



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Ben Cannon, Executive Director

3225 25th Street SE

Salem, OR 97302

www.oregon.gov/HigherEd

April 19, 2021

Co-Chair, Senator Lew Frederick
Co-Chair, Representative Susan McLain
Joint Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Education

Dear Co-Chairs Frederick and McLain,

Thank you for the opportunity to answer questions that arose during the **April 14, 2021** Higher Education Coordinating Commission's presentation to the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education.

On slide 74, Senator Dembrow asked whether the financial aid changes proposed in HB 2093 would be made with additional appropriations, or at the cost of awards to current students. The bill that will shortly be referred to the Ways and Means Committee has been amended by the House Education Committee in a manner that proposes the policy changes be made with additional appropriations. In the event the legislature does not appropriate all of the resources required to provide universal access to Oregon Promise grants as proposed by the bill, HECC has the statutory ability to cap eligibility on the basis of Expected Family Contribution, a federal formula calculation used as a marker of financial need in higher education. HECC has a practice of capping eligibility for new students only, ensuring that continuing students do not lose eligibility during the course of their studies.

If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Kyle Thomas, Director of Legislative and Policy Affairs, at kyle.thomas@state.or.us or at 503-480-9596.

Sincerely,

Ben Cannon
Executive Director