

# A-Engrossed Senate Bill 81

Ordered by the Senate March 30  
Including Senate Amendments dated March 30

Printed pursuant to Senate Interim Rule 213.28 by order of the President of the Senate in conformance with pre-session filing rules, indicating neither advocacy nor opposition on the part of the President (at the request of Senate Interim Committee on Education and Workforce Development)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Requires tuition for certain courses offered at community college to be waived if person meets specified criteria.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to waiver of tuition for community college courses; and declaring an emergency.

**Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

**SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2015 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 341.**

**SECTION 2. (1) The tuition for courses described in subsection (2) of this section shall be waived for a person who meets the criteria described in subsection (3) of this section.**

**(2) Tuition shall be waived for a course that is:**

**(a) Offered at a community college in this state; and**

**(b) Required for a certificate or associate degree, as determined by rules adopted by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission.**

**(3) Tuition shall be waived for courses described in subsection (2) of this section if a person meets the following criteria:**

**(a) Has been a resident of this state for at least 12 months prior to beginning the courses;**

**(b) Attained the person's highest level of education in this state prior to:**

**(A) Receiving a diploma under ORS 329.451;**

**(B) Receiving a General Educational Development (GED) certificate as provided by ORS 351.768; or**

**(C) Completing grade 12 in compliance with the requirements of ORS 339.035;**

**(c) Attained the person's highest level of education as described in paragraph (b) of this subsection within two years from the date that tuition was first waived as provided by this section;**

**(d) Has not had tuition waived as provided by this section for more than four years from the date that tuition was first waived as provided by paragraph (c) of this subsection;**

**(e) Has completed and submitted the Free Application for Federal Student Aid for the academic year and has accepted all state and federal aid grants available to the person;**

**(f) Has maintained a grade point average of 2.5 or better for each term during which the**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **person has had tuition waived as provided by this section; and**

2 **(g) Has not earned more than 90 quarter hours, or the equivalent, at a post-secondary**  
3 **institution of education.**

4 **(4) The amount of tuition waived as provided by this section shall be the amount the**  
5 **person owes after subtracting:**

6 **(a) \$50 to be paid by the person for each term; and**

7 **(b) Any amounts received by the person as state and federal aid grants.**

8 **(5) Nothing in this section requires a person to be enrolled as a full-time student.**

9 **(6) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall adopt any rules necessary for**  
10 **the administration of this section, including:**

11 **(a) The timelines and form by which a community college shall seek and receive re-**  
12 **imbursement from the commission for amounts of tuition waived as provided by this section;**  
13 **and**

14 **(b) Academic advising requirements that the community college and the person must**  
15 **satisfy to help ensure that the person earns a certificate or degree.**

16 **SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2015 Act first applies to courses enrolled in for the 2015-2016**  
17 **academic year.**

18 **SECTION 4. This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**  
19 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect**  
20 **on July 1, 2015.**

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