Greetings Financial Aid Colleagues,

In light of ongoing Covid-19 impacts for students and colleges, we are providing additional guidance that is applicable through <u>December 31, 2020</u>.

- Institutions may invoke a waiver to not monitor quarterly satisfactory academic progress, when warranted, due to COVID-19 related disruptions at their campus. If invoking this waiver, Institutions must provide our office with a brief written statement (sent to <a href="https://wcg@wsac.wa.gov">wcg@wsac.wa.gov</a>) explaining what the COVID-19 related issues are on their campus thru December, 2020. Institutions will be allowed to exclude any attempted but not completed credits as a result of this emergency thru December 2020.
  - This means colleges do not have to refer any state aid repayments that would have been typically referred during a SAP review.
  - The quarters of eligibility remaining(QERs) will however be impacted, decreasing the remaining terms available.
- Any CARES Act emergency aid awarded to a student does NOT need to be included in any financial need calculation when awarding state financial aid. This would mean that any distribution of federal emergency aid would not result in a state financial aid over-award. This guidance also applies to institutional emergency aid awarded as a result of COVID-19 expenses.
- Existing receivables payments will be postponed through December and interest will not accrue on accounts where applicable. There will also be a moratorium on collections for accounts placed with our collection agency through December, 2020.

We anticipate issuing additional guidance in the near future regarding State Work Study.

As always, we are grateful for your continued partnership in this work. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Thank you,



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