

House Bill 3315

Sponsored by Representative NELSON

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**.

Establishes Registered Nurse Grant program within Higher Education Coordinating Commission.
Requires commission to award grants to community colleges that commit to taking specified actions to improve ability of licensed practical nurses to quickly and efficiently receive training and courses necessary to become registered nurses.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to nursing programs at community colleges; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2023 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 348.

SECTION 2. (1) The Registered Nurse Grant program is established within the Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

(2) Under the program, the commission shall seek to improve the ability of licensed practical nurses to quickly and efficiently receive the courses and training necessary to become registered nurses by awarding grants to community colleges operated under ORS chapter 341 that commit to:

(a) Establishing a bridge program specifically designed to enable individuals who are already a licensed practical nurse to take the courses and receive the training necessary become a registered nurse;

(b) Materially increasing the enrollment of a program described in paragraph (a) of this subsection; or

(c) Providing methods for an individual who is a licensed practical nurse to take the courses necessary to become a registered nurse without having to retake science courses that the individual took prior to becoming a licensed practical nurse.

(3) The commission shall allow a community college to apply for multiple grants under this section.

(4) The commission may adopt rules necessary to implement this section.

(5) As used in this section, "licensed practical nurse" and "registered nurse" have the meanings given those terms in ORS 336.201.

SECTION 3. This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect on its passage.

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.