

Fact Sheet for New Students & Families: Oregon Promise Awarding for 2019-20

April 2019

This fact sheet is for new Oregon Promise applicants and their families. The information refers to Oregon Promise awarding for the 2019-20 academic year. The Office of Student Access and Completion (OSAC) is an office of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC). For more information, visit OregonPromise.org.

Contact info@oregonpromise.org with questions.

OSAC has started awarding the Oregon Promise Grant to new students (Class of 2019) who will begin college in Fall 2019.

How can I check my status? I haven't received any emails from OSAC.

1. Log in to the [OSAC Student Portal](#) to view your Oregon Promise status. In the Portal, click "Messages" to view all emails that OSAC has sent you.
2. Check your Spam/Junk box in your email account on a regular basis.
3. **TIP:** Add OSAC email addresses as contacts, so they don't go to Spam/Junk in the future. Add these emails: info@oregonpromise.org; oregonpromise@hecc.oregon.gov; and noreply@hecc.oregon.gov. Learn how to [add contacts in Gmail](#).

My award status in the OSAC Student Portal says "PENDING." What does this mean?

If your [Expected Family Contribution](#) (EFC) is at or above the *tentative* EFC limit of 18,000, you may or may not be awarded the Oregon Promise Grant. You should:

1. **Check the [OSAC Student Portal](#) at the beginning of August for a final decision** about whether or not you're awarded the grant. OSAC will also send you an email in early August.
2. If you've been selected for FAFSA verification, contact your college financial aid office as soon as possible to complete this. You must complete this in order to receive any state or federal financial aid.

In early August 2019, OSAC will notify you via email (and in the OSAC Student Portal) about whether or not you've been awarded the grant. OSAC will determine a *final* EFC limit by August. The final EFC limit may remain at 18,000 or it may be adjusted higher in August to award additional students. This will depend on available funds. The Oregon Legislature will determine program funding during the coming months.

Students with an EFC at or above 18,000 are not guaranteed to receive the Oregon Promise Grant in 2019-20. Students and families should plan accordingly.

You can seek out other financial aid opportunities at your college and with local, regional, and national organizations. Another place to search for scholarship opportunities is the [College Board Big Future website](#). You can apply for [OSAC Scholarships](#) in future years. The OSAC Scholarship Application opens each year on November 1 and the annual deadline is March 1.

What's my Expected Family Contribution (EFC)?

Your EFC is a number that is calculated according to financial and other information that your family submits on the FAFSA or ORSAA. You can find your EFC in your [FAFSA or ORSAA](#) account:

- In your [FAFSA account](#), find your EFC on the 2019-20 confirmation page. Contact [Federal Student Aid](#) if you need help.
- In your [ORSAA account](#), select the blue arrow icon to download the PDF of your ORSAA. Your EFC is on the last page of the PDF document. Contact ORSAAHelp@hecc.oregon.gov if you need help.

[If you have not filed the 2019-20 FAFSA or ORSAA yet, submit it now!](#) Your EFC is not the amount of money your family will have to pay for college nor is it the amount of financial aid you will receive. Learn more about the [Expected Family Contribution calculation](#).

I haven't applied for Oregon Promise yet. Can I still apply?

YES. If you will graduate high school or obtain your GED® test credential between March 1 - June 30 2019, you can apply now. Find your [application deadline and learn how to apply](#).

Most students must apply by June 1* at 5:00pm.

- *My EFC is below 18,000 and I haven't applied for Oregon Promise. Can I apply now?*
 - **Yes.** If you are eligible and apply for Oregon Promise by your [application deadline](#), you can be awarded soon and plan ahead for college. OSAC will continue to make awards to eligible applicants with EFCs below 18,000 during the coming months. Most students must apply by **June 1 at 5:00pm.**
- *My EFC is at or above 18,000 and I haven't applied for Oregon Promise. Can I apply now?*
 - **Yes.** If you apply by your [application deadline](#) and your EFC is at or above the *tentative* EFC limit of 18,000, you will receive a "Pending" award status message until early August. In early August, OSAC will make award decisions based on a *final* EFC limit. You may or may not be awarded the grant, depending on available funds. Most students must apply by **June 1 at 5:00pm.**

Not sure what your EFC is? Apply for Oregon Promise now!

Regardless of your EFC, you will only be considered for the grant if you complete all application requirements by your [application deadline](#). Most students must apply by **JUNE 1 at 5:00pm.**

*If deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, it is automatically extended to 5:00 pm on the next business day.