

ESTIMATING COSTS TO BECOMING A TEACHER

A career in teaching requires at least a Bachelor’s degree and may require more depending on the college or university teacher preparation program that you select. The following chart gives you an idea of the costs of tuition for several programs in Oregon.

Sample Tuition and Fees Estimator

| Type | Institution and Level | Estimated costs | Explanation |
|---------|--|--|---|
| Public | Western Oregon University Four year Bachelor’s Degree | \$10,728 (tuition and fees only) | Roughly \$2607 per year for three terms times 4 years (includes tuition & fees but does not include cost for books, dorms, or living expenses) plus one time entrance fee of \$300. |
| Public | Portland State University One or two year Master’s Degree (Must already have Bachelor’s degree) | \$22,248 for full time or \$25,564 for part time (tuition and fees only) | A 66 credit graduate program that results in an Oregon initial teaching license and a master’s degree in education but does not include living expenses. |
| Private | George Fox University Four year Bachelor’s Degree | \$129,720 (tuition and fees only) | Roughly \$32,430 per year for 12-18 credits x 4 years (includes tuition & fees but does not include cost for books, dorms, or living expenses) |
| Private | Concordia University Two year Master’s Degree (Must already have Bachelor’s degree) | \$19,810 – \$26,075 (tuition and fees only) | A 39 graduate credit program (includes tuition & fees but does not include cost for books, dorms, or living expenses) |

To Get Started

To get started in accessing financial aid, you need to first complete the [FAFSA](#) – the Free Application for Federal Student Aid which is necessary to access Federal Pell Grants and the Oregon Opportunity Grant.

Other Costs to Consider

- Living expenses—housing, food, etc. should be factored in to budget planning while you are enrolled in college.
- Reduced time and ability to work—you should count on a full 40-hour work week while you are student teaching and plan for your budget when your income may be limited even further.
- Transportation costs-you will be expected to have reliable transportation to the schools where you will do your field experiences and student teaching.
- Many student teachers report spend money on materials for the classroom during student teaching.

Source: <http://teachin.oregon.gov/en/>

Financial Aid Terms

Financial aid for college comes from a variety of government and private programs. You need to understand the difference between these funds and how to access them.

Grants are the best type of financial aid for college because, unlike loans, you don’t have to repay them. Your eligibility for a grant is usually based on your income or your family’s income, assets, and other factors. Grade point averages and test scores are not a consideration.

The **Oregon Opportunity Grant** is a state grant administered by the Office of Student Access and Completion (OSAC) and is awarded to full-time undergraduate Oregon residents based on need and allowable funding. Twelve terms of eligibility are possible. For more information on this program, visit the OSAC [website](#).

Scholarships--Can help pay your college expenses including tuition and fees, room and board, and books and supplies and do not have to be repaid. They are made possible by generous donations from individuals, organizations and foundations. OSAC awards more than \$16 million in private scholarships annually. Award amounts range from \$500 to \$10,000 or more.

Student Loans – Federal student aid loans can pay for tuition, feeds, books, housing, and living costs but must be repaid after you leave college.

Work-Study - wages for work performed while in school. Usually part time job at the university. (check with your school’s financial office).