

# Senate Bill 828

Sponsored by Senators THATCHER, ROBLAN; Senator THOMSEN (at the request of Oregon Foster Families First)

## 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**.

Provides for payment of program expenses of study abroad program for eligible students in foster care.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to study abroad programs.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:**

5 (a) **"Eligible student" means a student who:**

6 (A) **Has a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better in high school;**

7 (B) **Has been in foster care, as defined in ORS 339.133, for at least six months prior to**  
8 **the time of application for a study abroad program; and**

9 (C) **Meets all academic and application requirements for a study abroad program.**

10 (b) **"Program expenses" includes:**

11 (A) **Preliminary fees for a study abroad program, including any application or transcript**  
12 **fees and any costs incurred for a passport or immunizations;**

13 (B) **Tuition, fees and books for a study abroad program;**

14 (C) **Lodging for the duration of a study abroad program;**

15 (D) **Travel to and from a study abroad program;**

16 (E) **Travel, meal and event expenses incurred while on a study abroad program; and**

17 (F) **Nominal incidentals that normally would be incurred as part of a study abroad pro-**  
18 **gram.**

19 (c) **"Study abroad program" means an education program for grade 11 or 12 that:**

20 (A) **Is accredited by an organization recognized by the Department of Education;**

21 (B) **Is for one term, semester or school year;**

22 (C) **Is provided in a country other than the United States; and**

23 (D) **Provides courses that satisfy requirements for a high school diploma, as prescribed**  
24 **under ORS 329.451.**

25 (2) **An eligible student may have the program expenses of a study abroad program paid**  
26 **for as provided by this section.**

27 (3)(a) **The Department of Education shall make a distribution for an eligible student**  
28 **participating in a study abroad program in an amount that equals the lesser of:**

29 (A) **The program expenses of a study abroad program; or**

30 (B) **An amount determined by the Department of Education each school year to equal the**  
31 **average per student distribution of moneys from the State School Fund as general purpose**

**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.

1 grants for all school districts in this state, which shall be adjusted by any weight described  
2 in ORS 327.013 (1)(c)(A) that apply to the eligible student.

3 (b) A distribution made under paragraph (a) of this subsection shall be deducted from the  
4 general purpose grant for the school district in which the eligible student is a resident.

5 (c) The State Board of Education shall prescribe by rule the manner in which distrib-  
6 utions are made under this subsection.

7 (4)(a) For the purposes of subsection (3) of this section, if the program expenses of a  
8 study abroad program are more than the amount determined under subsection (3)(a)(B) of  
9 this section, the eligible student must provide the difference between the program expenses  
10 and the amount determined under subsection (3)(a)(B) of this section in order for a distrib-  
11 ution to be made under subsection (3) of this section.

12 (b) The Department of Education or a school district may solicit and accept gifts, grants,  
13 donations and other moneys from public and private sources for the purpose of assisting an  
14 eligible student with the amount of any difference described under paragraph (a) of this  
15 subsection.

16 (5)(a) Before participating in a study abroad program, an eligible student must receive  
17 permission from the student's case manager. A denial made under this paragraph is subject  
18 to appeal:

19 (A) As provided by the public or private agency that placed the eligible student in foster  
20 care; or

21 (B) To the juvenile court.

22 (b) A denial cannot be made under paragraph (a) of this subsection solely on the basis  
23 of a proceeding in a juvenile court scheduled during the dates of a study abroad program if  
24 the proceeding relates to the eligible student's status as a foster child.

25 (6) The State Board of Education may adopt any rules necessary for the administration  
26 of this section.

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