

LC 469
2023 Regular Session
52500-013
8/25/22 (HRL/ps)

D R A F T

SUMMARY

Specifies that term “early childhood care and education” includes early childhood behavioral and mental health services for purposes of scholarships and grants awarded to ensure state has adequate supply of early childhood care and education professionals.

Requires person to accept state and federal aid grants, institutional aid grants and scholarships made available to person to be eligible to receive scholarship. Allows for award methodology that takes into consideration other financial assistance person has received.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to scholarships for early childhood professionals; amending ORS
3 329.181; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 329.181 is amended to read:

6 329.181. (1) **As used in this section, “early childhood care and edu-**
7 **cation” includes early childhood behavioral and mental health ser-**
8 **vices.**

9 [(1)] (2) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission and the Early
10 Learning Division shall jointly administer a scholarship program and a grant
11 program designed to ensure that there is an adequate supply of highly qual-
12 ified early childhood care and education professionals in this state.

13 [(2)] (3) The commission and division shall collaborate to approve degree
14 programs for which a scholarship may be awarded under this section.

15 [(3)] (4) A person is eligible to receive a scholarship under this section

1 if the person:

2 (a) Enrolls in a program approved under subsection [(2)] **(3)** of this sec-
3 tion;

4 (b) Enrolls in a minimum of six credits, or the equivalent, per term;
5 [*and*]

6 (c) Files a Free Application for Federal Student Aid or the state
7 equivalent[.]; **and**

8 **(d) Accepts all state and federal aid grants, institutional aid grants**
9 **and scholarships made available to the person.**

10 [(4)] **(5)** A person remains eligible to receive a scholarship under this
11 section if the person:

12 (a) Remains in good academic standing; and

13 (b) Has not received the scholarship for the equivalent of four years of
14 full-time study.

15 [(5)] **(6)** The commission and division may prioritize a person currently
16 employed in a position in the field of early childhood care [*or*] **and** education
17 for receiving a scholarship under this section.

18 [(6)] **(7)** An institution of higher education may receive a one-time grant
19 under this section to develop high-quality degree programs for early child-
20 hood care and education professionals.

21 [(7)] **(8)** The Early Learning Council and the commission may adopt rules
22 necessary to implement the scholarship program and grant program admin-
23 istered as provided by this section. Rules may provide for:

24 **(a)** The reduction of the costs of the programs in the event amounts re-
25 quested under the programs exceed amounts available for the programs.

26 **(b) An award methodology for scholarships that takes into consid-**
27 **eration state and federal aid grants, institutional aid grants and**
28 **scholarships received by a person.**

29 **SECTION 2.** ORS 329.181, as amended by section 28, chapter 631, Oregon
30 Laws 2021, is amended to read:

31 329.181. **(1) As used in this section, “early childhood care and edu-**

1 **cation” includes early childhood behavioral and mental health ser-**
2 **vices.**

3 [(1)] (2) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission and the Depart-
4 ment of Early Learning and Care shall jointly administer a scholarship pro-
5 gram and a grant program designed to ensure that there is an adequate
6 supply of highly qualified early childhood care and education professionals
7 in this state.

8 [(2)] (3) The commission and department shall collaborate to approve de-
9 gree programs for which a scholarship may be awarded under this section.

10 [(3)] (4) A person is eligible to receive a scholarship under this section
11 if the person:

12 (a) Enrolls in a program approved under subsection [(2)] (3) of this sec-
13 tion;

14 (b) Enrolls in a minimum of six credits, or the equivalent, per term;
15 [and]

16 (c) Files a Free Application for Federal Student Aid or the state
17 equivalent[.]; **and**

18 **(d) Accepts all state and federal aid grants, institutional aid grants**
19 **and scholarships made available to the person.**

20 [(4)] (5) A person remains eligible to receive a scholarship under this
21 section if the person:

22 (a) Remains in good academic standing; and

23 (b) Has not received the scholarship for the equivalent of four years of
24 full-time study.

25 [(5)] (6) The commission and department may prioritize a person currently
26 employed in a position in the field of early childhood care [or] **and** education
27 for receiving a scholarship under this section.

28 [(6)] (7) An institution of higher education may receive a one-time grant
29 under this section to develop high-quality degree programs for early child-
30 hood care and education professionals.

31 [(7)] (8) The Early Learning Council and the commission may adopt rules

1 necessary to implement the scholarship program and grant program admin-
2 istered as provided by this section. Rules may provide for:

3 (a) The reduction of the costs of the programs in the event amounts re-
4 quested under the programs exceed amounts available for the programs.

5 (b) **An award methodology for scholarships that takes into consid-
6 eration state and federal aid grants, institutional aid grants and
7 scholarships received by a person.**

8 **SECTION 3. This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate pres-
9 ervation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is de-
10 clared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect on its passage.**

11
