

More OSAC Programs for Oregonians

Individual Education Accounts (JOBS PLUS)

JOBS Plus Program participants receive funding for future educational expenses through Individual Education Accounts (IEAs). OSAC holds these funds for up to five years for the participant or immediate family members.

Oregon Troops To Teachers Program

Created by the 2005 Oregon Legislature, this competitive application program pays resident tuition to U.S. Armed Forces veterans who are Oregon residents who have been discharged and plan to teach either in a high poverty area in Oregon for three years or in math, science, or special education for four years.

Deceased And Disabled Public Safety Officer Grant

Available to the natural, adopted, or step child of any Oregon public safety officer who was

killed or disabled in the line of duty, this program is for Oregon residents planning to attend Oregon public or nonprofit colleges.

Barber And Hairdressers Grant

Applicants for this program must attend a licensed school of barbering, hair design, cosmetology, or manicure in Oregon.

Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC) Program

OYCC provides education, training, and employment to disadvantaged and at-risk youth 16 to 25 years of age.

Oregon Rural Health Services Program

This competitive professional education loan repayment program is available to physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants who practice in qualifying rural health care shortage areas in Oregon.

Oregon Nursing Services Program

This competitive loan repayment program is available to registered nurses practicing in

designated critical nursing shortage areas and specified practice specialties throughout Oregon.

ASPIRE Program

The ASPIRE volunteer program goals are to (1) provide mentoring and resources to help students access education and training beyond high school, (2) help high schools build a sustainable community of volunteer mentors, and (3) educate students and families about the scholarship application process and other options for paying for postsecondary education.

Attention high school students!

Check with your counselor to see if your school has an ASPIRE Program. ASPIRE has trained volunteers who help students plan for their education after high school. Visit www.aspireoregon.org for more information.

The Basics About Borrowing

After you've applied for and received scholarships, grants, and other non-loan financial assistance, you may still need funding to help pay for your college education. It may be time to consider borrowing.

Borrow only as much as you must to cover your basic expenses. In college, you don't need to drive a new car, live in the most expensive apartment, or eat pizza out every night. Live frugally, like students historically have.

Don't use credit cards. You're already in debt if you've taken out student loans; let that be the ONLY DEBT you incur in college – so you can pay it back after school and retain good credit.

Work while in college! Even a little income goes a long way, and can help lower the burden of the debt you start out with after graduation.

How to get a federal student loan

1. Complete a *FAFSA*. If you've applied for scholarships and grants, you've already done this! It's available in

your high school guidance office, college financial aid office, or online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

2. The school you've indicated you are attending will send you a financial aid offer that may or may not include loans. After you've received all the awards from the scholarships and grants you applied for, as well as other financial aid you'll be receiving, if you still need funds, consider taking out a federal loan.

3. If you accept a federal loan, you'll need to complete a promissory note indicating you understand it is a loan and must be paid back. Your financial aid office will help you process your paperwork and loan.

4. Parent loans may also help you finance college. Ask your school's financial aid office.

After college, pay back your loans – on time, every month. If you have trouble paying back your loans, contact your lender right away. Many different programs can help borrowers avoid default. You must stay in touch with your lender.

