

**Dave Porter**  
**1113 SE Cora Street**  
**Portland, Oregon 97202**

12/4/14

To: Members of the Oregon Board of Education,

My public comment for the December 11-12th Board meeting:

My hope is that you will continue to seek ways to pay for Oregon high school students to study abroad. For 2012-13, Report #51 of the Oregon Department Of Education shows a statewide annual "Operating Expenditures per Student" of \$9,364. Below, as an example, are the fees for ASSE study abroad programs. Note that school year study abroad programs to thirty different countries each cost less than the annual operating expenditures per student in Oregon.

From the ASSE online website ([http://asse.com/United\\_States/fees\\_forms.htm](http://asse.com/United_States/fees_forms.htm)):

**Preliminary Application Fee:**  
( Exclusive of Program Fee ) **All Programs \$200**  
All candidates for acceptance in the ASSE Exchange Program must complete the attached Preliminary Application form (or you can apply on-line) in full and submit it with a \$200 cheque for processing to ASSE. This fee is refundable if you are not accepted into the ASSE program. Consideration for acceptance and country of preference will be based upon your qualifications and the date of receipt of this application.

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<b>Program Fees: School Year or Semester**</b> (August/September 2015 Departure)***				
Poland	Sweden	Norway	Finland	Italy
Czech Rep	Slovakia	Germany	Portugal	Estonia
Ukraine	Holland	Lithuania	Romania	Moldova
Spain	Denmark	Switzerland	Turkey	\$8490
France				\$9830
Mexico				\$7140 †
English Canada				\$9940 †
French Canada				\$13100 †
New Zealand ( July departure )				\$9650
Thailand ( July departure )				\$8100
China				\$9100
Taiwan				\$7980
Mongolia, Vietnam				\$8950
<b>Semester only** ( August/September 2015 Departure )***</b>				
Great Britain				\$8040
<b>School Year or Semester** ( Spring 2016 Departure )***</b>				
Australia ( depart January )				\$13050
Japan, Korea ( depart March )				\$9100
Argentina, Brazil ( depart January )				\$7050
South Africa ( depart January )				\$8590
Thailand ( depart May )				\$8100

From the ASSE online website ([http://asse.com/United\\_States/about\\_asse.htm](http://asse.com/United_States/about_asse.htm) )

ASSE was established in 1976 as the American Scandinavian Student Exchange by the Swedish Government to organize student exchange programs between Sweden and the United States. Soon Denmark, Norway and Finland elected to participate.

At present, ASSE works closely with the Canadian provincial education ministries and is approved by the Ministry of Education in New Zealand. ASSE maintains 38 offices in 31 countries and accommodates more than 30,000 high school age students and host families annually in its programs in the participating countries

Oregon should find a way to pay for these study abroad programs for Oregon high school students.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely - Dave Porter

