



Legislative Fiscal Office
83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly
2025 Regular Session

Prepared by: Michael Graham
Reviewed by: Michelle Deister, Paul Siebert, John Terpening, Kim To
Date: March 20, 2025

Bill Title: Relating to aid to students in higher education; declaring an emergency.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Legislative Policy and Research Office, Legislative Assembly, Housing and Community Services Department, Office of the Governor, Task Force/Committee/Workgroup

Summary of Fiscal Impact

2025-27 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Higher Education Coordinating Commission	\$ 16,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,500,000	1	0.88
Legislative Policy and Research Office	\$ 242,305	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 242,305	1	0.75
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ 16,742,305	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,742,305	2	1.63

2027-29 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Higher Education Coordinating Commission	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	-
Legislative Policy and Research Office	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	-
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	-

Measure Description

The measure directs the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to administer a grant program to provide funding for basic needs programming at each public institution of higher education. HECC must establish a formula for the distribution of grants awarded. The total amount of grants awarded shall be based on the percentage of community college and university students who are Oregon Opportunity Grant recipients. The measure appropriates \$10 million General Fund to HECC in the 2025-27 biennium to fund the basic needs programming grant program. HECC must submit a report to interim legislative committees related to higher education. The report must include an assessment of how the awarding of grants impacted the basic needs programming at each college and university.

The measure also establishes the 14-member Task Force on Student Housing to review and make recommendations on policy changes regarding barriers that students in higher education face in accessing affordable housing. The task force shall submit a report to interim legislative committees related to higher education. The Legislative Policy and Research Office (LPRO) shall provide staff support to the task force.

In addition, the measure directs HECC to award grants to nonprofit organizations that provide affordable housing support to low-income college and university students in Oregon. The measure appropriates \$6.5 million General Fund to HECC in the 2025-27 biennium to award affordable housing support grants.

Fiscal Analysis

The measure is anticipated to have a fiscal impact on HECC and LPRO. The estimated total fiscal impact of the measure \$16.7 million General Fund and two positions (1.63 FTE).

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

The measure appropriates \$16.5 million General Fund to HECC in the 2025-27 biennium, which includes \$10 million to administer a basic needs programming grant program and \$6.5 million to provide affordable housing support grants. Since these programs are scheduled to sunset, this is assumed to be one-time funding. To handle this increase in workload, HECC will need to hire one full-time, limited-duration Program Analyst 3 position (0.88 FTE) to oversee and manage both grant programs. The estimated cost of this position, including position-related services and supplies, is \$241,167 General Fund in the 2025-27 biennium. HECC will distribute the remaining \$16.3 million as grants in the 2025-27 biennium.

Legislative Policy and Research Office

The measure directs LPRO to provide staff support to the task force. Although LPRO's current service level budget supports interim committees and task forces, and although LPRO uses existing staff to assist task forces with their work, the work required by this task force will require additional budgetary resources.

Assuming monthly meetings over 15 months, LPRO will need one full-time, limited-duration Senior Legislative Analyst (0.75 FTE) to coordinate the work of the task force. The estimated cost of this position, including position-related services and supplies, is \$242,305 General Fund in the 2025-27 biennium. Additional support will be provided by existing LPRO staff, including one part-time Research Analyst and one part-time Committee Assistant).

Legislative Assembly

The measure is also expected to have a minimal fiscal impact on the Legislative Assembly. Although the 2025-27 Legislative Assembly budget contains funds allocated for interim committees and task forces, if the work required by this task force, or if the cumulative enactment of other legislation with interim committees and task forces, exceeds expenditure levels beyond those assumed in the 2025-27 budget, additional General Fund resources may be required.

The four members of the task force who are legislative members are entitled to per diem and travel reimbursement. However, the task force would not incur additional costs to the Legislative Assembly's budget if task force meetings are held at the State Capitol building during a legislative session, Task Force days, or Legislative Days.

Other Agencies

The measure is not anticipated to have a fiscal impact on the Housing and Community Services Department or the Office of the Governor.

Relevant Dates

The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.

The measure requires HECC to administer a basic needs programming grant and submit a report to interim legislative committees related to higher education by September 15, 2026. The grant program and reporting requirement sunset on January 2, 2027.

The Task Force on Student Housing must submit its report to interim legislative committees related to higher education by December 15, 2026. The task force sunsets on January 2, 2027.

The measure requires HECC to award grants to nonprofit organizations that provide affordable housing support to low-income college and university students in Oregon. This requirement sunsets on January 2, 2028.