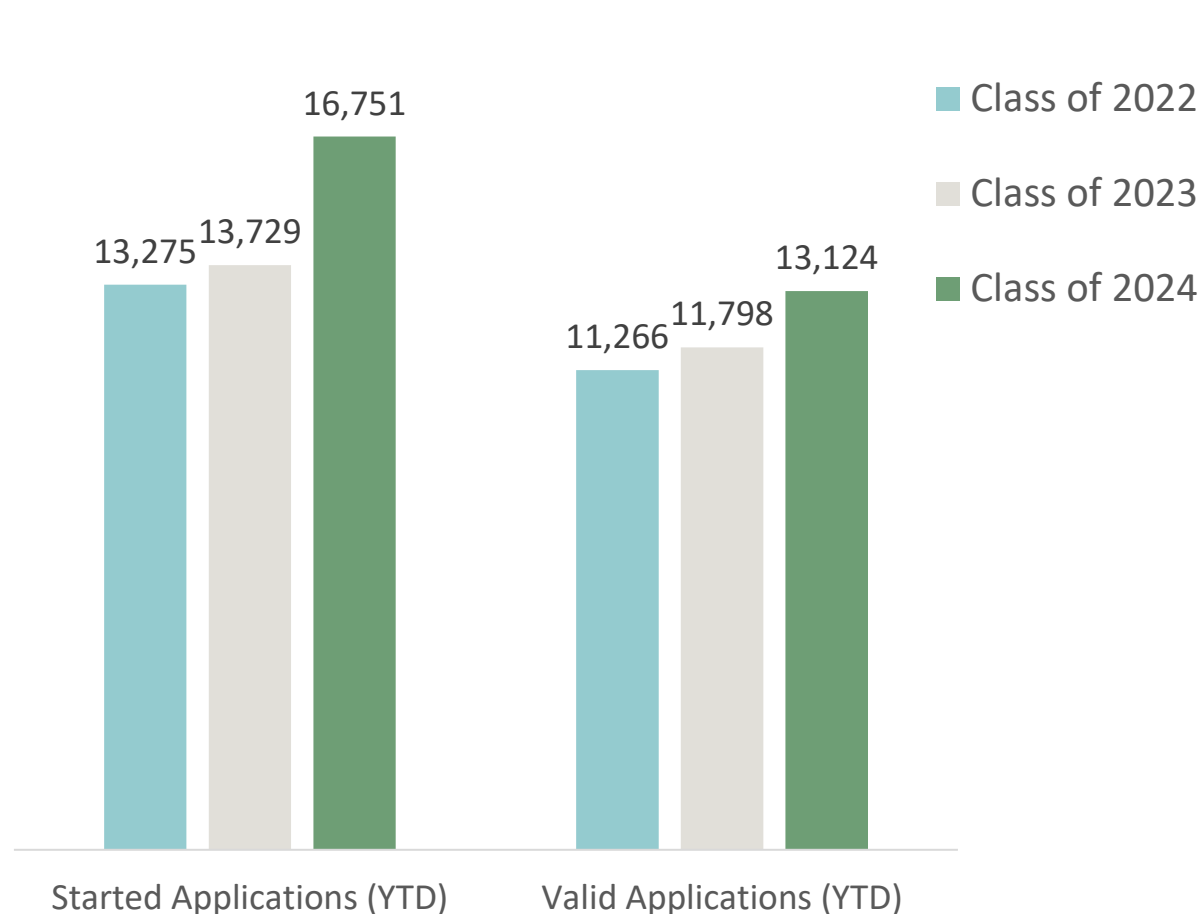
**73%** of students currently authorized for OOG exhibit the highest level of financial need.

# OOG Award Structure for 2024-25

SAI Range	Community College Award Amount	4-Year Institution Award Amount
-1500 to 0	\$3,900	\$7,524
1 to 1,000	\$3,600	\$7,008
1,001 to 2,000	\$3,192	\$6,204
2,001 to 3,000	\$2,904	\$5,496
3,001 to 4,000	\$2,442	\$4,416
4,001 to 5,000	\$1,800	\$3,612
5,001 to 6,000	\$1,200	\$2,436
6,001 to 8,000	\$900	\$1,788

Bachelor's degree students at community colleges will be eligible for award amounts that are about halfway between standard community college award levels and four-year institutional award levels. See <https://www.oregonstudentaid.gov/grants/oregon-opportunity-grant/>

# Oregon Promise: Application Growth 2022-23 through 2024-25.



- Since the pandemic, many programs have been slowly attempting to climb back to “normal” application rates and submissions.
- Class of 2023 showed great strides in strong application rates and college attendance.

- Class of 2024 has eclipsed pre-pandemic numbers, with more time for students to apply before the final deadline arrives.
  - Class of 2024 high school application deadline: June 3
  - Class of 2024 GED® application deadline: July 10
  - Class of 2024 (HS and GED®) FAFSA/ORSAA deadline: July 10

Valid application defined as: submitted, reviewed by OSAC for graduation and GPA requirement for the cohort. Does not include if student has submitted FAFSA/ORSAA.

Source: HECC Office of Student Access and Completion

# Oregon Promise Grant Awarding

Class of 2024 has achieved pre-pandemic application rates.

Since the pandemic, Oregon Promise application numbers have slowly increased. **Class of 2024 has 13% more applications year-to-date** than Class of 2023.

Class of 2023 also had a strong application cycle and program participation. Between new and renewal students, there was **over a 66% disbursement rate for Fall 2023** – which has not been seen since Fall 2017.

Awarding to new and renewal students began this week. Notifications students and community colleges have been sent. Awards range from \$2,124 to \$4,422.

Due to a high disbursement rate in 2023-24 and a strong applicant volume from Class of 2024, OSAC has implemented a tentative SAI limit for Class of 2024 students:

- Tentative SAI limit of 22,000
- Renewal students not impacted

Next steps for Class of 2024:

- Must apply by June 3 (regardless of SAI)
- Mid-July, OSAC will reevaluate the SAI limit if it can be lifted to award additional students or finalized at the current limit