



Oregon Teacher Scholars Program Grant

Description

This fact sheet provides information about the Oregon Teacher Scholars Program Grant. The Office of Student Access and Completion (OSAC) is an office of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC). For more information, visit OregonStudentAid.gov.

Based on recommendations from the Oregon Educator Equity Advisory Group (OEEAG) for meeting the state's Educator Equity Goal (ORS 342.437), the Legislature created the Oregon Teacher Scholar Program Grant (OTSP) in 2017 to reduce financial barriers for racially, ethnically, and linguistically diverse educator candidates pursuing preliminary teacher licensure at in-state educator preparation programs (ORS 348.295). Through the passage of HB 3178 in 2023, awards were increased to \$12,000 per year and eligible candidates now include those pursuing school counseling, social work, and psychology (ORS 348.295). OTSP is administered by the Office of Student Access and Completion (OSAC) within the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), in partnership with the Educator Advancement Council (EAC), and the Oregon Department of Education.

Eligibility

Students must meet all the eligibility and application requirements below.

- Submit the Oregon Teacher Scholars Program Grant application AND the FAFSA or ORSAA by the appropriate deadline.
- Be culturally diverse or linguistically diverse.
- Be an Oregon resident for at least 12 months prior to college attendance.
- Attend and be in good standing at an eligible Oregon four year-public and nonprofit college or university.
- Be enrolled and pursuing an approved preliminary licensure program in teaching, school counseling, school social work, and school psychology by Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC).
- Be within two years of completing a licensure program (or the equivalent number of remaining credits for part-time programs).
- Students may be subject to eligibility requirements based on their Student Aid Index (SAI). SAI eligibility requirements are subject to change based on OTSP fund availability.

Eligible students can attend any Oregon four-year public university or eligible Oregon-based private, non-profit college and receive the Oregon Teacher Scholars Program Grant. The school must offer and provide programs that lead to one of the OTSP eligible licensure programs approved by TSPC.

Awarding

Awarding Requirements

Funding the Oregon Teacher Scholars Program Grant is limited. Recipients who meet the OTSP application and eligibility requirements will be considered for award authorization if they meet the following:

- Complete the OTSP Grant application and FAFSA/ORSAA by the appropriate application deadline.
- Meet the diversity eligibility requirements.
- Receive college verification on licensure program enrollment the OSAC's internal verification process with the college.

If there are more eligible recipients than there are funds available, students may be selected based on financial need.

Award Amount

Currently award amounts are set to be \$12,000 per year assuming full-time full-year attendance. A full year is defined as attending terms/semesters from Fall through Spring terms/semesters. OTSP does not award funds summer terms. As of 2024-25 school year, awards are prorated for students who are attending less than full-time, but at least half-time.

Results

Outcomes

The Oregon Teacher Scholars Program has had successful growth since its inception. Starting with individual awards with a maximum of \$5,000 in 2018 to \$12,000 in 2024, we can see the importance of funding for future multicultural/multilingual educators. The program's recent update to include other TSPC licensure programs ensures the grant is applicable to a wider range of educators that contribute to a student and district academic environment. With increased demand, every year, we have seen a general increase in submitted applications and overall awardees.

By the numbers

Academic Year	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025 ¹
Applications Submitted	269	338	324	333 ¹
Total Awarded Students	182	167	176	204 ¹
Maximum Award per Student	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$12,000	\$12,000 ¹
Total Dollars Awarded	\$1,680,006	\$1,615,000	\$2,059,680	\$2,201,000 ¹

¹The 2024-25 school year is still an active year. Thus, data information for 2024-25 is subject to change.

By the licensures*

License Type	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	Total
Preliminary Teaching (including conditional licenses)	33	49	67	83	84	75	391
Restricted Teaching		1	3	8	4	16	32
Emergency Teaching				6		4	10
Restricted Substitute Teaching				2	1	2	5
Charter School Registry – Teaching				1		1	2
Emergency Substitute Teaching				1			1
District Substitute Teaching					1	7	8
Restricted Administrator			1				1
Restricted Counselor						1	1
Professional Teaching			1				1
Total	33	50	72	101	90	106	452

*Licensures data for the 2024-25 academic year is not yet available.

Graduation and Employment of Oregon Teacher Scholars

Oregon Teacher Scholars Grant recipients have high graduation rates (94 percent at the graduate level and 87 percent at the undergraduate level across all cohorts) and go on to work in education at high rates (89 percent across degree levels and cohorts). Below are graduation rates and employment outcomes for grant recipients who attended one of the public universities in Oregon. Graduation rates are defined as earning a degree within two years of receiving the grant for master’s degree students and earning a degree within three years of receiving the grant for bachelor’s degree students. Employment data come from the Oregon Employment Department and show the percentage of Teacher Scholars graduates who are employed in Oregon in the education industry in the second academic year after completing their degree.

Graduation rates of Oregon Teacher Scholars Recipients at public universities, by award year and student level.

	Awarded 2018-19	Awarded 2019-20	Awarded 2020-21	Awarded 2021-22	Awarded 2022-23
Master’s degree students who graduated within two years of first receiving grant	100% (18 of 18)	87% (20 of 23)	89% (40 of 45)	95% (39 of 41)	98% (44 of 45)
Bachelor’s degree students who graduated within three years of first receiving grant	89% (8 of 9)	87% (13 of 15)	85% (45 of 53)	89% (25 of 28)	N/A

Percent employed in education in the second year after graduation, among Oregon Teacher Scholars public university graduates, by graduation year.

	Graduated 2018-19	Graduated 2019-20	Graduated 2020-21	Graduated 2021-22
Employed in education industry	87%	95%	92%	84%