

# State Expands College Financial Aid

## For low- and middle-income students

Gov. Ted Kulongoski is promoting a program passed by the 2007 State Legislature that will increase financial aid for low- and middle-income students throughout Oregon.

The expanded Opportunity Grant is very good news for people who have the desire to improve their lives by going to college but have been priced out of a college education. Kulongoski

said during a kickoff tour last week at Portland State University to promote the program.

"This is the most far reaching financial-aid program in Oregon history," Kulongoski said.

The expanded Opportunity Grant takes into consideration the student's ability to pay, combined with other financial aid and then provides funding

to fill the gap.

The program doubles the state financial-aid package for Oregon students and will reach beyond low-income and into middle-class families, resulting in thousands more Oregonians being able to go to college.

"For too long, thousands of families in Oregon have had to delay or give up on going to college," said Kulongoski. "I am proud to announce that with the expansion of the Opportunity Grant,

we will help more than 33,000 students in low-income and middle-income families fulfill the dream of going to college."

Students will be able to apply for the grant when they fill out their federal financial-aid application (FAFSA).

The Oregon Student Assistance Commission is also hosting an online calculator on their website for students and families that will show them what kind of funding the expanded

Opportunity Grant could provide. That calculator can be viewed at [getcollegefunds.org/SRMEstimator/OOGIntro.aspx](http://getcollegefunds.org/SRMEstimator/OOGIntro.aspx).

For more information on the Oregon Opportunity Grant and other Oregon scholarship opportunities, students can visit [getcollegefunds.org/ong.html](http://getcollegefunds.org/ong.html) or call 800-452-8807.

Student can also inquire with their college financial-aid office to receive more information.

## Graduate Begins Law Career

A young woman from Portland is a wonderful role model for others by turning education into a successful career.

Latrice Latin has been hired as a staff attorney at the Fulton County Public Defenders Office in Atlanta, Ga., after recently passing the state bar exam.

Latin earned her Juris Doctorate at the Mercer University Walter F. George School of Law in Macon, Ga. She previously had majored in political science with a minor in sociology, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree from Georgia State University.

Her proud and loving parents are Wanda Paden and Leonard A. Latin, executive marketing director for the Portland Observer.



Latrice Latin at her graduation celebration.

## Accomplished Career Prosecutor Makes History

The first woman district attorney ever in San Francisco as well as the first female African-American district attorney in California history has been resoundingly voted to a second term.

Kamala D. Harris garnered over 98 percent of the vote in a nearly unprecedented uncontested November election.

Harris received accolades over her first term for bringing professionalism and innovation to the district attorney's office, prosecuting violent crime, and her "smart on crime" approach to prosecution.

While noting that San Francisco's overall conviction rate is "the highest in a decade," Harris said that being district attorney was about "more than being either tough or soft on crime. It's about being smart by attacking the root causes of crime."

"My core commitment is simple," said Harris. "As a career prosecutor raised in the civil-rights movement, I



Kamala D. Harris

believe that a district attorney must both protect public safety and be an advocate for social justice."