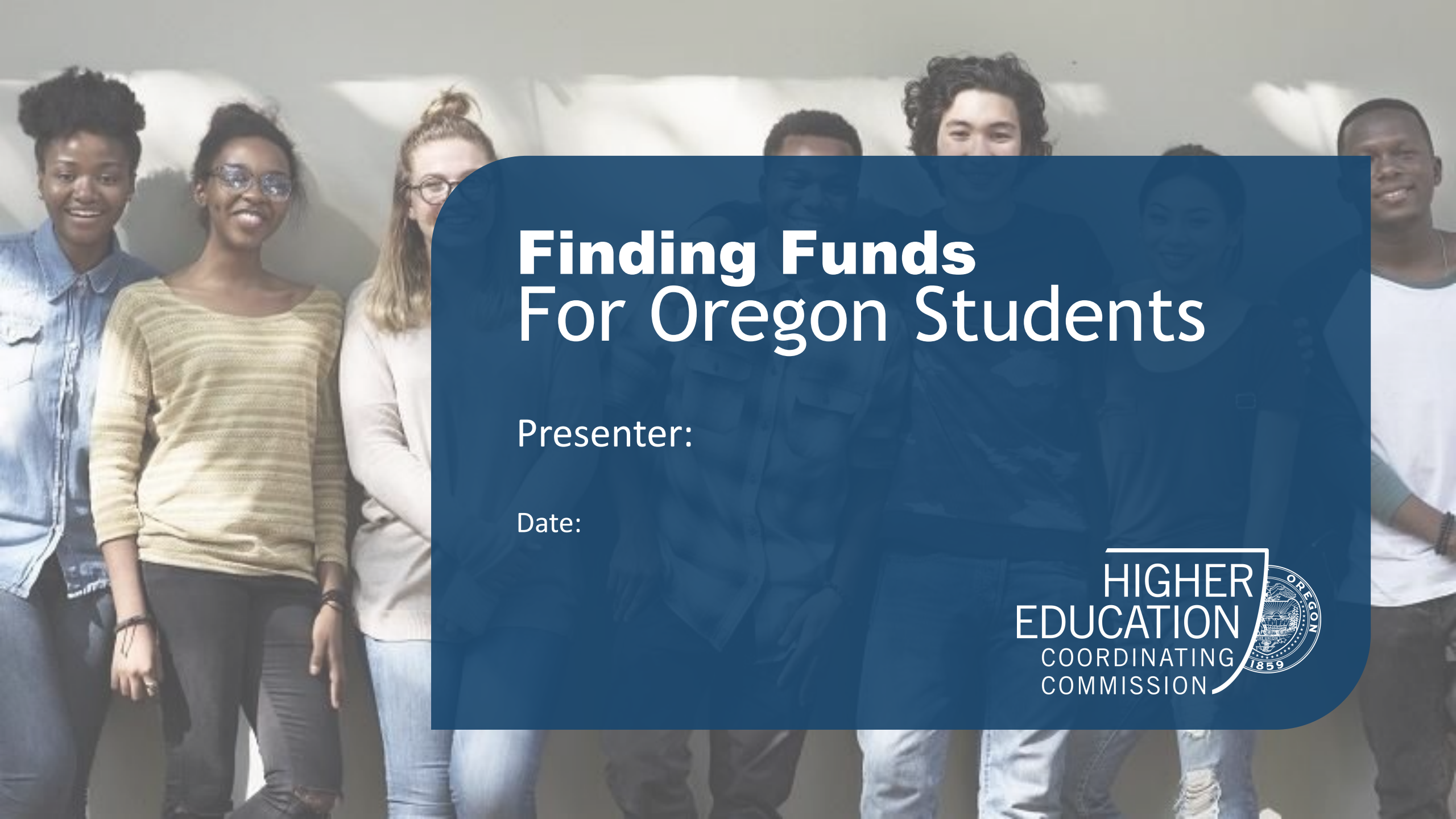


Finding Funds
For Oregon Students

Presenter:

Date:

HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING COMMISSION

Key Topics



Financial Aid Terms



FAFSA/ORSAA



Grant Programs



Scholarship Applications

Quick Tips For

Getting Started

Stay Organized



Store usernames, passwords, deadlines

Legal Name



Use your legal name on all applications

Email



Use professional email and check it

Get To Know Different Ways To

Pay for College

Grants

Funding Source:
- Federal and State

Details:
- Need-based
- No repayment

Scholarships

Funding Source:
- Privately funded

Details:
- No repayment
- OSAC, local, national

Work Study

Funding Source:
- Federal

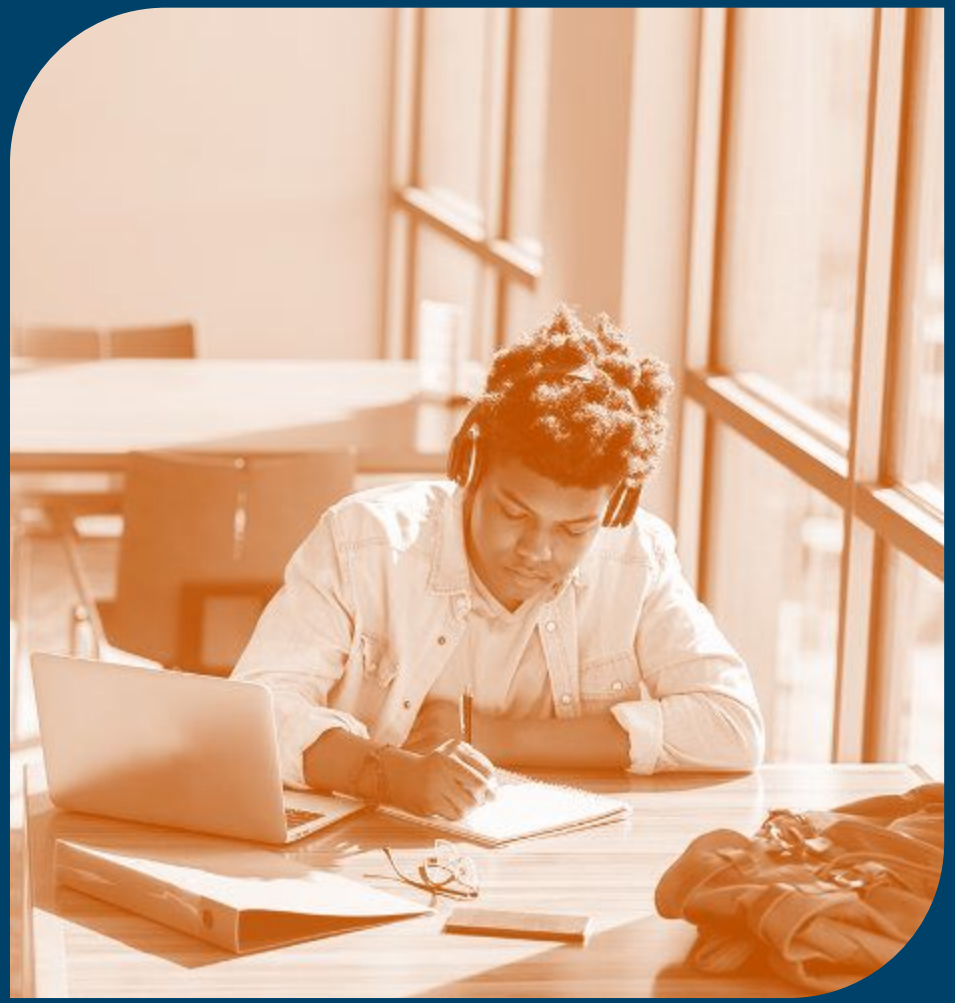
Details:
- On & off campus employment

Loans

Funding Source:
- Federal & Private

Details:
- Must be repaid with interest

Cost of Attendance



Cost of Attendance (COA)

- **"Sticker Price"** to attend a college
  - Average college costs including tuition, fees, books, misc. and living expenses
  - It is NOT your bill
- Costs can **vary from school-to-school**
- Used to **determine a student's financial need** calculation

Student Aid Index



Student Aid Index (SAI)

- **A formula** used to determine your eligibility for financial aid
  - Determined by data reported on the FAFSA/ORSAA
  - It is not your bill
  - Formally EFC
- Used to **determine a student's financial need** calculation

Financial Need



Financial Need

- **A formula** used to determine the amount of need-based aid you can receive

  COA - SAI = Financial Need

Cost of Attendance – Expected Family Contribution = Financial Need

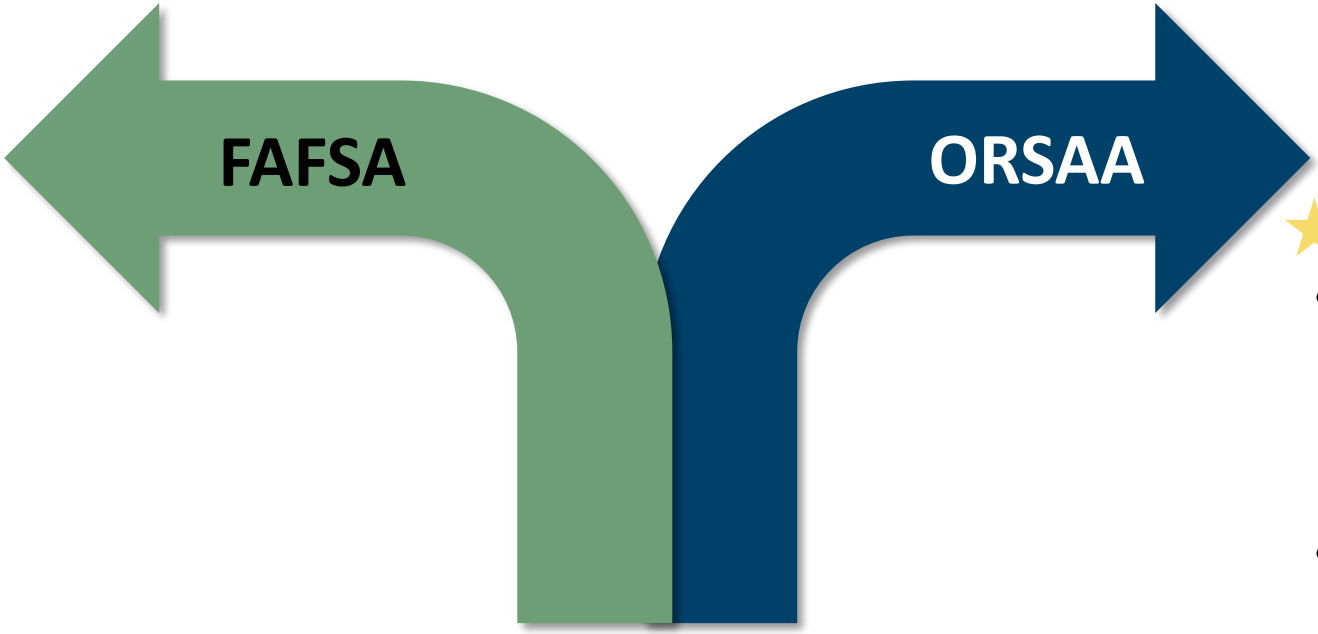
- **You cannot** receive more need-based aid than the amount of your financial need

Overview

FAFSA/ORSAA

FAFSA:

- Opens Oct 1
- U.S. Citizens or eligible non-citizens
- Used to access Federal and State financial aid, and many scholarships
- Updated Form



Only File 1

If you are unsure which form to complete use the OSAC FAFSA/ORSAA filter tool

ORSAA:

- Likely Opens in Dec
- Oregon students who are undocumented, or have DACA/TPS status
- Used to access state financial aid, and many scholarships
- Updated Form

The OSAC Student Portal



Create a Student Account

- Applications and Awards:
  - Oregon Promise Grant
  - Chafee Grant
  - Child Care Grant
  - Oregon Tribal Student Grant
  - OR National Guard State Tuition Assistance
  - OSAC Scholarships

OregonStudentAid.Gov

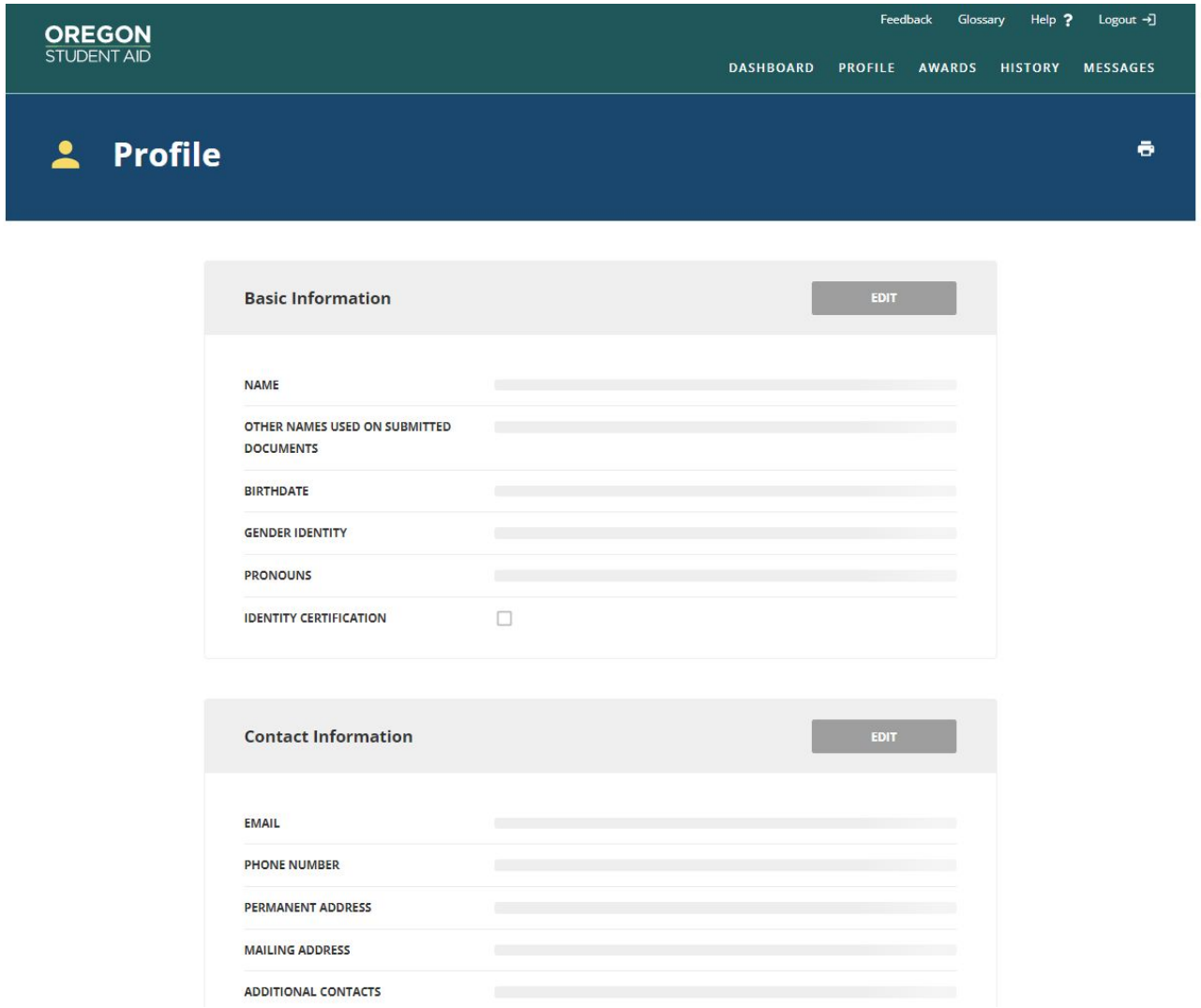
Creating An

OSAC Portal Account

1. Use your legal name, make sure it is the same name as the one on your FAFSA/ORSAA

2. Password must be 12 characters including digits, upper case letter, lower case letter, and symbol (e.g. @$%)

https://app.oregonstudentaid.gov/



Getting To Know The

Oregon Opportunity Grant

Supports undergraduate students at eligible Oregon colleges

Maximum award for 2023-24 (full time)

- Community College- $3,900
- 4-Year Institution- $7,524

Open to all Oregon residents who meet EFC limit and FAFSA/ORSAA deadline

No additional application, students only need to file a FAFSA/ORSAA as soon as possible after the forms open

Getting To Know The

Oregon Promise Grant

Helps pay tuition costs at an Oregon Community College

Must begin community College immediately, within 6 months of HS/GED® graduation



New HS or GED® test graduates

- 2.0 cumulative GPA
- 145+ on all GED tests

EFC may be considered, and EFC criteria is subject to change

More Information About The

Oregon Promise Grant

How to Apply:

1. File your FAFSA/ ORSAA, list an Oregon Community College
2. Complete the Oregon Promise application in the OSAC Student Portal



Amount:
In 2025-2026

1. Full-time students: $2,202-$4,
2. Oregon Promise award amount depends on several factors

Deadlines

Oregon Promise Grant

I am graduating from:	I am graduating during this time:	Deadline to complete both: Oregon Promise App and FAFSA/ORSAA	You must start community college by this term:
High School or Home School	**March 1 – June 30**	**June 1**	Fall
	July 1 – Nov. 30	Nov. 1	Winter
	Oct. 1 – Feb. 29	Feb. 1	Spring
GED® Program	**March 1 – June 30**	**July 10**	Fall
	July 1 – Nov. 30	Dec. 10	Winter
	Oct. 1 – Feb. 29	March 10	Spring



You must apply DURING senior year before graduation or immediately after GED® test completion

Part 1

OSAC Grant Programs

Chafee Training Grant:

For foster youth under 26 years old

Oregon Tribal Student Grant:

For members of Oregon's Federally recognized tribes

Oregon National Guard State Tuition Assistance:

For current and drilling members of Air/Army Guard

Deceased/ Disabled Public Safety Officer Grant:

For dependents of officers harmed in the line of duty

Part 2

OSAC Grant Programs

Barber & Hairdresser Grant:

For students with financial need attending participating programs

Student Child Care Grant:

For students with children age 12 and under

Oregon Teacher Scholars Grant:

For ethnically diverse and/or a heritage speakers of a language other than English in the final two years of an approved Oregon preliminary teacher licensure program.

What Are The Parts Of The

OSAC Scholarships

Student Profile:
Basic contact information and background questions

Personal Statements:
Three required essays and one optional essay that helps you tell your story



Other Documentation:
Additional information required by some scholarships

Activities Chart
A breakdown of your school and volunteer activities and paid work

Transcripts:
List of classes and grades, must be uploaded to the portal

One application… up to 600 scholarships

Mark Your Calendars

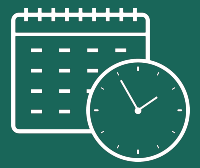
OSAC Scholarship Timeline



Nov 1

OSAC Scholarship Opens

Students can start the OSAC scholarship application



OCT 1

FAFSA/ORSAA Opens

Students and families can start the FAFSA or ORSAA



FEB 15

Early Bird Deadline

Submit error free application by 5pm (PST) and you could be eligible to win a $1,000 scholarship



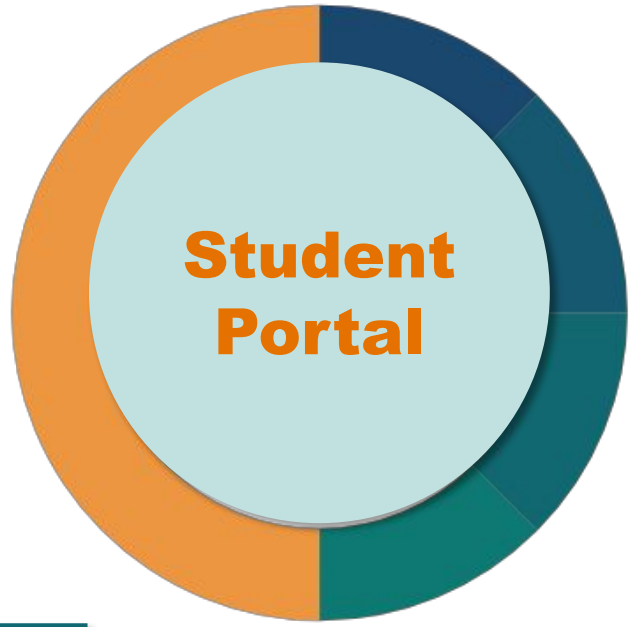
April 1

Final Deadline

Application and all required documents Submitted by April 1st

What Happens

Next



Check your **Application Status Message**, in your student portal

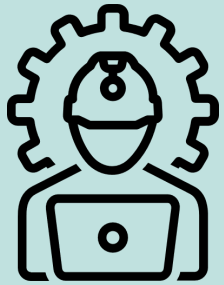
Update your email, contact info, and college plans

Check your student portal April - August to see if you've been awarded

If awarded accept or decline the award, write a thank you letter, celebrate

Examples Of

OSAC Scholarships



Fred Fields

$4,000 - $10,000

Industrial Engineering, Business, or CTE majors @ a CC

Trail Blazers Legend

Up to $2,500

Oregon HS graduates, Community Service

More Examples Of

OSAC Scholarships



Franz and Kathryn Stenzel I

$5,000
Medical-field, HS GPA 2.75+, College GPA 2.5+



Franz and Kathryn Stenzel II

$5,000
Non-traditional, first-gen students, non-medical field

All About The OSAC Scholarship Application

Transcripts



Details

- A missing or incomplete transcript is the only reason your OSAC scholarship will be rejected
- Students may request that their High School Registrar upload the transcript
- Scan and upload the transcript
- Mail a hardcopy, please remove or render illegible the Social Security Number

Tips!

- *Transcripts sent via email will not be accepted*

All About The OSAC Scholarship Application

Transcripts



High School Students:

- Must include grades 9-11
- Must include 12th grade fall term grades (usually ready in Jan/Feb)

Home School Students:

- See our website for additional instructions

College Students

- Transcript must include all classes through fall term

All About The OSAC Scholarship Application

Personal Statements



Details

- 3 required essays, 1 optional essay
- 250 word limit per essay

Fact

- Statements are designed for you to tell a complete picture of yourself

Myth

- *"You need to have a traumatic experience"* for your application to stand out
- Share your authentic experience!

Tip!

- *You may be able to use these statements for other scholarship applications!*
- *Try not to repeat info like GPA*

What Are The Personal Statement

Prompts

1. **Required:** What are your specific educational plans and career goals and why? What motivates you to achieve them?

2. **Required:** What have you done for your family, school or community, that you care about the most and why?

3. **Required:** Describe a personal accomplishment, impactful change, or experience that has occurred in your life. What skills and strengths were needed to respond and what did you learn about yourself.

4. **Optional:** Is there any additional information you would like the selection committee members to know. This could include financial situations not reflected on the FAFSA/ORSAA or other information not covered in the application. This statement is not required and will not have any negative effect on the application if left blank.

All About The OSAC Scholarship Application

Activities Chart



Details

- You are limited to 20 activities

- Include:
  - Dates
  - Hours logged
  - Responsibilities accomplished for each activity

- Include:
  - School activities
  - Volunteering (community and family)
  - Paid work history

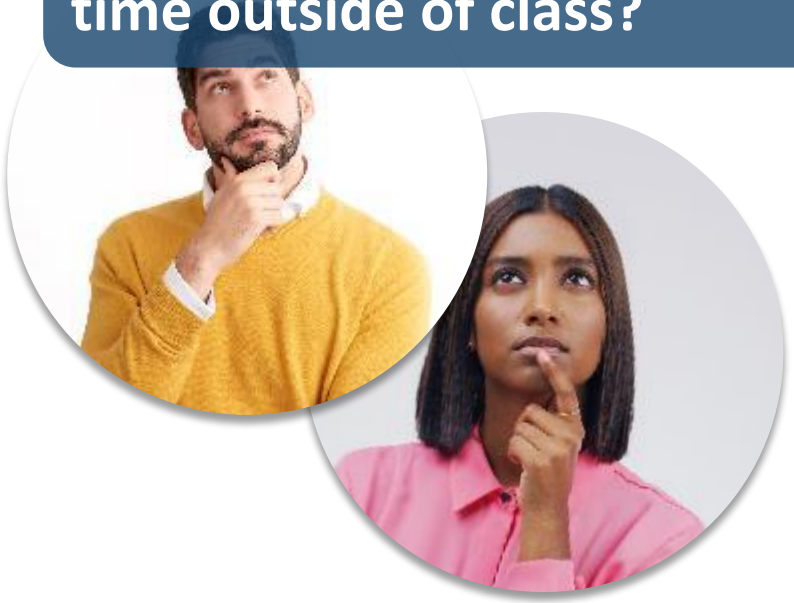
Tip!

- *Try and include a mix of activities that help you look well-rounded*

Application Tips

Telling Your Story





How do you spend your time outside of class?

- School Activities
- Volunteer Activities
- Academic Awards
- Family Responsibilities
- Employment

More Tips:

JR and SR: Build a resume

All Grades: Maintain an activities log

OSAC Scholarship Application Tips:

How to Stand Out

Volunteering



Highlight any community service you've done

Extracurricular



Feature sports, clubs, & activities you engage in

Unique skills



Share your unique skills or accomplishments

OSAC Scholarship Application Tips:

Who Reads Your Application?



Former Teachers



Donors



Volunteers

What does this mean for you?

Tip:
Answer the entire question

Tip:
Avoid using slang, abbreviations, and humor

Tip:
Avoid repeating the question

Tip:
Proofread your application and get feedback

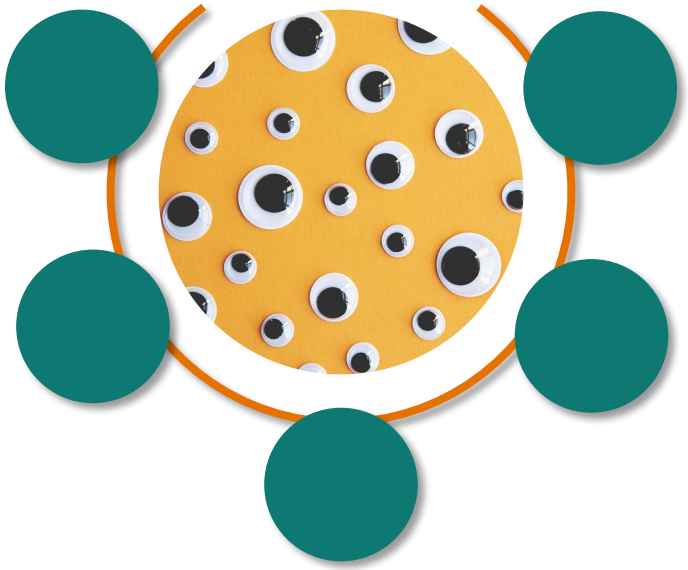
Scholarship

Search Tips

When looking for other scholarships, it pays to look local

Use your **HS college/career center** or **ASPIRE center**

Local **community service groups**



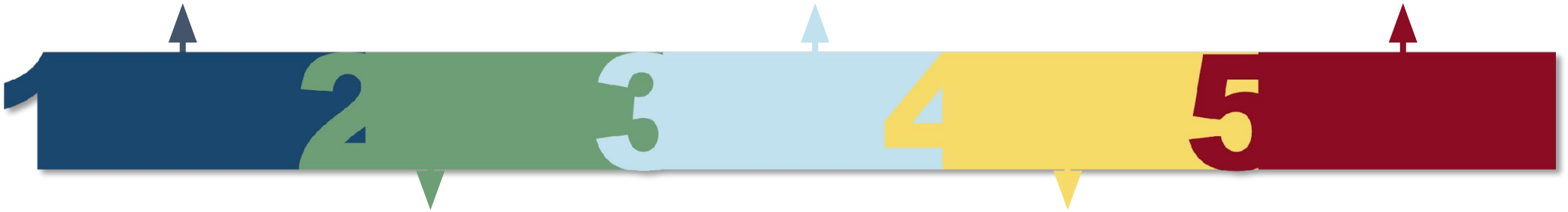
Employers or organizations where you and your family members are members

The college you plan on attending

Education-based **non-profits**

Your
Next Steps

1. File your FAFSA/ORSAA early!
2. Bookmark **OregonStudentAid.Gov**
3. Make an OSAC Student Portal Profile
4. Apply for Oregon Promise
5. Apply for OSAC Scholarships



Upcoming Dates to Remember:

10/22	Linfield	12:30 (Library)
10/23	University of Oregon	9:15 (S1)
	Oregon State University	1:15 (S1)
10/24	Western Oregon	9:00 (S1)
11/1	OSAC Scholarship Opens	
	NATIONAL EARLY ADMISSION DEADLINE	
11/3	Grand Canyon University	9:00 (S1)