



Report to the Oregon Legislature: Annual Oregon Administrative Rules Report

ORS 183.403, 2025



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2025 Annual Oregon Administrative Rules Report, December 2025. Developed by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Office of the Executive Director.

Learn more about the Higher Education Coordinating Commission at www.oregon.gov/highered.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ORS 183.403(2) requires state agencies to report to the Legislative Assembly by February 1 of each year on all Oregon Administrative Rules the agency adopted, amended, repealed, or suspended during the preceding 12-month period. The report must include:

- **For permanent rules:** The number of rules adopted, amended, or repealed in accordance with Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 183.335(2) and 183.335(3).
- **For temporary rules:** The number of rules adopted, amended, or suspended using the procedure described in ORS 183.335(5); a list of the rules; a statement of need for each rule and all of the agency's findings that a failure to act promptly would result in serious prejudice to the public interest or the interest of parties concerned; and for each rule, an explanation of why proceeding under ORS 183.335(5)--temporary adoption--was the most appropriate method for adopting, amending, or suspending the rule, and why it was not appropriate to proceed in accordance with ORS 183.335(2) and (3)--permanent adoption.

This report includes all rules that the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) adopted, amended, repealed, or suspended between January 1 and December 31, 2025.

The HECC's rule chapters include:

- Chapter 575 - Office of Student Access and Completion
- Chapter 583 - Office of Degree Authorization
- Chapter 589 - Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development
- Chapter 715 - Higher Education Coordinating Commission

In 2025, the HECC permanently adopted, amended, or repealed 44 rules (15 permanent rule adoptions, 29 permanent rule amendments, and zero permanent rule repeals) across its four chapters. It approved seven temporary rules: six within Chapter 575 - Office of Student Access and Completion related to the Oregon Teacher Scholars Program, and one within the Office of Degree Authorization related to alignment with federal regulation on accreditation, detailed further in the remainder of this report.

For more information on HECC's rulemaking processes, visit our [administrative rule webpage here](#).

CHAPTER 575 - OFFICE OF STUDENT ACCESS AND COMPLETION

Rules Adopted, Amended, or Repealed via Permanent Action [ORS 183.335(2) and (3)]

Rule Action	Number of Rules
Adopted	2
Amended	5
Repealed	0

Temporary Rules Adopted, Amended, or Suspended [ORS 183.335(5)]

Rule Action	Number of Rules
Adopted	2
Amended	4
Suspended	0

CHAPTER 575 TEMPORARY RULE ACTIONS IN 2025

The following temporary actions were taken to implement changes to the Oregon Teacher Scholars Program (OTSP) with the passage of HB 3026 (2025).

575-066-0002 - Amend

The rule amendment was needed to reference the definition of "diverse" to ORS 342.433. Additionally, it clarified and added definitions for "eligible institution," "half-time enrollment," "full-time enrollment," "residency," and "teacher candidate" to align with both Teacher Standards and Practices Commission language and other HECC definitions for financial aid administration.

575-066-0006 - Amend

The need for amending this rule was to correct the language, as the eligible teacher preparation programs are published by the Teachers Standards and Practices Commission and not the HECC. The amended rule also removed the language that a student must meet be diverse to be eligible for the grant, and amended the language that a student must have experience with diverse populations to align with statutory changes in HB 3026 (2025).

575-066-0007 - Adopt

The adoption of this rule ensured continuing eligibility for students who were awarded the OTSP grant prior to the program changing with HB 3026, and ensuring they could continue to be renewal-eligible after the program changes took place.

575-066-0011 - Amend

The need for amending this rule was to allow the HECC to prioritize the awarding to students who are close to completion if funding is insufficient to award a grant to each eligible student, as well as their financial need.

575-066-0016 - Amend

The need for amending this rule was to implement statutory language from HB 3026 (2025) that students must present information relating to their experience with diverse populations as part of their application for the grant.

575-066-0021 - Adopt

The reason for adopting this rule was to outline recordkeeping requirements for eligible Oregon colleges and universities relating to student records for the OTSP. This rule also allowed the HECC to review students' records who are participating in the program to ensure the school is in compliance with the program. The language aligns with other financial aid programs administered by HECC.

Justification for Temporary Filing

HB 3026 (2025) was signed into law on June 24, 2025. It states that the amendments to ORS 348.295 by Section 5 of the bill are to be applied upon bill passage, which impacted the 2025-26 academic year. The 2025-26 academic year started with the 2025 fall term, which for most Oregon colleges and universities, began in August and September 2025. The amended statute also required a new application for the Oregon Teacher Scholars Program (OTSP) grant in order to have students apply with the new statute language for the upcoming academic year. Emergency rulemaking action was also required due to legal litigation determined by the Oregon Department of Justice. Failure to adopt and amend the rules in July 2025 would have meant that the program could not re-open the application process or award students for the 2025-26 academic year properly.

Any student eligible for the Oregon Teacher Scholars Program was impacted by the rule change. The average number of students who received annual awards from 2021-2025 was 168 per year. This also impacted the colleges who serve the students in these eligible licensure programs.

If the rules were not in place as soon as possible, it would have delayed the awarding process for the start of the 2025-26 academic year, affecting students' ability to continue with their applicable program of study to become teachers, school psychologists or counselors, or school social workers.

By moving forward with the emergency rule process, HECC was able to start receiving new applications, reviewing them with the new eligibility criteria and began the awarding process for the OTSP for the 2025-26 academic year prior to the beginning of the fall term, which began in August 2025 for semester schools.

CHAPTER 583 - OFFICE OF DEGREE AUTHORIZATION

Rules Adopted, Amended, or Repealed via Permanent Action [ORS 183.335(2) and (3)]

Rule Action	Number of Rules
Adopted	0
Amended	6
Repealed	0

Temporary Rules Adopted, Amended, or Suspended [ORS 183.335(5)]

Rule Action	Number of Rules
Adopted	0
Amended	1
Suspended	0

CHAPTER 583 TEMPORARY RULE ACTION IN 2025

583-030-0020 - Amend

It came to the attention of the Office of Degree Authorization (ODA) that a federal regulation, 34 CFR § 602.28 (a), prohibits institutional accreditors from bestowing accreditation or pre-candidacy of accreditation on postsecondary schools that do not already have state authorization to legally operate. This conflicted with the requirement in OAR 583-030-0020 (2) which required accreditation or pre-candidacy of accreditation *prior* to an institution's application for authorization by the HECC. These conflicting federal and Oregon rules effectively prohibited any new, unaccredited postsecondary institution obtaining either accreditation or applying for Oregon authorization.

Justification of Temporary Filing

Prior to the temporary rule action in July 2025, OAR 583-030-0020 and 34 CFR §602.28 (a) conflicted with one other, requiring both the ODA and accreditors, alternatively, to wait for the other to approve a school first. Any unapproved (in Oregon), unaccredited school was impacted by this rule action.

The rule change was the only way the Commission could, within its sole authority, address this situation.

The change allowed for provisional approval by the state of Oregon, so that a school could qualify for institutional accreditation, or pre-candidacy of accreditation, by an institutional accrediting body.

CHAPTER 589 - OFFICE OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Rules Adopted, Amended, or Repealed via Permanent Action [ORS 183.335(2) and (3)]

Rule Action	Number of Rules
Adopted	0
Amended	5
Repealed	0

Temporary Rules Adopted, Amended, or Suspended [ORS 183.335(5)]

Rule Action	Number of Rules
Adopted	0
Amended	0
Suspended	0

CHAPTER 715 - HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING COMMISSION

Rules Adopted, Amended, or Repealed via Permanent Action [ORS 183.335(2) and (3)]

Rule Action	Number of Rules
Adopted	13
Amended	13
Repealed	0

Temporary Rules Adopted, Amended, or Suspended [ORS 183.335(5)]

Rule Action	Number of Rules
Adopted	0
Amended	0
Suspended	0

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