



# FAFSA/ORSA and State Financial Aid Updates

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September 25, 2024

# 2024-25 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Issues Summary

## Major Delays Throughout Cycle

- Timeline (based on the typical Oct 1 cycle):
  - FAFSA launched 3 months late
  - Applications processed and sent to colleges and states 5 months late
  - Students with undocumented parents' ability to complete FAFSA 7 months late
  - Paper applications processed starting in August 2024

## Major Communication and Technical Glitches

- Delayed/vague communications from U.S. Department of Education
- Institutions started FAFSA verification, corrections, dependency overrides in August 2024
- Student Aid Index (SAI) formula change to include inflation occurred after application launch
- Numerous SAI calculation errors



160,398 submitted FAFSA/ORSAA applications, down 1.4% year-to-date from 2023-24 cycle

# FAFSA/ORSAA Completion: Class of 2024

The statewide FAFSA/ORSAA Completion rate is 48.4% for Class of 2024. This is compared to 50.0% completion rate for Class of 2023 in September 2023.

Top Performing Schools (100 or more seniors)	Completion Rate
Grant High School	77.1%
Ida B. Wells-Barnett High School	76.3%
Ashland High School	76.0%

Top Performing Schools (99 or fewer seniors)	Completion Rate
Early College High	91.7%
South Wasco County High	84.6%
St. Paul High	80.8%

Top Performing Counties	Completion Rate
Sherman	68.4%
Washington	56.5%
Benton	56.0%
Hood River	55.4%
Grant	55.3%

FAFSA Plus+ Program	Completion Rate
Schools with FAFSA Plus+	51.7%
Schools without FAFSA Plus+	33.1%

# What did Oregon do to help FAFSA/ORSAA completion efforts?

- Oregon Dept. of Education (ODE) and HECC sent joint messages urging high school seniors to complete the FAFSA or ORSAA.
- HECC sent targeted messaging to students with authorized state aid to apply to college, and to encourage students to enroll.
- In partnership with ODE, HECC conducted multiple trainings to the Migrant Education Program.

## Partner Collaborations



- HECC Office of Student Access and Completion (OSAC)'s statewide mentoring program, ASPIRE, has been supporting over 180 sites across the state.
- The FAFSA Plus+ program has been a critical asset in 2023-24 to 250 participating sites to access student-level FAFSA data on their seniors.

## Direct Support to High Schools



- Since November 2023, OSAC increased its online webinar output with a focus on timely FAFSA/ORSAA updates.
- OSAC frequently participated and presented statewide trainings and updates to partners, students, and families to help disseminate FAFSA communications and be a go-to resource for folks who had questions.

## Statewide Trainings



# Oregon Opportunity Grant Awarding: 2024-25

The number of students authorized for 2024-25 awards is virtually identical to this time in 2023. This shows the strong FAFSA/ORSA completion efforts of Oregon's lowest income families.

Headcount per Award Tier	SAI Range	% of Authorized Students
44,635	-1500 to 0	74.15%
1,628	1 to 1,000	2.70%
1,916	1,001 to 2,000	3.18%
2,397	2,001 to 3,000	3.98%
2,262	3,001 to 4,000	3.76%
2,100	4,001 to 5,000	3.49%
1,952	5,001 to 6,000	3.24%
3,301	6,001 to 8,000	5.48%

**Over 60,000** students have been authorized and notified of their award for the Fall Term.

**74%** of students currently authorized for OOG exhibit the highest level of financial need.

Source: HECC Office of Student Access and Completion % authorized based on September 19, 2024 OOG data.

# OOG Award Structure for 2024-25

Student Aid Index (SAI) Range	Community College Award Amount	4-Year Institution Award Amount	% of Authorized Students
-1500 to 0	\$3,900	\$7,524	74.15%
1 to 1,000	\$3,600	\$7,008	2.70%
1,001 to 2,000	\$3,192	\$6,204	3.18%
2,001 to 3,000	\$2,904	\$5,496	3.98%
3,001 to 4,000	\$2,442	\$4,416	3.76%
4,001 to 5,000	\$1,800	\$3,612	3.49%
5,001 to 6,000	\$1,200	\$2,436	3.24%
6,001 to 8,000	\$900	\$1,788	5.48%

Source: HECC Office of Student Access and Completion

% authorized based on September 19, 2024 OOG data. Bachelor's degree students at community colleges will be eligible for award amounts that are about halfway between standard community college award levels and four-year institutional award levels. See <https://www.oregonstudentaid.gov/grants/oregon-opportunity-grant/>

# Oregon Promise Grant Awarding

Class of 2024 has achieved pre-pandemic application rates.

Since the pandemic, Oregon Promise applications have slowly increased. Class of 2024 had **11% more submitted applications than Class of 2023.**

Class of 2023 also had a strong application cycle and program participation. Between new and renewal students, there was **over a 68% disbursement rate for Fall 2023** – the highest since Fall 2017.

Awarding to new and renewal students began in May. Notifications students and community colleges have been sent. Awards range from \$2,124 to \$4,422.

Due to a high disbursement rate in 2023-24 and a strong applicant volume from Class of 2024, OSAC has implemented a final SAI limit for Class of 2024 students:

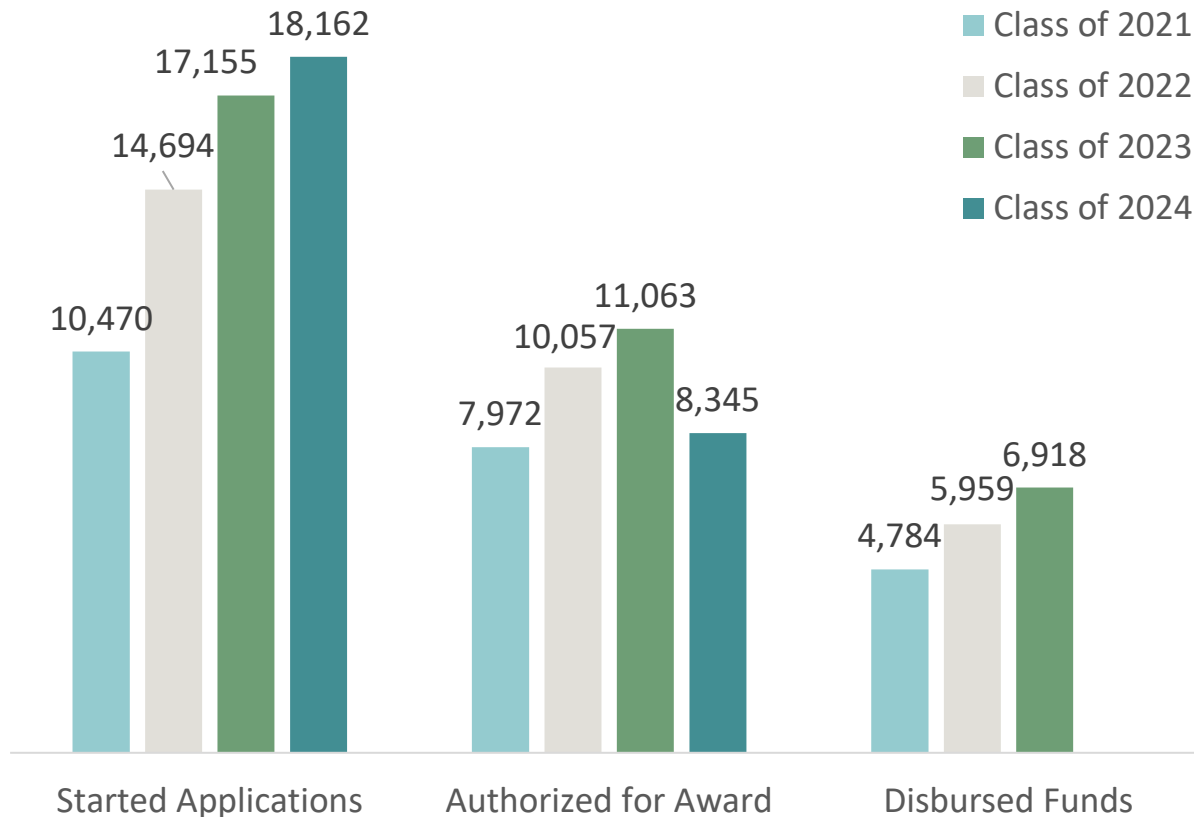
- SAI limit of 25,000
- Renewal students not impacted

2025 Awarding Timeline:

- In Spring 2025, OSAC plans to start awarding for Class of 2025 (March 1-June 30 graduates) – which will be from 25-27 budget
- It has not yet been determined if an SAI limit will be required for Class of 2025

# New Oregon Promise Students

How is the application process going for **Fall 2024 Cohort** students?



- The program has been recovering from a \$3.6 million budget cut and EFC limit that occurred for Class of 2020
- Each application cycle for Fall Cohort students is open mid-September to June 1

- Due to total available funds and a large applicant pool, there is an SAI limit for Class of 2024
- Class of 2024 has an SAI limit of 25,000
  - If there was not an SAI limit, there would be over 10,900 Class of 2024 authorized for award
  - Disbursement data for Fall Term will be available in December 2024

Source: HECC Office of Student Access and Completion



# Oregon Opportunity Grant and Oregon Promise Grant: 2023-24

## 2023-24 Recipients and Expenditures

Oregon Opportunity Grant	Total Recipients	Total Disbursements
Community Colleges	19,992	\$44,345,404
State Universities + OHSU	16,671	\$92,058,807
Private Institutions	2,469	\$14,363,439
<b>Totals</b>	<b>39,132</b>	<b>\$150,767,650</b>
<b>2023-25 LAB</b>	<b>\$308,400,000</b>	

Oregon Promise Grant	Total Recipients	Total Disbursements
New Students (2023 Cohorts)	6,918	\$16,414,619
Renewal Students	3,758	\$8,499,901
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10,676</b>	<b>\$24,914,520</b>
<b>2023-25 LAB</b>	<b>\$44,252,681</b>	