



**Docket Item:**

Division 67 - Oregon Guard National State Tuition Assistance program temporary rules

**Summary:**

The 2018 Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 4035 which established a new grant program for members of the Oregon National Guard. This “last dollar” program can be used for resident tuition at Oregon public universities and community colleges, once all state and federal aid has been utilized. The Higher Education Coordinating Commission’s Office of Student Access and Completion has been working with the Oregon National Guard to write these rules and clarify eligibility criteria that was left out of the bill. Both agencies will also establish an application process and plan to start awarding grant funds to students for this year’s fall term.

**Docket Material:**

Temporary Rule Text

**Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommends approval of the temporary rules for the new Oregon National Guard State Tuition Assistance program established by HB 4035 (2018).

# Oregon National Guard State Tuition Assistance Temporary Administrative Rules

## Division 067 – Oregon National Guard State Tuition Assistance

**Statutory/Other Authority:** 2018 Oregon Laws Chapter 53

**Statutes/Other Implemented:** 2018 Oregon Laws Chapter 53

575-067-0001 Definitions

575-067-0005 Student Eligibility Requirements

575-067-0010 Application Process

575-067-0015 Oregon National Guard State Tuition Assistance Calculation

575-067-0020 Record Keeping

### **575-067-0001**

#### **Definitions**

(1) “Eligible institution” means any Oregon community college operated under ORS chapter 341 or any Oregon public university listed in ORS 352.002.

(2) "Full-Time Enrollment" means registration and payment of required tuition and fees as a full-time student, at an eligible institution or combination of eligible institutions, based on a minimum of 12 credit-hours per academic term. Students attending more than one eligible institution must meet the definition of concurrently enrolled as defined in OAR 575-030-0005(8) to be considered full-time.

(3) “Good standing” means the qualified student has a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher and is maintaining satisfactory academic progress as defined by the institution in accordance with federal Title IV regulations and guidelines.

(4) "Half-Time Enrollment” means registration and payment of required tuition fees as a half-time student, at an eligible institution or combination of eligible institutions, based on 6 to 11 credit-hours per academic term.

(5) “Home Institution” means the institution that grants a certificate or degree upon the student’s completion of an eligible program. It is the institution that determines the student’s eligibility for federal and state financial aid, disburses funds to the student, and is responsible for determining applicant eligibility.

(6) “Tuition” means the amount charged to a student for a course and is based upon the number of credit hours for which the course is offered.

### **575-067-0005**

#### **Student Eligibility Requirements**

(1) In order to be eligible, a student must:

(a) Not have achieved a baccalaureate or higher degree from any post-secondary institution;

(b) Be enrolled and in good standing in an associate degree granting program or an undergraduate baccalaureate degree granting program at an eligible institution;

(c) Be a member of the Oregon National Guard and attending all scheduled unit training assemblies and annual training periods and not currently the subject of any adverse actions under the provisions of any Army, Air Force or National Guard Regulations;

(d) Have completed any military basic training in the United States Armed Forces;

(e) Complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for each academic year and accept all state and federal aid grants available;

(f) Have completed a National Guard Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) request, if eligible, and have accepted all state and federal aid grants available, including but not limited to federal grants offered by the United States Department of Education and the United States Department of Defense; and

(g) Not be in default on any federal Title IV loan or owe a refund on federal Title IV funds previously disbursed, unless the institution disbursing funds determines that the student has made satisfactory arrangements to repay and has regained federal eligibility.

(2) The Oregon National Guard will confirm subsections (c) and (d) of section 1 of this rule. Eligible institutions will confirm subsections (b), (f) and (g) of section 1 of this rule. The Higher Education Coordinating Commission will confirm subsections (a) and (e) of section 1 of this rule.

(3) It is the responsibility of the student to notify the Higher Education Coordinating Commission of any FTA awards.

(4) A student continues to remain eligible to receive an Oregon National Guard State Tuition Assistance award until the student has 90 credit hours attempted at an eligible Oregon community college, or 180 credit hours attempted at an Oregon public university, but not both.

(5) A student must be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as at least a half-time undergraduate student at an eligible institution.

(6) In order to remain eligible for the Oregon National Guard State Tuition Assistance, students must remain in good standing.

(8) Students attending eligible institutions may not receive an award in excess of the amount of resident tuition minus all state and federal aid grants available to the student. The source of the relevant tuition information shall be published annually by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

**575-067-0010****Application Process**

- (1) Students shall submit an Oregon National Guard State Tuition Assistance application in addition to submitting a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by August 1 prior to enrollment in the next academic year. The deadline is 5:00 pm (PST or PDT). If a deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, it will automatically be extended to 5:00 pm (PST or PDT) on the following business day.
- (2) HECC may waive the requirement set forth in section (1) of this rule for a student who was unable to complete an Oregon National Guard State Tuition Assistance application due to a significant hardship or whose completion of active duty basic training requirements occurs after August 1 prior to the academic year for which they wish to enroll.

**575-067-0015****Oregon National Guard State Tuition Assistance Calculation**

- (1) An eligible student shall receive an award in an amount that equals the resident tuition charges at the eligible institution up to full-time enrollment.
- (2) For the Oregon National Guard Tuition Assistance program, a dually enrolled, or co-enrolled, student is a student who attends more than one eligible institution during the same academic term or year under a written consortium agreement or concurrent enrollment program.
- (3) For students who are dually enrolled in two or more colleges, the Oregon National Guard State Tuition Assistance award will be based on the tuition charged by the student's home institution.

**575-067-0020****Record Keeping**

- (1) Each eligible institution shall maintain sufficient records to document its activities relating to the program.
- (2) Each eligible institution shall make its academic and financial records available to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission at reasonable times for the purpose of assuring that the institution is complying with the rules relating to the administration of the program.