

ASET POLICY ALTERNATIVES

Policy Question: How do we provide greater access to college for low-income students if the goal is to increase the number of bachelor's degrees?

1. How should we structure the ASET program to meet these goals?

Policy Alternatives	Benefits	Challenges
<p>1.a Variable grants based on sector charges.</p> <p><i>Current OOG policy</i></p>	<p>Provides low-income students with the greatest amount of choice of Oregon institutions.</p> <p>Higher award for higher priced private institutions makes private option more affordable and utilized private capacity.</p> <p>Private institutions are able to leverage state and institutional grants to serve low-income students choosing private colleges that might be "best fit" for student.</p>	<p>Does not reflect growing differentiation in tuition and fee charges of institutions.</p> <p>Perceived as trading student numbers for student freedom of choice.</p> <p>Is "best fit" policy affordable?</p>
<p>1.b Maximum grant award tied to community college tuition and fee charges</p>	<p>Makes community colleges more affordable than any other sector in Oregon.</p> <p>Reduces sticker shock at community colleges.</p> <p>Probably simplest to administer</p> <p>Requires high-capacity, open-entry, two-year college system that supports timely transfer to four-year institutions to complete bachelor's degrees.</p>	<p>May restrict choice of low-income students to one type of institution with consequence of reducing economic diversity of OUS and private institutions.</p> <p>May create a de facto policy that all students should start at a community college</p> <p>Does not address "brain drain" - keeping talent in Oregon</p> <p>Requires greatest development of resources of 4-year colleges (requires more donors and/or bigger donations) and corporate and community philanthropy to support need-based assistance.</p> <p>May result in larger borrowing for low-income students going to four-year institutions.</p> <p>May require greater state investment in community college capitalization</p>

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1.c. Two-tiered maximum grant tied to public-sector tuition and fees (2-yr or 4-yr)

Tier 1: Students attending a public, 2-year college

Tier 2: Students attending 4-yr college receive up to maximum of OUS-level, regardless of public or private

1.d. Two-tiered maximum grant tied to level of study

Tier 1. Years 13 and 14 OR community college

Tier 2. Years 15 and 16 OUS institution regardless of institution

Smaller grant in first two years and larger grant in second two years.

Better aligned with intentions of students and missions of institutions.

Funds some choice, but acknowledges role of other players to take responsibility for supporting personal choices of best fit.

Recognizes cost differences in lower-division and upper-division coursework in public institutions (RAM)

May motivate transfer of students to speed completion of 4-year degree.

Would not address tuition differentiation among four-year institutions (between public and private and within each sector).

Requires development of resources to support need-based assistance by institutions (fee remissions, institution foundations) as well as corporate and community philanthropy.

More difficult to administer as many students advance in standing mid-year.

May create a de facto policy that all students should start at a community college.

Does not address issue of brain drain.

Would require 4-yr. institutions to front-load more institutional grant aid for low-income students to have greater access to four-year institutions.

Institutions may already be maxed out on tuition discounts and fee remissions.

2. To what Oregon institutions can students take the ASET support?

2.A Any public or not-for-profit college or university in Oregon currently authorized (excludes for-profit and proprietary institutions)
Current OOG policy

2.b Any public or private two- or four-year institution in Oregon (includes for-profit and proprietary institutions authorized by DOE)

Provides stability for student choice and covers 95% of total enrollment in Oregon

Uses capacity of eligible institutions to meet student demand.

Expands student choice, particularly for older, independent students.

Currently, about 2% of the total Oregon college enrollment, but growing sector.

Possible ORS restriction on state dollars spent on institutions without home base in Oregon and profit returned to headquarters outside of Oregon.

No accountability measures in place