Senate Bill 1102

Sponsored by Senator GOLDEN, Representative MARSH, Senator JAMA

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 Semiconductor and Advanced Manufacturing Talent Grant program.
Requires Higher Education Coordinating Commission to administer program and provide grants to public universities and community colleges to support proposed programs or curricula that will effectively impart to students skills and proficiencies that are demonstrably in demand in semiconductor and advanced manufacturing industries.
Appropriates moneys to grant program.
Sunsets program on January 2, 2026.
Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2023.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to grants for post-secondary institutions of education; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. The Legislative Assembly finds that the State of Oregon will benefit from having public universities listed in ORS 352.002 and community colleges operated under ORS chapter 341 that:

(1) Provide education pathways, certificates and degrees that enable graduates to pursue careers in the semiconductor and advanced manufacturing industries;
(2) Provide a range of degrees, certificates and credentials that meet the needs and requirements of the semiconductor and advanced manufacturing industries;
(3) Communicate the wide range of career opportunities in the semiconductor and advanced manufacturing industries to students and their families; and
(4) Provide a variety of apprenticeship or other opportunities that enable students to earn money by working in the semiconductor and advanced manufacturing industries while simultaneously continuing coursework.

SECTION 2. The intent of section 3 of this 2023 Act is for the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to award grants to support programs and curricula at public universities listed in ORS 352.002 and community colleges operated under ORS chapter 341 that provide the best practicable education, training and research to support the semiconductor and advanced manufacturing industries in a manner that will both propel industry innovation and productivity and provide rewarding careers for residents of this state.

SECTION 3. (1) The Semiconductor and Advanced Manufacturing Talent Grant program is established within the Higher Education Coordinating Commission.
(2) Under the program, the commission shall award grants to support proposed programs or curricula at public universities listed in ORS 352.002 and community colleges operated under ORS chapter 341 that will effectively impart to students skills and proficiencies that are demonstrably in demand in the semiconductor and advanced manufacturing industries.
(3) The commission shall by rule develop the criteria it will use to determine which pro-
posed programs and curricula at public universities and community colleges will be supported by grants awarded under this section. The criteria must prioritize the awarding of grants to public universities and community colleges for programs and curricula that include:

(a) The substantial involvement of qualified educators or trainers;
(b) The participation of students who would otherwise have relatively low access to opportunities for training in the applicable skills or proficiencies;
(c) A strategic plan for sustaining the program or curriculum at an operational level for at least five years;
(d) Current or prospective support from private, nonprofit or other stakeholder groups that would meaningfully enhance available resources for the program or curriculum;
(e) Meaningful collaboration with other educational or training institutions, high technology companies, business associations or youth support organizations; and
(f) Sufficient administrative infrastructure to implement, and competently report to the commission on, the program or curriculum.

(4) When awarding grants under this section:
(a) At least 40 percent of the total amount of grant moneys awarded must be awarded to support programs or curricula at community colleges;
(b) At least 40 percent of the total amount of grant moneys awarded must be awarded to support programs or curricula at regional public universities;
(c) The minimum amount of a grant awarded under this section is $2 million; and
(d) The maximum amount of a grant awarded under this section is $15 million.

(5) The commission shall:
(a) No later than September 1, 2023, develop and make publicly accessible the criteria described in subsection (3) of this section;
(b) No later than September 15, 2023, publicly distribute requests for grant proposals from public universities and community colleges;
(c) Require that all grant applications be submitted to the commission no later than November 1, 2023;
(d) No later than January 1, 2024, announce the programs and curricula that will be supported by grants awarded under this section; and
(e) No later than February 1, 2024, make an initial installment of any grants awarded under this section.

(6)(a) The commission shall submit, in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, a report that describes the rationale for each grant awarded under this section, to both the Governor and the committees of the Legislative Assembly related to higher education, no later than February 2, 2024.

(b) The commission shall submit, in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, a report that describes the current status of the Semiconductor and Advanced Manufacturing Talent Grant program, to both the Governor and the committees of the Legislative Assembly related to higher education, no later than January 1, 2025.

(7) As used in this section, “regional public universities” means:
(a) Eastern Oregon University;
(b) Southern Oregon University; and
(c) Western Oregon University.

SECTION 4. Sections 1 to 3 of this 2023 Act are repealed on January 2, 2026.
SECTION 5. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
ated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1,
2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of $100,000,000, for the purposes of awarding grant
moneys in the manner described in section 3 of this 2023 Act.

SECTION 6. 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
July 1, 2023.