

House Bill 3618

Sponsored by Representative JAVADI

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**.

Removes requirement for Higher Education Coordinating Commission to include family share of cost of education when calculating student's potential award from Oregon Opportunity Grant.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to Oregon Opportunity Grant calculation; amending ORS 348.205 and 348.520.

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

3 **SECTION 1.** ORS 348.205 is amended to read:

4 348.205. (1) The Oregon Opportunity Grant program is established within the Higher Education
5 Coordinating Commission.

6 (2) Under the program, the cost of education of a qualified student shall be shared by the stu-
7 dent, [*the family of the student,*] the federal government and the state.

8 (3) The Director of the Office of Student Access and Completion shall determine the cost of
9 education of a qualified student based on the type of eligible post-secondary institution the student
10 is attending. The cost of education equals:

11 (a) For a student attending a community college, the average cost of education of attending a
12 community college in this state;

13 (b) For a student attending a public university listed in ORS 352.002, the average cost of edu-
14 cation of attending a public university;

15 (c) For a student attending a two-year Oregon-based, generally accredited, not-for-profit institu-
16 tion of higher education, the average cost of education of attending a community college in this
17 state; and

18 (d) For a student attending the Oregon Health and Science University or a four-year Oregon-
19 based, generally accredited, not-for-profit institution of higher education, the average cost of edu-
20 cation of attending a public university listed in ORS 352.002.

21 (4)(a) The director shall determine the amount of the student share. The student share shall be
22 based on:

23 (A) The type of eligible post-secondary institution the student is attending;

24 (B) The number of hours of work that the director determines may be reasonably expected from
25 the student; and

26 (C) The amount of loans that the director determines would constitute a manageable debt burden
27 for the student.

28 (b) The student shall determine how to cover the student share through income from work,
29 loans, savings and scholarships.

30 (c) The student share for a student who attends a community college may not exceed the amount
31

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 that the director determines a student may earn based on the number of hours of work reasonably
 2 expected from the student under paragraph (a) of this subsection.

3 (d) The student share for a student who attends an eligible post-secondary institution that is not
 4 a community college may not exceed the sum of the amount that the director determines a student
 5 may receive as loans plus the amount a student may earn based on the number of hours of work
 6 reasonably expected from the student under paragraph (a) of this subsection.

7 *[(5) The director shall determine the amount of the family share. The family share shall be based
 8 on the resources of the family.]*

9 *[(6)]* (5) The director shall determine the amount of the federal share based on how much the
 10 student *[or the student's family]* is expected to receive from the federal government.

11 *[(7)(a)]* (6)(a) The director shall determine the amount of the state share. The state share shall
 12 be equal to the cost of education reduced by the student share~~, family share~~ and amount received
 13 by the student from the federal government.

14 (b) The director shall establish a minimum amount that a student may receive as a state share.
 15 If the director determines that the amount of the state share of a student is below the minimum
 16 amount, the student may not receive the state share.

17 (c) The director may not reduce the amount of the state share of a student based on amounts
 18 available to the student by virtue of being the designated beneficiary of a college savings network
 19 account established under ORS 178.300 to 178.360.

20 *[(8)]* (7) Subject to subsection *[(9)]* (8) of this section, if the director determines that there are
 21 insufficient moneys to award the state share to all qualified students, the director:

22 (a) May establish the maximum amount that a student may receive as a state share. This amount
 23 may vary based on whether the student is attending an eligible post-secondary institution on a
 24 half-time or full-time basis.

25 (b) May establish procedures that prioritize awarding Oregon Opportunity Grants to qualified
 26 students with the greatest financial need or whose circumstances would enhance the promotion of
 27 equity guidelines published by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

28 (c) May not reduce the amount of the state share awarded to students in the low income range
 29 in a greater proportion than the amount that the state share for students in other income ranges
 30 is reduced.

31 *[(9)(a)]* (8)(a) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall adopt rules that prioritize
 32 current foster children and former foster children for receiving Oregon Opportunity Grants when
 33 the Oregon Opportunity Grant program does not have sufficient funding to serve all eligible Oregon
 34 students.

35 (b) For the purposes of this subsection, “former foster child” has the meaning given that term
 36 in ORS 350.300.

37 **SECTION 2.** ORS 348.520 is amended to read:

38 348.520. The Director of the Office of Student Access and Completion shall:

39 (1) Make available to qualified persons financial aid from financial sources available to the di-
 40 rector.

41 (2) Determine qualifications of persons to receive financial aid.

42 (3) Maintain reports and records on persons applying for and receiving financial aid from the
 43 director.

44 (4) Withhold any financial aid if the recipient thereof fails to maintain the standards established
 45 for receipt of that aid.

1 (5) Recommend to the Legislative Assembly not less than once every biennium matters relating
2 to the establishment, administration, modification, transfer, reduction or cancellation of financial
3 aid.

4 (6) Prior to implementing changes to the Oregon Opportunity Grant program, report to the
5 Higher Education Coordinating Commission and the Legislative Assembly or the Emergency Board
6 any proposed change:

7 (a) That increases or decreases the total amount awarded as Oregon Opportunity Grants that
8 was approved as part of the budget enacted by the Legislative Assembly for the Higher Education
9 Coordinating Commission; and

10 (b) To the methodology used to determine the student share[, *family share*] or state share under
11 ORS 348.205.

12 (7) Encourage the establishment of financial aid programs by private agencies.

13 (8) Collect and disseminate information pertaining to all types of available financial aid.

14 (9) Review the administrative practices and evaluate the effectiveness of all public and private
15 post-secondary financial aid programs in Oregon.

16 (10) Disburse state appropriations for financial aid in such a manner as to maximize its role in
17 cooperative coordination of financial aid programs.

18