

Support Health Benefits for Part-Time College Faculty

Many part-time/adjunct faculty at Oregon's community colleges and public universities teach enough total hours that they should qualify for health care coverage under current requirements, but the fact that they teach at multiple institutions disallows them from coverage, even though their colleagues that teach the same amount (or less) at one institution receive coverage.

Builds off the current OEBB system.

The bill provides access to coverage under OEBB for part-time faculty who teach more than a half-time course load, whether at one institution or multiple. The program will be administered by OEBB at no cost or administrative burden to the colleges and universities.

For more information:
Dave Hunt, daveh@strategies360.com



Background

2009: The Legislature passed HB 2557 to provide access to purchase health insurance through OEBB on a 100% self-pay basis. At the time, before the Affordable Care Act went into effect, this was a help to part-time faculty who had pre-existing conditions or other circumstances that made purchasing private insurance impossible or unaffordable.

2015: The Legislature passed SB 113, which directed the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to convene a workgroup of stakeholders to determine the best method for calculating hours across institutions to determine health insurance eligibility for part-time faculty. It became clear that attempting to provide the insurance through the institutions themselves would be logistically and cost prohibitive, which is why we have settled on this approach.

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