



Legislative Fiscal Office  
83<sup>rd</sup> Oregon Legislative Assembly  
2025 Regular Session

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**Bill Title:** Relating to incentives for beginning agricultural operators.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:** Department of Agriculture, Higher Education Coordinating Commission

### Summary of Fiscal Impact

2025-27 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Agriculture	\$ 700,191	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 700,191	1	0.88
<b>Total Fiscal Impact</b>	<b>\$ 700,191</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 700,191</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.88</b>

  

2027-29 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Agriculture	\$ 309,928	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 309,928	1	1.00
<b>Total Fiscal Impact</b>	<b>\$ 309,928</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 309,928</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.00</b>

- The table above does not include the Other Funds expenditure limitation necessary to expend General Fund deposited by the measure into the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Incentive Fund. While the expenditure limitation will need to be established to properly budget for the impact of the measure if it is adopted, it is not reflected in the table to avoid duplication of expenses.

### Measure Description

The measure directs the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to establish a Beginning Farmer and Rancher Incentive Program to support new farmers and ranchers through financial assistance. The program may include loan repayment subsidies, stipends, and scholarships for students enrolled in agricultural training programs. ODA is required to set eligibility criteria, program terms, and distribution priorities. The measure establishes the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Incentive Fund in the State Treasury and appropriates \$400,000 General Fund to the ODA for the 2025-27 biennium for deposit into the fund to support the program.

### Fiscal Analysis

The total estimated fiscal impact of this measure is \$700,191 General Fund in the 2025-27 biennium and \$309,928 General Fund in the 2027-29 biennium. The estimated fiscal impact assumes the funding established for grants is provided on a one-time basis.

### Department of Agriculture

ODA will require one permanent full-time Program Analyst 4 position (0.88 FTE in the 2025-27 biennium and 1.00 FTE in the 2027-29 biennium) to develop rules, administer the program, and oversee financial tracking and compliance. The position will manage application systems, payment processing, and distribution of loan subsidies and scholarships. It is anticipated the position will need to exist as long as there are available funds to support the program.

Estimated one-time Attorney General costs for rulemaking in the 2025-27 biennium total \$25,000 General Fund. The program introduces new administrative and reporting responsibilities that will require development of oversight systems and fund management procedures.

The measure also establishes the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Incentive Fund in the State Treasury and appropriates \$400,000 General Fund in the 2025-27 biennium to ODA as a one-time deposit into the fund.

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Because the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) is not mentioned in the measure and the agency does not have a specified role in administering the program, passage of the measure is expected to have minimal impact on HECC as well as Oregon's public colleges and universities.

**Relevant Dates**

The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.