

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Erwin Hackett – Chairman  
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Melissa Bronson- Secretary-Treasurer  
Erick Staley  
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*A publication of the  
Oregon Independent Aggregate Association  
PO Box 571  
Stayton, Oregon 97383  
[www.oraggregate.com](http://www.oraggregate.com)*

## *Oregon Independent Aggregate Association Newsletter*

**August 2025**

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With August coming to an end, we still have a time before those first heavy rains hit Oregon. However, now is the time to be inspecting and fixing any quarry related impoundments. If an issue or failure is discovered during the winter months, it can be hard to adequately and appropriately correct. Conducting regular inspections during the dry months is a good practice. Any issues that are documented can still be minimized or fixed in time for the wet season. Observation, documentation and photographs are a requirement for a DOGAMI/DEQ 1200 permit after a significant rainfall event for most quarries; however, some of the signs of deficiency or failures could be seen during a routine inspection, if qualified personnel are conducting inspections regularly. Look for signs of seepage, erosion, gullying, settlement, etc. Make sure all culverts or channels for water flow are clear of debris and open for winter flows. The risk with delayed or deferred inspection is potential hazards being overlooked and an impoundment losing structural integrity or failing altogether.

Please read the MSHA Safety Alert listed below and follow their best management practices. OSHA also published an article that outlines the MSHA Safety Alert as well. Enjoy the remaining month of summer and happy reading!

Sources:

[MSHA Warns Mines to Inspect Impoundments After Heavy Rain -- Occupational Health & Safety](#)

[Impoundment Safety After Heavy Precipitation Events | Mine Safety and Health Administration \(MSHA\)](#)

### **Safety Alert**

**Impoundment Safety After Heavy  
Precipitation Events**

Heavy rainfall and flooding across mining regions can increase the risk of impoundment instability and potential failures. Mine operators and contractors must manage these risks and take proactive steps to ensure the safety of all impoundment structures.

**Key Issues:**

- Saturation of embankments and foundations can lead to loss of structural integrity.
- Blocked or overwhelmed spillways increase the risk of overtopping.
- Inadequate inspections after weather events delays identification of potential hazards.
- Erosion or seepage along slopes and embankments may go unnoticed.



**Best Practices:**

- Conduct visual inspections of all impoundments soon after significant rain or snowmelt events.
- Document and photograph all findings, especially signs of erosion, seepage, cracking, or settlement and promptly correct any deficiencies.
- Ensure spillways, drains, and emergency overflow channels are clear and functioning.
- Evaluate freeboard levels and adjust water management practices as needed.
- Notify appropriate personnel and MSHA when hazards are identified.
- Maintain qualified personnel for impoundment inspection and response, on-site or on-call.
- Update your Emergency Action Plan (EAP) and review it with all personnel.

**Melissa Bronson**  
**Director/Secretary-Treasurer**



Mark your calendars the dates have been set for the 2026 Annual Part 46 refresher training.

Albany, Oregon March 9, 2026

Roseburg, Oregon March 10, 2026



**Note we have revised the deadline to September 15, 2025**

Our 2025 Scholarship Application period is still open. The guidelines and application are attached at the bottom of this newsletter. It will also be posted on the website. Please pass this information along to your family and employees

## ***Attention!!***

***We welcome and encourage all of our members to become more involved with our association. You are welcome to attend our meetings anytime. Please contact any of our board members for information on how you can become more involved, ways we can improve our association and information regarding our upcoming meetings.***

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.ORAGGREGATE.COM](http://WWW.ORAGGREGATE.COM)

We are always looking for information to print in the newsletter. If you have a specific article, safety information , or any other information you think will be helpful and of interest to our members, please submit them to [memberreply@oraggregate.com](mailto:memberreply@oraggregate.com)

**With two of our founding member directors retiring from our board, we are currently looking to add to our Board of Directors. If you are interested in joining us please contact any of the board of directors or come to the next meeting to discuss the possibility.**

### ***Current Board of Directors***

Erwin Hackett – Chairman  
Bill Leavens – Vice chairman  
Melissa Bronson – Secretary-Treasurer  
Erick Staley  
Bill Ruchti  
Andrew Siegmund

***The next meeting is scheduled for October 8, 2025 10AM  
at the office of KPD – Springfield, Oregon  
All members are welcome to attend.***



## ***THE OREGON INDEPENDENT AGGREGATE ASSOCIATION 2025 Scholarship Application***

Oregon Independent Aggregate Association (OIAA) is proud to offer a \$2,500.00 scholarship to any deserving student pursuing a career related to the construction, aggregate and forestry industry. Areas of study are to include construction, construction management, engineering, geology, architecture, land use planning, forestry, heavy equipment repair and welding.

### **Who May Apply?**

The OIAA Scholarship is open to all current members, employees of current members and their families studying in the required fields as indicated above.

The academic institution may be a university, community college, private college or a trade school with recognized related courses of study. Scholarships will be applied toward full or part-time tuition and or educational material costs within one calendar year.

Your Personal Statement is the most important part of your application! When you prepare your Personal Statement, it's very helpful to tell the OIAA scholarship selection committee about your career goals in the required industries, personal goals, reasons for applying for this particular scholarship, and personal financial circumstances that pertain to your financial need. Your statement should be a minimum of one page and not more than two pages.

### **The OIAA Selection and Award Process**

Applications will be directed to the scholarship selection committee. Scholarship recipient will be notified in writing by the OIAA and the recipient's name will be listed on the OIAA website. Those who do not receive scholarships will also be notified by mail.

Unless otherwise noted, the scholarship shall be in the amount of \$ 2,500.00 as a onetime award.

All recipients will be required to write a short letter of thanks to the OIAA and present it in person at a designated Board Meeting. By attending such meeting you indicate your acceptance of the award and the terms of the scholarship.

Scholarships shall be awarded in compliance with applicable Oregon laws and OIAA policies related to non-discrimination on the basis of sex, race, age, color, national or ethnic origin, marital status, disability, religion, sexual orientation or veteran status.

# Scholarship Application - 2025

(Office Use Only) Application Number \_\_\_\_\_

## PERSONAL INFORMATION: (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate phone number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

## I. ACADEMIC INFORMATION: (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

Name of High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of High School Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Current University, College or Trade School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Overall GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Minor: \_\_\_\_\_

When do you expect to graduate? \_\_\_\_\_

## II. Extracurricular and or Community Information:

List honors, awards, prizes or recognition you have received: \_\_\_\_\_

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List school and or group activities (sports, clubs, committees, offices) that you have participated in: \_\_\_\_\_

List and describe your hobbies and interests: \_\_\_\_\_

### III. WORK EXPERIENCE (INCLUDE ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER IF NEEDED)

What work experience have you had? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be interested in work with a construction, aggregate projects or forestry company?  
YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ PART-TIME \_\_\_\_\_ SUMMER \_\_\_\_\_

### IV. Remember to attach the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ A transcript of grades through the last grading period prior to the date of application.

\_\_\_\_\_ A letter of recommendation from a teacher, employer or other relevant acquaintance.

\_\_\_\_\_ Your Personal Statement as required in the Scholarship Guidelines.

*I certify that the information on this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return you application to the attention of the application committee

**Oregon Independent Aggregate Association**

**P.O. Box 571**

**Stayton, Oregon 97383**

***Application Deadline: September 15, 2025***