

## Fact Sheet for New Students & Families: Oregon Promise Awarding for 2026-27

*This fact sheet provides information about Oregon Promise awarding and eligibility criteria for the 2026-27 academic year. The Office of Student Access and Completion (OSAC) is an office of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC). For more information, visit [OregonStudentAid.gov](https://OregonStudentAid.gov). Contact [OregonPromise@hecc.oregon.gov](mailto:OregonPromise@hecc.oregon.gov) with questions.*

**As of May 2026, OSAC has started awarding the Oregon Promise Grant to new students (Class of 2026) who will begin college in Fall 2026.**

### How can I check my status? I haven't received any emails from OSAC.

- Log in to the [OSAC Student Portal](#) to view your Oregon Promise status. In the Portal, click "Messages" to view all emails that OSAC has sent you. Read your award email in its entirety.
- You can view your award amounts by clicking "Awards" then select "Oregon Promise." You can view both your award amounts AND all requirements to be eligible for the grant Fall 2026.
- Check the Spam/Junk folder in your email account on a regular basis to catch any missed messages. You should also add [OregonPromise@hecc.oregon.gov](mailto:OregonPromise@hecc.oregon.gov) to your email account's Safe Senders list.

### My award status in the OSAC Student Portal says "PENDING."

#### What does this mean?

OSAC has set a tentative [Student Aid Index \(SAI\)](#) limit of 18,000, but this may not be the final SAI limit. If your Student Aid Index (SAI) is at or above the tentative SAI limit of 18,000, your status will say "PENDING". OSAC will determine a final SAI limit by mid-July. The final SAI limit may remain at 18,000, be adjusted higher, or removed entirely to award additional students. This will depend on the total number of applicants and available funds for the grant.

#### What should I do?

- **In July 2026, check the [OSAC Student Portal](#) for a final decision** about whether you are awarded the Oregon Promise Grant. OSAC will also send you an email in July regarding the final decision.
- *If you have been selected for [FAFSA verification](#), contact your college financial aid office as soon as possible to complete this. You must complete this in order to receive any financial aid (including Oregon Promise). Not all students are selected for FAFSA verification.*

## What if I'm not awarded the Oregon Promise Grant?

Students with a SAI at or above 18,000 **are not guaranteed to receive the Oregon Promise Grant**. Students and families should plan accordingly and seek out other financial aid opportunities:

- Seek out grants and scholarships through your college, your department of study, and with employers. Many local, regional, and national organizations have scholarships as well.
- Search for merit-based and need-based scholarships on websites such as [College Board BigFuture](#) and [FastWeb](#).
- Be aware of scholarship scams and only apply to organizations you know and trust. OSAC discourages students from engaging with entities that charge scholarship application fees.

## I haven't applied for Oregon Promise yet. Can I still apply?

**NO.** If you graduate high school between March 1, 2026 and June 2026, you needed to have submitted your application by **June 1 at 11:59pm**. For students who obtain their GED® test credential between March 1, 2026 - June 30, 2026, the deadline is July 10. [Find your application deadline and learn how to apply](#).

## What if my SAI is below 18,000?

If you are eligible and apply for Oregon Promise by your [application deadline](#), you can be awarded soon and plan ahead for college. OSAC will continue to award eligible applicants with SAIs below 18,000 during the coming months. Most students must apply by **June 1 at 11:59pm**.

## What if my SAI is 18,000 or higher?

If you apply by your [application deadline](#) and your SAI is at or above the tentative SAI limit of 18,000, you will receive a "Pending" award status message until July. In July, OSAC will make final awarding decisions. You may or may not be awarded the grant, depending on available funds. OSAC strongly encourages you to apply – the application does not prevent students from submitting based on their SAI. Students cannot be considered for the grant if they miss the application deadline, regardless of future SAI limit decisions – apply now! Most students must apply by **June 1 at 11:59pm**.

## What is my Student Aid Index (SAI)?

Your SAI is a number that is calculated according to financial and other information that your family submits on the FAFSA or ORSAA. **You are required to complete either the FAFSA or the ORSAA when you apply for Oregon Promise. Submit your FAFSA or ORSAA by July 10 and list at least one Oregon community college.** Once you complete the [FAFSA or ORSAA](#), you can find your SAI in your account:

- In your [FAFSA account](#), find your SAI on the 2026-27 FAFSA Submission Summary. If you need help, contact [Federal Student Aid](#) online or call 1-800-433-3243.
- In your [ORSAA account](#), select the green down-arrow icon to download the PDF of your ORSAA (do not click "start/edit"). Your SAI is listed on the last page of the PDF. If you need help, contact [ORSAAHelp@hecc.oregon.gov](mailto:ORSAAHelp@hecc.oregon.gov) or 1-800-452-8807.

If you have not filed the 2026-27 FAFSA or ORSAA yet, **submit it now!** Your SAI is not the amount of money your family will have to pay for college nor is it the amount of financial aid you will receive. Learn more about the new [Student Aid Index calculation](#). You will not be considered for the Oregon Promise Grant and many other forms of financial aid unless you file a FAFSA or ORSAA.

## I submitted my Oregon Promise Grant application. What's next?

- If you have application corrections or FAFSA/ORSAA errors, be sure to fix them BEFORE your cohort deadline. Email [OregonPromise@hecc.oregon.gov](mailto:OregonPromise@hecc.oregon.gov) with any questions.
- If you have not listed an Oregon community college on your FAFSA/ORSAA, log into your FAFSA or ORSAA account to add a college. You cannot be considered for the grant until you have a community college listed. Do not log into your OSAC Student Portal account to fix this error.
- Be sure to reach out to your community college to apply, register for classes, and complete any and all requirements in order to receive financial aid Fall Term.
- If you have been selected for [FAFSA verification](#), contact your college financial aid office as soon as possible to complete this. You must complete this in order to receive any financial aid (including Oregon Promise). Not all students are selected for FAFSA verification.

## How is my award amount calculated?

Oregon Promise is a “last dollar” grant. This means that award amounts are calculated after Federal Pell Grant and Oregon Opportunity Grant awards are applied to the average cost of tuition at an Oregon community college in the state. If your award amount is lower than \$4,716, you either have a need-based grant covering most of the average tuition costs, or you are attending a less expensive community college.

## What is the maximum number of credits that Oregon Promise pays per term?

Oregon Promise covers up to 12 credits per term (fall, winter, spring) up to a maximum total of 90 college credits attempted. Students are responsible for paying for any additional credits above 12.

## How do students remain eligible for Oregon Promise?

- Submit the [FAFSA or ORSAA](#) by June 1 each year, and list your Oregon community college.
- Comply with any other requirements or requests from the community college related to the award.
- Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), as determined by the community college.
- Maintain at least half-time continuous enrollment (i.e., 6 or more credits) during fall, winter, and spring terms each year.
- Accept all state and federal grant aid offered through the community college financial aid office.
- Have attempted or completed no more than 90 credits.
- Be an Oregon resident.
- Attend community college each fall term during renewal years.

For more information, visit [OregonStudentAid.gov](http://OregonStudentAid.gov). Contact [OregonPromise@hecc.oregon.gov](mailto:OregonPromise@hecc.oregon.gov) with questions.