

## CHAPTER 53

AN ACT

HB 4035

Relating to tuition assistance for members of the Oregon National Guard; and declaring an emergency.

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

**SECTION 1.** Section 2 of this 2018 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 348.

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

(a) "Community college" means a community college operated under ORS chapter 341.

(b) "Good standing" means the qualified student has a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher at the community college or public university listed in ORS 352.002 at which the student is enrolled.

(c) "Qualified student" means a student who:

(A) Has not achieved a baccalaureate or higher degree from any post-secondary institution;

(B) Is enrolled and in good standing in an:

(i) Associate degree granting program at a community college; or

(ii) Undergraduate baccalaureate degree granting program at a public university listed in ORS 352.002;

(C) Is a member of the Oregon National Guard;

(D) Has completed basic training with the Oregon National Guard or a National Guard of any other state or territory;

(E) Has completed and submitted the Free Application for Federal Student Aid for each academic year, if eligible to file the application; and

(F) Has accepted all state and federal aid grants available to the student, including but not limited to federal grants offered by the United States Department of Education and the United States Department of Defense.

(2) A qualified student shall receive a grant under this section in an amount that equals the resident tuition charges at the community college or public university listed in ORS 352.002 at which the qualified student is enrolled, after the

amount of resident tuition is reduced by any amounts received by the qualified student in state and federal aid grants. Grants provided under this section shall be awarded to a qualified student for up to:

(a) 90 credit hours at a community college; or

(b) 180 credit hours at a public university listed in ORS 352.002.

(3) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall adopt any rules necessary for the administration of this section, including but not limited to any requirements related to:

(a) Specifying the form and timelines for submitting an application for a grant under this section;

(b) Determining whether a person is eligible for a grant under this section; and

(c) Prescribing grant calculations for qualified students dually enrolled in a community college and a public university.

**SECTION 3.** Section 2 of this 2018 Act first applies to grants awarded for the 2018-2019 academic year.

**SECTION 4.** (1) There is appropriated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, for the biennium ending June 30, 2019, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$2,500,000 for the purpose of providing grants for Oregon National Guard members under section 2 of this 2018 Act.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the General Fund appropriation made to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission by section 1 (1), chapter 595, Oregon Laws 2017, for the biennium ending June 30, 2019, is increased by \$200,095 for costs related to the grant program established in section 2 of this 2018 Act.

**SECTION 5.** This 2018 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2018 Act takes effect on its passage.

Approved by the Governor April 3, 2018

Filed in the office of Secretary of State April 3, 2018

Effective date April 3, 2018