

IOWA COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
May 15, 2015
10:00 a.m.
430 East Grand Avenue 3rd Floor
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Members Present:

Janet Adams	Michael Ash
Roger Claypool	Crystal Ford
Frederick Moore	Doug Shull
Elizabeth Sullivan	Jeremy Varner
Karolyn Wells	

Members Absent:

Ron Jorgensen	Tim Kraayenbrink
Katie Mulholland	Herman Quirmbach
Cindy Winckler	

Staff Present:

Todd Brown	Heather Doe
Julie Leeper	Kris May
Karen Misjak	Julie Ntem
Christina Sibouih	Ashley Wendt

AG Present:

Sara Scott

Guests Present:

Matt Brown	Iowa Student Loan
Angela Carlson	Capri College
Lincoln Hughes	EverFi, Inc.

Call to Order

The Iowa College Student Aid Commission met for a regularly scheduled meeting on May 15, 2015 at the Iowa College Student Aid Commission, 430 East Grand Avenue, 3rd Fl. Des Moines, Iowa 50309. Commission Chair Adams called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with a quorum present.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Misjak shared that the House and Senate have both passed a leadership bill approving Iowa's participation in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA). Governor Branstad has requested a Bill Signing and notification will be sent to Commissioners when that has been scheduled. Ms. Misjak said staff will be submitting Iowa's application to the Midwest Higher Education Compact within the next week so the application can make it through the process prior to MHEC's board meeting that is scheduled for June 1 and 2. The Leadership Bill includes the original language in HF 387 and an amendment offered by the Attorney General's office to create a fund for ongoing consumer protection as authorized in Iowa Code for students attending for-profit institutions.

The Iowa Department of Education (IDE) led the charge to host a Financial Literacy Summit on May 5, 2015 with 250 people in attendance. Ms. Misjak stated that, based on the success of this summit the IDE is going to have a Financial Literacy Leadership Team and Commission staff have been invited to participate.

Ms. Misjak said the second GEAR UP Iowa grant has completed its first year and the Annual Performance Report was submitted April 15, 2015. Staff has implemented a new student-level tracking system SCRIBE. All twelve partner districts have signed data sharing agreements with the Commission for the life of the grant and staff is using the IowaGrants.gov system which tracks all expenditures and invoices that are submitted from schools. Ms. Misjak shared that staff have been developing procedures around grant implementation to help with future grants as well.

The project with Gold Bridge Partners, Inc. (GBPI) for the new Scholarship, Grant and Loan Repayment Program Application and Processing System is continuing through the development phase. Ms. Misjak said the system has been named Iowa College Aid Processing System, or "ICAPS".

An early iteration of ICAPS was successfully launched in March to support the statewide FAFSA Completion Initiative. In the 2013-2014 school year there were 5 school districts participating, and in the 2014-2015 school year there were 15 more districts participating to total 20.

Consent Agenda

Motion: Commissioner Shull moved to approve the consent agenda as written.

- Minutes of Meeting
 - March 20, 2015
- Proposed Meeting Schedule
- Amperage Contract Extension

Commissioner Ford seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Administrative Rules

Ms. Leeper said the Commission has always used rules provided by the State Board of Regents and the Iowa Department of Education to determine residency status for applicants under the programs administered by the Commission. Recently, both the Board of Regents and the Department of Education have promulgated rules that allow veterans and their spouses and children to be considered residents and eligible for in-state tuition rates regardless of their domicile.

Ms. Leeper stated that staff believes it is the intent of state legislation with respect to the programs administered by the Commission that recipients be residents of the State of Iowa. After reviewing the proposed rules and discussing them with several Commissioners, staff recommends that a new chapter describing "domicile" be adopted. In addition, staff seeks authority to propose changes to Chapters that define residency in Iowa Administrative Code chapters governed by the Commission to reference the new Chapter 10.

Motion: Commissioner Shull moved to propose new Chapter 10- Uniform Policies and refer all references to residency in the Commission's rules to this new chapter. Commissioner Varner seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Audit and Finance Committee

Ms. May presented the SFY2016 operating budget to the Commission. Ms. May had met with the Audit and Finance Committee to highlight the budget prior to the Commission Meeting.

Ms. Misjak said the Commission does not receive enough appropriations to support the programs that it administers and staff is trying to educate legislators to show that funding is needed to administer these programs. Ms. Misjak said when new programs are added that administrative costs are usually not considered as part of the appropriation. Ms. May said that state programs are underfunded over \$2 million dollars. The Commission is appropriated \$344,218 and the cost to administer all state programs is \$2.8 million. The Commission is operating at a \$1.9 million loss. We continue to project the operating fund and how long it will continue to be viable. Based on projections 2022 is when the money will run out.

Motion: Commissioner Shull moved to approve the proposed budget for the Operating Fund, State Program Administration, Postsecondary Registration, Partnership Loan Program, and Federal Grants for State Fiscal Year 2016. Commissioner Wells seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

EverFi Presentation

Lincoln Hughes from EverFi, Inc. presented a report on Strengthening Financial Education for Iowa High School Students. The report looks at the impact of the Iowa Financial Literacy Program (IFLP), which has reached over 52,000 Iowa students since its inception in the 2010-11 school year.

Among the findings in the report:

- Students are knowledgeable about protecting their personal information, but struggle with more math-intensive topics like investing, savings, and taxes and insurance.
- Iowa students in rural schools are more knowledgeable and have more healthy attitudes toward personal finance than their peers in urban schools.
- Students whose parents talk to them about money and finances are more likely to be knowledgeable and have healthy attitudes and behaviors toward money.
- Just under half of Iowa high school juniors and seniors plan to borrow money for college, but recent data shows that actual borrowing rates are higher: 65% of first-year college students in Iowa receive loans.
- Students who plan to borrow money for college are not any more knowledgeable about student loans than their peers who do not plan to borrow money.

The data insights in this report will help to identify additional opportunities to further prepare students to be financially responsible.

Legislative Committee

Ms. Leeper provided an update on bills that she is currently following. She shared that the Education Appropriation Bill has gone to the conference committee.

Staff Report

Commission staff provided Commissioners with an update on the 2013-2015 Strategic Plan.

Ms. May gave an update of FY 2015 year-to-date financials.

Mr. Brown provided a presentation titled "What Can FAFSAs Tell Us?"

Closed Session

Motion: Commissioner Ford moved for the Commission to go into closed session for the evaluation of the Executive Director. Commissioner Shull seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Commission came out of closed session at 11:59 a.m. and adjourned at 12:00 p.m.



JANET ADAMS, CHAIR



CRYSTAL FORD, VICE CHAIR