

Requested by Senator REYNOLDS (at the request of Governor Tina Kotek)

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
SENATE BILL 142**

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, line 2, after “workforce” insert “; and de-
2 claring an emergency”.

3 Delete lines 4 through 25 and delete page 2 and insert:

4 **“SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:**

5 **“(a) ‘Behavioral health care’ means services and supports for indi-
6 viduals who have mental health disorders or substance use disorders.**

7 **“(b) ‘Critical workforce shortage’ means a current or projected
8 shortage of workers within an industry or occupation that is consid-
9 ered to be critical to the well-being of the communities and economy
10 of this state.**

11 **“(c) ‘Post-secondary institution’ means:**

12 **“(A) A public university listed in ORS 352.002;**

13 **“(B) A community college operated under ORS chapter 341;**

14 **“(C) The Oregon Health and Science University; or**

15 **“(D) An Oregon-based, generally accredited, not-for-profit institu-
16 tion of higher education.**

17 **“(2) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall establish
18 a program to award grants to individuals from priority populations,
19 as defined in ORS 660.300, that may be used to cover costs incurred
20 by the individuals as a result of attendance at a post-secondary insti-
21 tution that offers eligible programs of study that the commission de-**

1 **termines are preparatory for careers in behavioral health care**
2 **shortage areas.**

3 **“(3) The commission shall determine whether a program of study**
4 **is eligible based on:**

5 **“(a) Information compiled, or recommendations made, by the**
6 **statewide industry consortia, convened under ORS 660.410, that repre-**
7 **sent the health care sector; and**

8 **“(b) Whether the program of study aligns with critical workforce**
9 **shortages at behavioral health care entities.**

10 **“(4) The commission may determine the amounts in which grants**
11 **are awarded under this section. A grant may be awarded to an indi-**
12 **vidual under this section in addition to any other form of student fi-**
13 **nanacial aid that the individual receives, as allowed by law.**

14 **“(5) The commission shall, in consultation with the Oregon Health**
15 **Authority, adopt rules to carry out this section.**

16 **“SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section:**

17 **“(a) ‘Behavioral health care’ means services and supports for indi-**
18 **viduals who have mental health disorders or substance use disorders.**

19 **“(b) ‘Critical workforce shortage’ means a current or projected**
20 **shortage of workers within an industry or occupation that is consid-**
21 **ered to be critical to the well-being of the communities and economy**
22 **of this state.**

23 **“(2) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall establish**
24 **a program to award grants to eligible entities that submit proposals**
25 **to the commission. A grant awarded under this section may be used**
26 **by an eligible entity for the following purposes:**

27 **“(a) Addressing barriers to education and training program devel-**
28 **opment and expansion, including but not limited to, hiring faculty and**
29 **staff, curricula development, clinical placement capacity and equip-**
30 **ment purchases;**

1 **“(b) Providing wraparound workforce development services;**
2 **“(c) Providing paid clinical hours;**
3 **“(d) Offering tuition and fee assistance for workforce programs; and**
4 **“(e) Other activities identified in a grant proposal submitted under**
5 **this section that are necessary to administer workforce programs de-**
6 **scribed under this section.**

7 **“(3) An eligible entity that may receive a grant under this section**
8 **includes:**

9 **“(a)(A) A public university listed in ORS 352.002;**

10 **“(B) The Oregon Health and Science University;**

11 **“(C) A community college operated under ORS chapter 341; and**

12 **“(D) An Oregon-based, regionally accredited independent institution**
13 **that offers programs of study determined by the commission to be**
14 **preparatory for careers in behavioral health care shortage areas;**

15 **“(b) A workforce service provider, as defined in ORS 660.400, that**
16 **administers workforce programs in behavioral health care and prior-**
17 **itizes equitable program participation by individuals from priority**
18 **populations, as defined in ORS 660.300;**

19 **“(c) A community-based organization, including:**

20 **“(A) A nonprofit organization that is representative of a particular**
21 **community or specific segments of a community, and is located**
22 **within, or in close proximity to, the community served by the organ-**
23 **ization; and**

24 **“(B) A culturally specific organization that serves a particular cul-**
25 **tural community, is primarily staffed and led by members of that**
26 **community and that demonstrates intimate knowledge of the lived**
27 **experience of that community; and**

28 **“(d) A behavioral health care entity.**

29 **“(4) The commission shall award the grants under this section on**
30 **a competitive basis, taking into consideration proposals that:**

1 “(a) Describe how the eligible entity is addressing a behavioral
2 health care critical workforce shortage in behavioral health care set-
3 tings;

4 “(b) Describe how the eligible entity intends to engage with behav-
5 ioral health care employers to provide workforce development oppor-
6 tunities for individuals from priority populations;

7 “(c) Describe how the eligible entity intends to collaborate with one
8 or more of the following to increase accessibility to workforce pro-
9 grams and opportunities for priority populations:

10 “(A) Workforce service providers, as defined in ORS 660.400;

11 “(B) Community-based organizations, as defined in ORS 660.390;

12 “(C) Kindergartens and elementary and secondary schools;

13 “(D) Community colleges;

14 “(E) Education and training partners;

15 “(F) Local workforce development boards, as defined in ORS 660.300;

16 “(G) Economic development organizations;

17 “(H) Industry associations; and

18 “(I) Universities, as defined in ORS 660.350; and

19 “(d) Prioritize opportunities to leverage the use of other funding
20 sources, including federal funds and private sector gifts, grants, do-
21 nations and other contributions, toward workforce programs and op-
22 portunities.

23 “(5) In awarding the grants under this section, the commission shall
24 consult with the Oregon Health Authority and statewide industry
25 consortia, convened under ORS 660.410, that represent the health care
26 sector.

27 “(6)(a) An eligible entity that receives a grant under this section
28 shall submit a report at the intervals and in the manner required by
29 the commission. The report must include, insofar as the information
30 is relevant to the eligible entity:

1 “(A) The number of individuals who have registered for or com-
2 pleted a workforce program in behavioral health care;

3 “(B) The job placement rate for, and income earnings by, individ-
4 uals described in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph;

5 “(C) The number of individuals from priority populations who re-
6 ceive services or benefits from workforce programs administered by
7 the eligible entity; and

8 “(D) A description of the types and amounts of wraparound
9 workforce development services that the eligible entity provides.

10 “(b) In prescribing the form and manner of the report described in
11 this subsection, the commission shall seek to minimize the adminis-
12 trative burden imposed on the entities to the extent practicable.

13 “(c) The commission shall continually compile the information de-
14 scribed in paragraph (a) of this subsection from eligible entities that
15 receive grants under this section, in a manner that disaggregates the
16 data by race, age, gender and geographical area.

17 “(7) The commission may, in consultation with the authority and
18 the statewide industry consortia, adopt rules to carry out this section.

19 “SECTION 3. (1) As used in this section, ‘behavioral health care’
20 means services and supports for individuals who have mental health
21 disorders or substance use disorders.

22 “(2) The Oregon Health Authority shall establish a program to
23 award grants to eligible entities. The grants awarded under this sec-
24 tion must be used to foster the recruitment and retention of behav-
25 ioral health care providers at the eligible entities.

26 “(3) The following entities are eligible to receive grants under this
27 section:

28 “(a) Mental health disorder or substance use disorder crisis
29 hotlines;

30 “(b) Urban Indian health programs operated by an urban Indian

1 organization pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 1651 et seq.;

2 “(c) School-based behavioral care entities;

3 “(d) Recipients of the authority’s tribal mental health program

4 grants; and

5 “(e) Other entities that are not hospitals, that provide behavioral

6 health care to adults or youths, of which at least 50 percent are

7 uninsured or enrolled in the state medical assistance program or in

8 Medicare, and that:

9 “(A) Have been certified by the authority to provide behavioral

10 health care;

11 “(B) Are qualified medical providers who can provide office-based

12 medication-assisted treatment services;

13 “(C) Provide behavioral health care through a program contracting

14 with or administered by the Oregon Youth Authority;

15 “(D) Provide behavioral health care rehabilitation services through

16 a program contracting with or administered by the Department of

17 Human Services;

18 “(E) Are licensed opioid treatment programs;

19 “(F) Provide withdrawal management services;

20 “(G) Are sobering centers; or

21 “(H) Are culturally and linguistically specific service organizations

22 or programs approved by the authority to receive enhanced payments.

23 “(4) An entity that receives a grant under subsection (2) of this

24 section may use the funds to provide the following to behavioral

25 health care providers, in an effort to increase the recruitment and

26 retention of behavioral health care providers at the entity:

27 “(a) Scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students going

28 into the behavioral health care field;

29 “(b) Loan forgiveness and repayment incentives;

30 “(c) Housing assistance;

1 **“(d) Sign-on bonuses;**
2 **“(e) Retention bonuses;**
3 **“(e) Wage increases;**
4 **“(f) Professional development;**
5 **“(g) Child care subsidies;**
6 **“(h) Tuition assistance;**
7 **“(i) Bonuses and stipends for supervisors of interns; and**
8 **“(j) Stipends for students enrolled in graduate behavioral health**
9 **care educational programs.**

10 **“(5)(a) An entity that receives a grant under subsection (2) of this**
11 **section shall report to the authority, in the form and manner pre-**
12 **scribed by the authority, on how the entity spent the grant and how**
13 **the expenditures impacted the recruitment and retention of behavioral**
14 **health care providers at the entity. The report must include, as appli-**
15 **cable to the entity, the following information:**

16 **“(A) The licensure, certification or position type of each behavioral**
17 **health care provider who received an incentive listed in subsection (4)**
18 **of this section;**

19 **“(B) The number of individuals from priority populations, as defined**
20 **in ORS 660.300, who receive services or benefits from workforce pro-**
21 **grams administered by the entity, and the data described in ORS**
22 **413.161 in regard to each individual;**

23 **“(C) The amount of grant moneys spent per behavioral health care**
24 **provider; and**

25 **“(D) The entity’s staffing vacancy rate prior to receiving the grant**
26 **under subsection (2) of this section and after receiving the grant under**
27 **subsection (2) of this section.**

28 **“(b) In prescribing the form and manner of the report described in**
29 **this subsection, the authority shall seek to minimize the administra-**
30 **tive burden imposed on the entities to the extent practicable.**

1 **“SECTION 4. (1) As used in this section:**

2 **“(a) ‘Behavioral health care’ means services and supports for indi-**
3 **viduals who have mental health disorders or substance use disorders.**

4 **“(b) ‘Critical workforce shortage’ means a current or projected**
5 **shortage of workers within an industry or occupation that is consid-**
6 **ered to be critical to the well-being of the communities and economy**
7 **of this state.**

8 **“(2) The Oregon Health Authority and the Office of Rural Health**
9 **may enter into an intergovernmental agreement through which the**
10 **authority disburses moneys to the office for the purpose of funding a**
11 **grant program administered by the office. The grant program must**
12 **award loan repayment and forgiveness grants to behavioral health**
13 **care providers who are identified by the office as critical workforce**
14 **shortage behavioral health care providers.**

15 **“(3) The intergovernmental agreement described in this section**
16 **must include a requirement that the office report to the authority in**
17 **order to facilitate the authority’s participation in the reporting de-**
18 **scribed in section 5 of this 2025 Act.**

19 **“SECTION 5. (1) In consultation with the Oregon Health Authority,**
20 **the Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall annually review**
21 **the grant programs established under sections 1 to 4 of this 2025 Act**
22 **to assess the performance and expenditure outcomes of the grant**
23 **programs. In evaluating the grant programs, the commission shall**
24 **compile the following information, disaggregated by priority popu-**
25 **lation and grant program type as is practicable:**

26 **“(a) The number of individuals who receive grants or who partic-**
27 **ipate with eligible entities that receive grants awarded under sections**
28 **1 to 4 of this 2025 Act;**

29 **“(b) The completion rates for any programming and services offered**
30 **by eligible entities that receive grants under sections 1 to 4 of this 2025**

1 **Act;**

2 **“(c) The education and employment outcomes of individuals de-**
3 **scribed in paragraph (a) of this subsection; and**

4 **“(d) The expenditures for and types of support services provided by**
5 **eligible entities that receive grants under sections 1 to 4 of this 2025**
6 **Act.**

7 **“(2)(a) Not later than June 30 of each year, the commission shall**
8 **submit a report, in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, to the Gov-**
9 **ernor and to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly re-**
10 **lated to the behavioral health workforce. The report must include the**
11 **information described in subsection (1) of this section for the calendar**
12 **year immediately preceding the year in which the report is submitted**
13 **and may include any recommendations for future investments and**
14 **opportunities to leverage private and federal funding to support be-**
15 **havioral health workforce investments.**

16 **“(b) The report must also include, based on the information ob-**
17 **tained from the annual review described in subsection (1) of this sec-**
18 **tion, baseline estimates of statewide workforce participation rates that**
19 **include, at minimum, long-term employment projections for the be-**
20 **havioral health workforce, and projections related to post-secondary**
21 **educational attainment needs and how the grant programs established**
22 **in sections 1 to 4 of this 2025 Act contribute to the statewide workforce**
23 **participation.**

24 **“SECTION 6. There is appropriated to the Higher Education Coor-**
25 **minating Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, out of**
26 **the General Fund, the amount of \$25,700,000 for the purpose of carry-**
27 **ing out the provisions of sections 1, 2 and 5 of this 2025 Act.**

28 **“SECTION 7. There is appropriated to the Oregon Health Authority,**
29 **for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, out of the General Fund, the**
30 **amount of \$13,838,520 for the purpose of carrying out the provisions**

1 of sections 2, 3 and 5 of this 2025 Act.

2 **“SECTION 8. There is appropriated to the Oregon Health Authority,**
3 **for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, out of the General Fund, the**
4 **amount of \$8,911,458 for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of**
5 **sections 3 and 4 of this 2025 Act.**

6 **“SECTION 9. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate**
7 **preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is**
8 **declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect on July 1, 2025.”.**

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