

Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (OAHP): Rules and Timeline

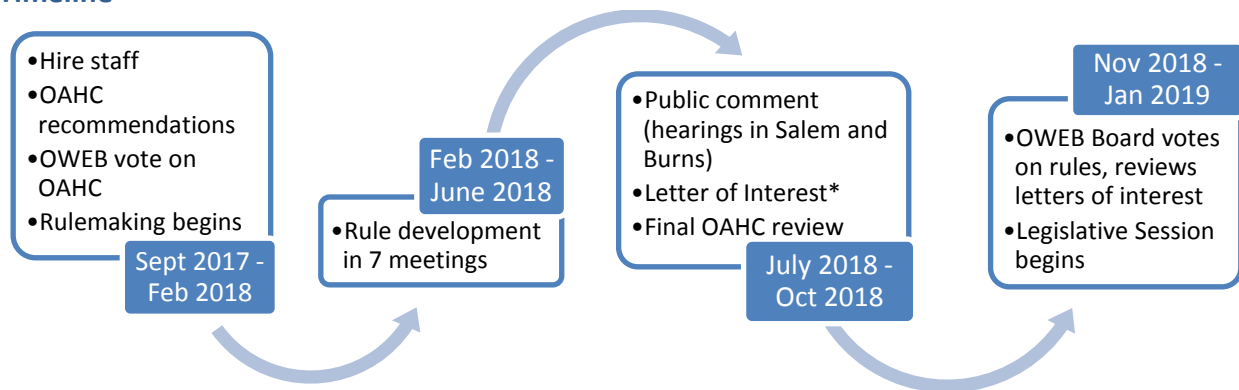
Summary

The Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (OAHP) provides voluntary incentives to farmers and ranchers to support practices that maintain or enhance both agriculture and natural resources such as fish and wildlife on agricultural lands.

Program Overview

- Establishes Oregon Agricultural Heritage Fund for a variety of grant programs
- Establishes Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission (OAHC) to oversee investments
- Provides funding for:
 - Conservation management plans
 - Working land conservation covenants and easements
 - Technical assistance
 - Succession planning
- Study tax-related and other financial barriers to farm and ranch land transfer (LPRO)

Timeline



Commission Membership

Recommended	Representing	Members
Board of Agriculture	Actively engaged in farming and ranching; diverse commodities and geography	Chad Allen, Tillamook Ken Bailey, The Dalles Doug Krahmer, St. Paul - Chair Woody Wolfe, Wallowa
Board of Agriculture	Agriculture water quality	Lois Loop, Salem
Fish & Wildlife Commission	Expertise regarding fish and wildlife habitat	Bruce Taylor, Portland – Vice Chair Mary Wahl, Langlois
LCDC	Expertise in conservation easements and similar land transfers	Derek Johnson, Portland
OWEB Board	Natural resource values interests	Mark Bennett, Unity
OWEB Board	Tribal interests	Nathan Jackson, Myrtle Creek
OSU Extension	Representing Extension	Sam Angima, Corvallis
OWEB Board	<i>Ex officio</i> , non-voting OWEB Board	Will Neuhauser, Yamhill

* On July 13, OWEB submitted a request for letters of inquiry to OAHP's Working Land Conservation Covenant and Easement Grant Program. Eligible easement holders are asked to submit their letter(s) by September 14.

Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (OAHP): Rules and Timeline

OAHP Rules: OAR Chapter 698

- Division 005: Administrative Rules
- Division 010: Conservation Management Plan Grants
- Division 015: Working Land Conservation Covenants and Easement Grants
- Division 020: Technical Assistance Grants
- Division 025: Succession Planning Grants

Admin Rules: OAR Chapter 698-005

- **Technical Review Teams:** for all grant applications and as needed
- **Restricted Funding:** May receive funding from any public or private source if the funder agrees to conditions consistent with the purposes of OAHP

Conservation Management Plan (CMP) Rules: OAR Chapter 698-010

- **Eligible applicants:** easement holders, Watershed Councils, other 501(c)(3)s
- **Eligible projects:** developing, implementing and/or monitoring CMPs
- **Match:** required. May be in-kind or cash.
- **Components:** defined in rule
- **Evaluation Criteria:** 6 statutory, 2 additional (698-010-0090)
- **Mutual Modifications:** same or equal benefits as original provisions

Covenant/Easement Rules: OAR 698-015

- **Eligible applicants:** easement holders in ORS 271.715, except agencies
- **Eligible projects:** project costs, including acquisition, due diligence, closing
- **Match:** 25% required. May be in-kind and/or cash contribution.
- **Evaluation Criteria:** 6 statutory, 2 additional (698-010-0090)
- **Public comment/hearing:** required when state funds used to purchase interest in real property

Technical Assistance Rules: OAR 698-020

- **Eligible applicants:** can enter agreements for CMP/Covenant/Easement
- **Eligible projects:** lead to development of CMP/Covenant/Easement
- **Match:** not required.
- **Evaluation Criteria:**
 - Improve ability to enter CMP/Covenant/Easement
 - Outcomes consistent with CMP/Covenant/Easement criteria,
 - Priority for young and beginning farmers and ranchers

Succession Planning Rules: OAR 698-025

- **Eligible applicants:** universities, nonprofits, local gov., Tribes, ag co-ops
- **Eligible projects:** education/outreach, trainings, materials, direct advising
- **Match:** Not required.
- **Evaluation Criteria:**
 - Meets purpose of OAHP
 - Capacity and competence of applicant
 - Applicant's background
 - Cost-effectiveness
 - Diverse audiences
 - Introduction of conservation tools

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OAHP Statute: <https://www.oregonlaws.org/ors/541.977>

OAHP Draft Rules: <https://www.oregon.gov/oweb/Documents/OAHP-Proposed-Rules-Hearing-Notice.pdf>