

Legislative Fiscal Office

Oregon State Capitol
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Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Elizabeth Steiner, Senate Co-Chair
Representative Tawna Sanchez, House Co-Chair

Senator Fred Girod, Senate Co-Vice Chair
Representative David Gomberg, House Co-Vice Chair
Representative Greg Smith, House Co-Vice Chair

To: Education Subcommittee

From: Kim To, Legislative Fiscal Office

Date: June 1, 2023

Subject: HB 3565 – Relating to grant programs for members of Oregon tribes
Work Session Recommendations

HB 3565 codifies the Oregon Tribal Student Grant program to provide funding to eligible members of the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon to cover the average cost of attendance after all federal and state grants/scholarships have been applied. Awarding is prioritized for undergraduate and master's degree students. If funding is available after eligible undergraduate and master's degree students have been awarded, full or partial awards may be made to students in either professional or doctoral programs of study, and/or graduate certificates. Graduate students are not required to have participated in the grant as undergraduate students.

HECC currently administers the Oregon Tribal Student Grant program through funding provided by House Bill 5202 (2022). HECC's 2021-23 legislatively approved budget included \$19 million in support of this program. Since opening the program to applicants on May 1, 2022, HECC has disbursed funds to approximately 370 enrolled students in Fall 2022, 361 enrolled students in Winter 2023, and 388 enrolled students in Spring of 2023. As of May 30, 2023, HECC has received 272 applications for the 2023-24 school year. Because the Tribal Student Grant program is a "last dollar" program, many students have qualified for "first dollar" Oregon Opportunity Grant and federal Pell grant aid, reducing the net disbursement of Oregon Tribal Student Grant program funds. HECC estimates that of the \$19 million approved by the 2022 Legislature, approximately \$8 million will be disbursed by the end of the 2022-23 school year. Based on current level participation and disbursement, the 2023-25 Legislative Fiscal Office recommended budget for HECC includes \$24,245,859 General Fund for the Oregon Tribal Student Grant program. This amount includes funding for a permanent full-time position to administer the program.

The measure previously had hearings in the House Committee on Higher Education on 3/21/2023 and 4/4/2023 and was reported out with a do pass recommendation.

Recommended Changes

The –1 amendment removes language relating to establishing a separate and distinct fund for the program.

LFO recommends adoption of the –1 amendment.

MOTION: I move adoption of the dash 1 amendment to HB 3565. (VOTE)

Final Subcommittee Action

LFO recommends that HB 3565, as amended by the –1 amendment, be moved to the Ways and Means Full Committee.

MOTION: I move HB 3565, as amended, to the Full Committee with a do pass recommendation. (VOTE)

Carriers

Full Committee: _____

House Floor: _____

Senate Floor: _____