

General Fact Sheet: Oregon Promise Awarding for 2019-20

April 2019

This fact sheet provides information about Oregon Promise awarding and eligibility criteria 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.

How much funding will Oregon Promise receive in 2019-21?

The Oregon Legislature will make a final determination about the 2019-21 Oregon Promise budget by July 2019. Based on communication from the Oregon legislature, the HECC anticipates that the State will invest a total of \$30 million in the Oregon Promise Grant for the 2019-21 biennium. Legislative leadership has directed the HECC to begin awarding students with a *tentative Expected Family Contribution (EFC) limit* for the 2019-20 year based on the anticipated investment. The \$30 million investment would allow Oregon to extend grants for current awardees and add grants for upcoming new cohorts of eligible students entering community college in the next two years. However, the proposed funding would fall short of the projected cost to fully fund the program (including all new applicants) during 2019-21. If the Oregon Legislature approves additional funds beyond a \$30 million investment, then the HECC may be able to award additional students in August 2019.

Note: The Oregon Legislature is currently in session and has not made a final determination about Oregon Promise funding for 2019-21. The Oregon Legislature will make the final determination by July 2019, per HB 5024. The HECC will release another awarding update in early August 2019, after the 2019 Legislative Session concludes.

Oregon Promise has started the awarding process for 2019-20. What does this mean for new students?

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

- Only eligible applicants with an [Expected Family Contribution](#) (EFC) *below* 18,000 have been awarded the grant for 2019-20. *The tentative EFC limit for 2019-20 is 18,000.*
- Applicants with an EFC *at or above* 18,000 have a “Pending” award status. By August, OSAC will establish a *final EFC limit* for 2019-20. OSAC will email students in early August about whether or not

they are awarded the grant. Applicants with EFCs at or above 18,000 are NOT guaranteed to receive the grant in 2019-20.

By August 2019, OSAC will determine and announce the *final EFC limit* based on the budget approved by the Oregon Legislature. 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.

Fact Sheet for New Students & Families

For new students (Class of 2019) who will begin college in Fall 2019, please read the **Fact Sheet for New Students & Families**. The Fact Sheet answers these questions:

- *How can I check my status? I haven't received any emails from OSAC.*
- *My award status in the OSAC Student Portal says "PENDING." What does this mean?*
- *What's my Expected Family Contribution (EFC)?*
- *I haven't applied for Oregon Promise yet. Can I still apply?*

NOTE: Regardless of a student's EFC, they will only be considered for the grant if they apply by their **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.

What are the awarding criteria for continuing Oregon Promise recipients?

For students who began receiving the Oregon Promise Grant in 2018-19 or earlier, they are **not** subject to any EFC limit in 2019-20. These students can be eligible for the grant in 2019-20, regardless of their EFC. Students must **meet all requirements** for renewal of the grant, including filing the FAFSA or ORSAA by **June 1**. OSAC will begin emailing students in June 2019 with renewal award information.

What are the awarding criteria for applicants in future years?

For students who graduate in *March 2020 or later*, OSAC has not determined if there will be an Expected Family Contribution limit. OSAC evaluates available funds on an annual basis to determine if and where to establish an EFC limit for each new group of applicants. OSAC may decide to adjust or eliminate the EFC limit in future years, depending on available funds. OSAC typically announces any EFC limit information for the upcoming year in early spring. All awards are subject to action and adjustments by the Oregon Legislature.