

House Bill 3559

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION (at the request of Higher Education Coordinating Commission)

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**.

Expands ASPIRE programs to include career pathway options.

Requires ASPIRE programs to work directly with community-based organizations and other entities with experience serving historically underserved communities. Permits programs to award grants or other support to these organizations and entities.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to ASPIRE programs; amending ORS 348.500.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 348.500 is amended to read:

5 348.500. (1) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission may establish Access to Student
6 Assistance Programs in Reach of Everyone (ASPIRE) to provide information about financial aid,
7 [and] education, [and] training **and career pathway** options beyond high school to students in
8 Oregon schools and colleges. The goals of the programs are to:

9 (a) Provide mentoring and resources to help students access education and training beyond high
10 school;

11 (b) Help Oregon schools build a sustainable community of volunteer mentors; [and]

12 (c) Educate students and families about the scholarship application process and other options
13 for paying for post-secondary education[.]; **and**

14 **(d) Encourage the completion of a college or career pathway.**

15 (2) The programs shall bring together students, school staff, community volunteers and parents
16 to help students overcome obstacles to their continuing education. The programs may provide
17 training, technical assistance and other resources to Oregon middle schools, high schools and col-
18 leges on how to establish a volunteer-based program. Adult volunteers who are trained through the
19 program may provide mentoring, training and encouragement to students about post-secondary
20 options and financial aid.

21 (3) Each year, the programs shall provide financial aid instruction to middle school, high school
22 and college students and make the instruction available to the students' families. The instruction
23 should focus on areas of academic interest or career opportunities identified as particularly relevant
24 to the students and provide information on apprenticeships or technical and occupational career
25 pathways, with a focus on local apprenticeships or local technical and occupational career path-
26 ways.

27 (4) The financial aid instruction required under subsection (3) of this section must outline:

28 (a) The different types of student loans that are available to students attending post-secondary
29 institutions of education;

30 (b) The potential use of individual development accounts established under ORS 458.675 to

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.

1 458.700 to pay for post-secondary education; and

2 (c) The short-term and long-term economic impacts of each type of student loan or individual
3 development account.

4 **(5)(a) The programs shall work directly with community-based organizations and other**
5 **entities with experience serving historically underserved communities in order to provide**
6 **these communities with information and resources designed to encourage college and career**
7 **readiness and to increase the participation of students from these communities in college**
8 **and career training.**

9 **(b) The programs may provide grants or other support to organizations and entities de-**
10 **scribed in paragraph (a) of this subsection for the purpose of delivering culturally competent,**
11 **multilingual programming and training opportunities.**

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