

House Bill 3892

Sponsored by Representative RUIZ

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**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act creates a task force to help adult learners go back to community college. (Flesch Readability Score: 73.1).

Establishes the Task Force on Community College Adult Reconnect. Directs the task force to study and make recommendations related to assisting adult learners to overcome barriers to earning a degree or credential.

Sunsets the task force on December 31, 2026.

Declares an emergency, effective July 1, 2025.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the Task Force on Community College Adult Reconnect; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Community College Adult Reconnect is established.**

5 **(2) The task force consists of 17 members appointed by the executive director of the**
6 **Higher Education Coordinating Commission as follows:**

7 **(a) Two members from community college instructional administration;**

8 **(b) Two members who are student services administrators at a community college;**

9 **(c) Two members who are registrars at a community college;**

10 **(d) Two members who are advisors at a community college;**

11 **(e) Two members who are staff of a community college working in admissions, enroll-**
12 **ment and recruiting;**

13 **(f) Two members who are career pathways administrators at a community college;**

14 **(g) One member who is a student at a community college;**

15 **(h) Two members from the Oregon Community College Association; and**

16 **(i) Two members from the Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development in**
17 **the Higher Education Coordinating Commission.**

18 **(3) The task force shall study and provide recommendations on the following:**

19 **(a) Defining "student eligibility" for a program designed to assist adult learners to over-**
20 **come barriers to earning a degree or credential; and**

21 **(b) Developing components of the program, including:**

22 **(A) Tuition assistance;**

23 **(B) Non-tuition financial assistance, which may include child care and transportation**
24 **assistance;**

25 **(C) Specialized benefits navigators who help students to access any available resources;**

26 **(D) Solutions for how to address any past-due institutional balance;**

27 **(E) Institutional incentives designed to grant credit for prior learning; and**

28 **(F) Identifying any potential vendor for services to reconnect adult learners to a com-**

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 **munity college.**

2 **(4) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction**
3 **of business.**

4 **(5) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members**
5 **of the task force.**

6 **(6) The executive director of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall select**
7 **one member of the task force to serve as chairperson and another member to serve as vice**
8 **chairperson.**

9 **(7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-**
10 **ment to become immediately effective.**

11 **(8) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson**
12 **or of a majority of the members of the task force.**

13 **(9) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.**

14 **(10) The task force shall submit a comprehensive report in the manner provided in ORS**
15 **192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, regarding implementation of the**
16 **program described in subsection (3) of this section to the interim committees of the Legis-**
17 **lative Assembly related to higher education no later than December 15, 2026.**

18 **(11) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall provide staff support to the**
19 **task force.**

20 **(12) Members of the task force serve as volunteers on the task force and, unless they**
21 **are qualified members, as defined in ORS 292.495, are not entitled to compensation or re-**
22 **imbursement for expenses.**

23 **(13) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist**
24 **the task force in the performance of the duties of the task force and, to the extent permitted**
25 **by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task**
26 **force consider necessary to perform their duties.**

27 **(14) All appointments to the task force made under subsection (2) of this section must**
28 **be completed by the later of 90 days after adjournment sine die of the 2025 session of the**
29 **Eighty-third Legislative Assembly or October 1, 2025.**

30 **(15) The task force shall have its first meeting on or before the later of 100 days after**
31 **adjournment sine die of the 2025 session of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly or October**
32 **15, 2025.**

33 **SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2025 Act is repealed on December 31, 2026.**

34 **SECTION 3. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
35 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect**
36 **July 1, 2025.**

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