

## Nominations Open for Oregon Teacher of the Year

Every year, each of the 50 states names a teacher of the year. The Oregon Teacher of the Year Program started in 1955 and the current Teacher of the Year is Allan Bruner of Colton High School.

Candidates for Oregon Teacher of the Year should be exceptionally dedicated, knowledgeable, and skilled educators in grades preK-12 (administrative responsibilities should be of secondary consideration). The candidate should be planning to continue in an active teaching status.

In addition, candidates for Oregon Teacher of the Year should:

- Inspire students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn
- Have the respect and admiration of students, parents, and colleagues
- Play an active role in the community as well as in school
- Be a poised and articulate representative of all Oregon classroom teachers

Beginning with the 2007 Oregon Teacher of the Year, we are changing the application process to bring the state's program more in line with the National Teacher of the Year program and Oregon state administrative restrictions.

Anyone can nominate a candidate for the Oregon Teacher of the Year. A candidate cannot nominate him/herself.

Go to the ODE Web site and fill out the "Talent Pool Recommendation" at [www.ode.state.or.us/search/results/?id=228](http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/results/?id=228). At the end of the talent pool recommendation, click the box to nominate the individual for the Oregon Teacher of the Year.

For the first time, candidates for the Oregon Teacher of the Year will be selected from the talent pool. A blue ribbon panel consisting of legislators, former Teachers of the Year, business leaders, and key education organization leaders will select the finalists.

Representatives of the state superintendent's office will interview the finalists. State Superintendent Susan Castillo then will select the Oregon Teacher of the Year.

**The deadline for nominations is Aug. 15, 2006.** The 2007 Oregon Teacher of the Year will be announced at the end of September.

For more information visit [www.ode.state.or.us/groups/teachers/awards/teacheroftheyear/](http://www.ode.state.or.us/groups/teachers/awards/teacheroftheyear/) or contact Gene Evans at 503-947-5737 or [gene.evans@state.or.us](mailto:gene.evans@state.or.us).

## High School Seniors: Are You Getting a Federal Pell Grant for College?

Hard work in high school might just pay off sooner than you thought.

Congress has created a new financial aid program for low-income college freshmen and sophomores starting this fall. But eligibility depends on attending college full-time and having finished a rigorous high school program – and being eligible for a federal Pell Grant.

The new **Academic Competitive Grants (ACG)** will range from \$750 to \$1,300. This is in addition to the regular federal Pell Grants. The program makes available \$790 million in the 2006-07 academic year and \$4.5 billion over five years to provide aid to low-income college students who meet general Pell Grant program guidelines, as well as additional specified criteria.

These new grants will be awarded to first- and second-year college students who are Pell-eligible (based on data provided on the 2006-07 Federal Application for Student Financial Aid), are U.S. citizens, and are enrolled full time at a two- or four-year degree-granting institution of higher education.

Students also must have successfully completed a rigorous high school program:

- 1) A rigorous course of study that included four years of English, three years of math (including algebra I

and a higher level course such as algebra II, geometry, or data analysis and statistics), three years of science (including at least two courses from biology, chemistry, or physics), three years of social studies, and one year of a foreign language. The program of study must be completed with passing grades.

– OR –

- 2) A minimum of two advanced placement (AP) or international baccalaureate (IB) courses in high school and a minimum passing score on the exams for those classes. Students must score three or higher on AP exams and four or higher on IB exams.

The U.S. Department of Education will use electronic or regular mail to notify students who potentially may be eligible for the ACG, based on information provided on the FAFSA, and will provide additional information about a Web site that will help applicants determine their eligibility for the ACG.

For more information, check out [www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2006/05/05022006.html](http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2006/05/05022006.html).

*From the Superintendent's Update #155, Oregon Department of Education*

## Nominate Youth Who Have Overcome Adversity

Nominations are open for the Governor's YOUTH Awards (Youth Overcoming Difficult Times and Hardship).

This award will be given to youth (up to age 25) who have shown consistent progress in dealing with and overcoming adversity.

This award was established to honor Oregon youth who take positive risks and become successful in their lives and who contribute to the success of others. Adversity can come in many forms. The award is not limited to youth involved in the juvenile justice system.

The award(s) will be given at the Governor's Annual Over-representation of Minorities in the Juvenile Justice System Summit, to be held Nov. 20, 2006, in Portland, Ore.

Please contact Dianna White at 503-947-5684 or [dianna.white@state.or.us](mailto:dianna.white@state.or.us) for a nomination form.

*From the Superintendent's Update #156, Oregon Department of Education*

## OCCC Foundation Offers 27 Scholarships

The Oregon Coast Community College Foundation is pleased to announce the availability of 27 scholarships in the amount of \$27,630 for the upcoming school year. According to A.T. Ronan, development director and executive director of the OCCC Foundation, the scholarships vary from \$2,250 to \$200 per year.

"We are very fortunate to have received three new scholarships this year from TLC Federal Credit Union, Christmas Cottage, and the Lincoln City Rotary," Ronan said. "Plus, we are working with several new donors who have indicated an interest in setting up scholarship funds."

Criteria for the TLC Federal Credit Union Scholarship for \$1,500 is that the recipient must be a second-year OCCC student who demonstrates financial need and is a community volunteer. The student also must carry a minimum of 12 credit hours per term and maintain a 3.0 GPA.

The Christmas Cottage Scholarship, also for \$1,500, stipulates that the recipient be a single female parent who is aware of domestic violence issues. The student must carry a minimum of nine credits per term, maintain a 2.8 GPA, and demonstrate financial need.

The Lincoln City Rotary Scholarship for \$1,005 is for a student who resides in North Lincoln County, i.e.,

Depoe Bay to Rose Lodge. The recipient also must be committed to pursuing a two-year degree and demonstrate financial need. Additionally, the student must carry a minimum of 12 credits per term and maintain a 3.0 GPA.

Other scholarships offered for the 2006-2007 school year include:

- Three \$1,000 scholarships from the Lincoln City branch of the American Association of University Women
- One \$225 scholarship from the Susan Archuleta Memorial, funded through Centro De Ayuda, for Hispanic students
- Two scholarships for \$1,500 from the Robert Boone Memorial fund
- Three \$2,250 scholarships for nursing students from the Robert Boone Nursing Fund
- One \$1,200 art scholarship from the Anna May (Fritzi) Clark Memorial Fund
- Two \$500 scholarships from the Penny Ittner Scholarship Fund
- Four \$1,000 scholarships from the Juan Young Trust for students under age 21
- One \$1,500 scholarship from the OCCC Foundation
- Three \$200 scholarships from OSU Federal Credit Union for recent OCCC GED graduates

- One \$855 scholarship for a Taft High School graduate who was enrolled in the culinary arts program (from the chefs of the Oyster Cloyster)
- One \$500 scholarship from PEO, Chapter CE for a female student returning to college
- One \$500 scholarship from Norm and Maureen Sprinkle for a student with a documented learning or physical disability
- One Mark Watts Memorial Scholarship for a beginning EMT student at OCCC with a background in emergency medical service who is a current volunteer with the Siletz, Waldport, or Yachats Rural Fire District

Scholarship applications and complete details are available from OCCC Student Services at the Newport campus, 332 SW Coast Highway. Call 541-574-7101 or 541-574-7103 for more information.

The purpose of the OCCC Foundation is to raise, receive, and distribute funds to support the college's educational programs, student population, and the community it serves. Additionally, the foundation board raises public awareness about the college and its many benefits to all of Lincoln County.

Call Ronan at 541-574-7131 or e-mail her at [atronan@occc.cc.or.us](mailto:atronan@occc.cc.or.us) for additional information about foundation.