

OPPORTUNITY SHOULDN'T BE OPTIONAL

Expand the Oregon Opportunity Grant With a \$458 Million Investment



Serving more than 30,000 students each year, the OOG isn't just financial aid—it's often the difference between accessing higher education and being left behind.

Support Students With A \$458 Million Investment for 2025–2027

Oregon's public universities, community colleges, and private colleges and universities are united with students in requesting a **\$458 million investment in the OOG for the 2025–2027 biennium**. This funding will:

- **Expand eligibility** to include students with a Student Aid Index (SAI) up to 10,000, ensuring more low- and middle-income students can access this critical resource.
- **Increase award amounts** to address rising costs of tuition and living expenses, providing meaningful support to more Oregon students.
- **Help more students graduate** by reducing financial barriers, improving retention, and reducing student debt.

What is the OOG?

The **Oregon Opportunity Grant (OOG)** is Oregon's largest need-based financial aid program for postsecondary students, helping them afford tuition, books, and other essential expenses while pursuing their degrees. The program currently provides vital financial support to over 30,000 Oregon residents pursuing their first associate or bachelor's degree at public universities, community colleges, and private colleges and universities across the state.

For many Oregonians, financial aid is the key to accessing higher education and building a better future. The OOG is a critical resource for students as they overcome financial barriers and pursue degrees that lead to higher-paying jobs, career advancement, and long-term financial stability.

Impact of the OOG

- By 2031, 72% of jobs in the U.S. are projected to require at least some postsecondary education. **The OOG has a successful history of improving access to higher education for lower-income students**, expanding their ability to pursue the degrees needed to fill these critical roles and contribute to the state's economic success.
- The OOG is empowering students to access higher education and stay on track to graduate. **Students who receive the OOG consistently match or outperform their higher-income peers in key measures such as retention and credit completion.**

THE AFFORDABILITY CHALLENGE

While the OOG makes a meaningful difference for thousands of students each year, thousands of lower- and middle-income students still remain without access to this vital resource due to funding limitations. As costs for housing, food, and other essentials rise, students face difficult decisions about how to make ends meet while staying on track to graduate. **Expanding the OOG is essential to ensuring that more Oregonians can afford to complete their education and contribute to the state's economy and communities.**

