A-engrossed

Senate Bill 1032

Ordered by the Senate March 30
Including Senate Amendments dated March 30

Sponsored by Senator MANNING JR; Senator HANSELL (at the request of Oregon Military Department)

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.

Establishes higher education grant program for qualified dependents of current Oregon National Guard members who are eligible to continue to serve in Oregon National Guard for at least six additional years.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to student financial aid for dependents of Oregon National Guard members.

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:
(a) “Community college” means a community college operated under ORS chapter 341.
(b) “Eligible member of the Oregon National Guard” means an individual who:
(A) Is an active member of the Oregon National Guard and has completed at least six years of service with the Oregon National Guard; and
(B) Is considered eligible to continue to serve in the Oregon National Guard for six or more years after designating a qualified student or a future qualified student to receive a grant under this section, under a process established by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission following consultation with the Oregon National Guard.
(c) “Future qualified student” means an individual who meets all requirements necessary to be considered a qualified student, except for those set forth in paragraph (f)(B) and (E) of this subsection.
(d) “Good standing” means having a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher in a program described in paragraph (f)(B) of this subsection.
(e) “Qualified dependent” means an individual who is considered a qualified military dependent of an eligible member of the Oregon National Guard by the United States Department of Defense, as indicated by enrollment in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) or its successor.
(f) “Qualified student” means a student who:
(A) Has not achieved a baccalaureate or higher degree from any post-secondary institution;
(B) Is enrolled and in good standing in:
(i) An associate degree granting program at a community college;
(ii) An undergraduate baccalaureate degree granting program at a public university listed in ORS 352.002;

NOTE: Matter in boldfaced type in an amended section is new; matter in italic and bracketed is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in boldfaced type.

LC 394
(iii) An undergraduate baccalaureate degree granting program at a private post-
secondary institution of education that is exempt from ORS 348.594 to 348.615 under ORS
348.597 (2);
(iv) An undergraduate baccalaureate degree granting program at Oregon Health and
Science University; or
(v) A program or curriculum designed to lead to a certificate of completion, as defined
by the commission by rule, at a community college, a public university listed in ORS 352.002
or Oregon Health and Science University;
(C)(i) Is the spouse of an eligible member of the Oregon National Guard; or
(ii) Is 26 years of age or younger and the child of an eligible member of the Oregon Na-
tional Guard;
(D) Is a qualified dependent; and
(E) Has completed and submitted the Free Application for Federal Student Aid for each
academic year, if eligible to file the application.
(2) A qualified student who is designated by an eligible member of the Oregon National
Guard in the manner set forth in subsection (3) of this section shall receive a grant under
this section in an amount that equals the sum of the following:
(a)(A) The resident tuition charges at the community college at which the qualified stu-
dent is enrolled;
(B) The resident tuition charges at the public university listed in ORS 352.002 at which
the qualified student is enrolled;
(C) For a qualified student enrolled at a private institution described in subsection
(1)(f)(B)(iii) of this section, the average resident tuition charges to attend a public university
listed in ORS 352.002; or
(D) The resident tuition charges at Oregon Health and Science University if the qualified
student is enrolled at Oregon Health and Science University;
(b) The average amount of fees charged by the type of institution at which the qualified
student is enrolled, as determined by the commission; and
(c) An allowance for books required for coursework, as determined by the commission.
(3) Grants provided under this section shall be awarded to one or more qualified students
who are designated by an eligible member of the Oregon National Guard who has agreed to
serve in the Oregon National Guard for six or more additional years, in a manner established
by rule by the commission. In designating and awarding grants to qualified students under
this section:
(a) An eligible member of the Oregon National Guard may designate only qualified stu-
dents or future qualified students who are considered a qualified dependent of the eligible
member;
(b) An eligible member of the Oregon National Guard may not designate more than one
qualified student to receive a grant during any one academic term;
(c) The cumulative amount of grant moneys that may be awarded to one or more quali-
fied students or future qualified students designated by a single eligible member of the
Oregon National Guard under this section may not exceed the equivalent of a total of four
years of resident tuition charges, fees and allowances described in subsection (2) of this
section at one or more of the programs described in subsection (1)(f)(B) of this section, as
determined by rule by the commission; and
(d) An individual who is designated as a future qualified student by an eligible member
of the Oregon National Guard under this subsection may not receive a grant under this
section until the individual is a qualified student.

(4) A qualified student or future qualified student who is designated by a member of the
Oregon National Guard under subsection (3) of this section remains eligible to receive a
grant under this section after the member of the Oregon National Guard has completed their
service if:

(a) The member of the Oregon National Guard has completed the full six years of addi-
tional service the member agreed to when designating one or more qualified students or fu-
ture qualified students under subsection (3) of this section; and

(b) The qualified student or future qualified student receives the grant no later than 10
calendar years after the member of the Oregon National Guard described in paragraph (a)
of this subsection ceases to be an active member of the Oregon National Guard.

(5) The commission, in consultation with the Oregon Military Department, shall adopt
any rules necessary for the administration of this section, including but not limited to any
requirements related to:

(a) Specifying the form and timelines for submitting an application for a grant under this
section;

(b) Determining whether a person is eligible for a grant under this section;

(c) Prescribing grant calculations for qualified students dually enrolled at a community
college, a public university, a private institution described in subsection (1)(f)(B)(iii) of this
section or Oregon Health and Science University; and

(d) Ensuring that each eligible member of the Oregon National Guard who designates a
qualified student or future qualified student to receive a grant under this section remains
an active member of the Oregon National Guard for the additional six-year period the mem-
ber agreed to serve when designating one or more qualified students or future qualified stu-
dents under subsection (3) of this section.

(6) Prior to the start of the fall term of each academic year, the commission shall de-
termine whether moneys available to the commission are sufficient to award a grant under
this section to each qualified student. On the basis of this determination, the commission
may:

(a) Limit eligibility to receive a grant under this section to qualified students whose
family contribution, as determined by the commission by rule, is at or below a level that the
commission determines is necessary to allow the commission to operate the grant program
under this section with available moneys; or

(b) Reduce or eliminate any limitation on eligibility previously imposed by the commission
under paragraph (a) of this subsection.

(7) If at any time the commission determines that moneys available to the commission
are insufficient to provide a grant under this section to each qualified student, the commis-
ッション may decrease the total amount of the grant awarded to each recipient.