



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Scholarship Season Opens at Oregon Student Assistance Commission

Unique Program is the Gateway to More than 12.5 Million Scholarship Dollars

EUGENE, Ore. (12/17/05) More than 25,000 Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC) Scholarship Application booklets have been mailed to Oregon high school counseling and college financial aid offices and the “eApp,” or electronic version of the paper application is online. The eApp provides an easy-to-use application process that is available at the agency’s student financial aid website, GetCollegeFunds.org.

The OSAC scholarship program enables students of all ages to apply for many different scholarships through a single, “unified” application. Most are for Oregon residents entering or returning to college in the fall of 2006, but some are open to out-of-state students. Some are for Oregon colleges only, but many may be used at eligible colleges throughout the United States.

All applications must be submitted to OSAC postmarked or hand-delivered no later than March 1, 2006. Also available again is the highly successful “Early Bird Scholarship.” Applicants who submit their completed applications by a February 15, 2006, “Early Bird” deadline are entered into drawings for 19 \$500 awards. These awards are grouped by a variety of college populations and GPA ranges to ensure all students have a chance at being selected. The OSAC application is the gateway to more than 3,200 individual awards ranging from \$500 to \$20,000.

The online application processes information quickly and confidentially. The eApp includes search and filter capabilities to help with scholarship selection. Students are encouraged to use the eApp because it allows for more scholarships to be selected and will report error messages if questions are not answered. In addition, the OSAC website features information about general financial aid and OSAC’s other financial aid programs.

OSAC is the state agency that partners with numerous private donors, foundations, and banks to administer more than 320 private scholarship programs for Oregon students. This partnership model is unique in the nation. The agency also manages the Oregon Opportunity Grant, which awarded more than \$23 million last year and will award 70% more in the next biennium due to the commitment made by Governor Kulongoski and the Oregon legislature to help Oregon’s neediest students attend college.

If you or your business would like to start a scholarship program and have it administered through the statewide OSAC process, please contact Alan Baas, Scholarship Services Manager at 800-452-8807 ext 7422. OSAC can be reached at 800-452-8807 ext 7395 or online at www.GetCollegeFunds.org