

## Oregon State Board of Education

*May 19, 2016*

<p><b>SUBJECT:</b> Establishment of Post Graduate Scholar Programs / 581-021-OAR # and Post Graduate Scholar Programs</p> <p><b>STAFF NAME &amp; OFFICE:</b> Jennell Ives, Teaching and Learning</p> <p><b>SUMMARY:</b> During the 2016 legislative session SB 1537 establishing post graduate scholar programs passed. The Department of Education is creating rules to govern this legislative action.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>New Rule</b>    <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Amend Existing Rule</b>    <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Repeal Rule</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Consent Agenda</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>First Reading</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Action (Adoption)</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Information</b></p>
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### **BACKGROUND**

There have been concerns about the use of state school funds by districts to offer “5<sup>th</sup> year” programs to students. In the effort to create targeted programs that limit the use of state school funds, SB1537 establishes guidelines and criteria for the establishment of post-graduate scholar programs. The State Board of Education has the responsibility of creating rules to govern the programs established under this legislation. Oregon Department of Education will collect data on the participation and costs of these programs and convene stakeholder groups to review data and discuss implementation of the programs for the purpose of creating recommendations for legislation to establish appropriate and permanent funding mechanisms for post-graduate scholar programs. The report will be given to the legislature no later than November 1, 2018.

The rules before the Board establish the criteria for implementing post-graduate scholar programs and eligibility of students participating in these programs.

### **SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION**

This is a new topic for the Board.

### **POLICY ISSUE OR CONCERNS (IF APPLICABLE)**

Stakeholder groups were involved in the drafting of the legislation. There have been discussions with stakeholders about the implementation of the legislation, but there have been concerns about the timing of the guidance.

Issues:

- 1) To participate in post-graduate scholar programs students must have completed the FAFSA, if eligible and either be ineligible for federal aid grants or be eligible for a grant in aid less than the average cost of tuition, books and fees at an Oregon Community College. The Office of Student Access and Completion will be setting this amount. It was decided to use prior year cost and tuition numbers to help provide timely information to school districts.
- 2) For ease of understanding it is recommended that we use the definition of “legal residence” that corresponds with the State School Fund definition.

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- 3) There are concerns from the field about programs that are designed to be 5 year programs. This legislation requires that students have the opportunity to complete graduation requirements within 4 years and not be counseled to take 5 years.

### **CHANGED SINCE LAST BOARD MEETING? (IF APPLICABLE)**

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- N/A; first read—hasn't been before board  
 No; same as last month  
 Yes - As follows:

### **EFFECT OF A "YES" OR "NO" VOTE (AS APPROPRIATE)**

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This legislation has an emergency clause and goes into effect upon passage. School Districts are in need of guidance and rules as they are already advising students on their participation in post-graduate scholar programs for fall 2016 implementation.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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- Approve     Approve next month     No recommendation at this time

**Hearing Date:**

**Prompted by:**

- State law changes     Federal law changes     other

### **FISCAL ANALYSIS (AS APPROPRIATE)**

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Need to get from Cindy

### **ATTACHMENTS (e.g., OAR with "track changes" ...)**

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Attachment 1: