



Legislative Fiscal Office  
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**Bill Title:** Relating to the Oregon National Guard.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:** Oregon Military Department, Department of Education, Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Department of Corrections, Oregon Youth Authority, Department of Human Services, Oregon Health Authority, Department of Consumer and Business Services

**Summary of Fiscal Impact**

Costs related to the measure are indeterminate at this time - see explanatory analysis.

**Measure Description**

The measure appropriates \$5 million General Fund to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and modifies the Veterans Dental Program to include individuals who are a member of the Oregon National Guard on active duty who do not have dental insurance coverage.

Additionally, the measure requires the Office of Student Access and Completion, within the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), to administer a program that provides tuition assistance to eligible dependents of members or retired members of the Oregon National Guard as outlined by the measure.

**Fiscal Analysis**

The fiscal impact of the measure is indeterminate and dependent on the population that would now qualify for the Veterans Dental Program and the tuition assistance program.

Oregon Health Authority

The fiscal impact to OHA is indeterminate and dependent on the population that would qualify and request participation in the Veterans Dental Program as allowed by this measure. While the measure appropriates \$5 million General fund to the Agency, it is unknown if this amount would be sufficient to cover the expanded population that qualifies. Currently, the Veterans Dental Program does not allow for active-duty members to participate in the program. OHA reports that their Oregon Eligibility (ONE) system would need to be reconfigured for these changes and may result in the need for additional resources to make the changes to the system.

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

The fiscal impact to HECC is indeterminate and dependent on the population that would qualify for the tuition assistance program and the funding made available to the program. The measure creates a new tuition assistance program for eligible dependents of Oregon National Guard members or retired members to attend post-secondary institutions. Although the measure references Oregon Promise which is a financial aid program for students to attend Oregon's 17 community colleges, this new financial aid program also provides tuition assistance to students attending Oregon's seven public universities, Oregon Health and Science University, and

Oregon-based not-for-profit institutions of higher education. The eligible population and utilization for this program is unknown at this time.

HECC anticipates the need of two positions to implement this new financial aid program, determine eligibility and administer awards. The positions needed include one permanent full-time Program Analyst 2 (0.88 FTE in 2025-27 and 1.00 FTE in 2027-29) and one permanent full-time Administrative Specialist 2 (0.88 FTE in 2025-27 and 1.00 FTE in 2027-29). The estimated costs of these positions, including position-related services and supply costs, is \$400,782 General Fund in the 2025-27 biennium and \$453,213 General Fund in the 2027-29 biennium. Additionally, the program is dependent on the funding available for tuition assistance and the award amount deems appropriate for qualifying members using the parameters specified by the measure. Absent sufficient funding for the grant program, the activities required by the measure may not be carried out, in full or in part, during the 2025-27 biennium.

#### Other entities

There is a minimal fiscal impact on the Department of Education.

There is no fiscal impact to the Department of Consumer Business and Service, Department of Corrections, Oregon Youth Authority, Oregon Military Department, or Department of Human Services.

#### **Relevant Dates**

The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.