Legislative & Agency Updates

STATE FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOPS

MAY 1 – NORTH SEATTLE CC
MAY 2 – SPOKANE CC
MAY 3 – CENTRAL WA UNIVERSITY
MAY 4 – CENTRALIA COLLEGE
Topics

- Higher education legislation & budget
- Transition to the Student Achievement Council
- “Other” aid program updates
The 2012 Legislative Session

- Began with special session November and ended with a 30-day and 1-day special session
- Additional cuts to higher education essentially averted
Illustration 1
Major Budget Components by Percent Change in General Fund Appropriations
2007-09 through 2011-13
(Higher Education includes Opportunity Pathway Account)

Higher Education, Human Services, and K-12 represent about 90% of the State’s General Fund budget (averaging 10%,
General Fund Appropriations in Constant (2000) Dollars as a Percent of 2000 Appropriations with Higher Education Tuition Revenue
New Higher Education Studies

- **Tuition waiver** studies by SBCTC and each public four-year campus due December 2012

- A legislative advisory committee will review the impact of **differential tuition** rates on the GET program (Jan. 2013)

- **Higher Education Loan Program** review of student needs, program design & fund sources

- Several **State Need Grant** studies
  - Student Achievement Council will evaluate outcomes & prioritization options (HB 2483)
  - Less-than-halftime outcomes compared to other SNG students with HECB/SBCTC (Dec. 2013)
Higher Education Legislation

- Reporting relief – state campus safety reports eliminated (SHB 2259)
- Campuses exempted from certain purchasing contracting requirements (3SHB 2585)
- Campus staff must report child abuse (ESSB 5991)
- Students on board of trustees (SSB 5217)
- Student and activity fee expenditures posted to web (SHB 2352)
- Meeting procedures – 4-year campuses publicize tuition increase proposals 21 days prior to consideration (SHB 2313)
FA Related Legislation

- **Passport to College** made permanent (until 2022) & requires enrollment of all foster youth in College Bound Scholarship (SHB 2254)
  - DSHS will expand contracted services & share educational records with contracted entities

- **Financial aid counseling** for State Need Grant recipients (SSB 6121) – develop a web site for 2013-14 & modify Conditions of Award to direct students to the site
Governance

- **Student Achievement Council** replaces Higher Education Coordinating Board (E2SHB 2483)
  - Nine members of council from public 4-year, CTC, OSPI, independent colleges, student & 4 citizens
  - Propose goals for increasing educational attainment & improving student transitions updated every 2 years
  - Conduct research with ERDC, identify barriers & track progress
  - Set minimum admissions standards for four-year campuses
  - Administer financial aid, GET & college access programs
  - Creates Joint Higher Education Committee of 8 legislators
Transition to the Council

- Internal transition planning underway
- Council members not yet named
- Administration of financial aid should be seamless
- Progress will be communicated regularly
Passport to College For Foster Youth

- 2011-12 headcount – 382 (Total new: 122)
- 66% retention rate last year
- Dip in enrollment of new students
- Average award is 97% of the $3,000 maximum
- 2012-13 award amount is increased to $4,500
- Comprehensive program report completed in Dec 2011 [www.hecb.wa.gov/publications-library](http://www.hecb.wa.gov/publications-library)
- Updated addendum sent to campuses in May
- WSIPP study on Passport in Dec 2012
- CSF held regional summit meetings – 150 attendees at each of the 4 sites
Over 100,000 seekers and 240 providers
More than $46 million in available awards for next year
Improvements and Enhancements, over the last 6 months
  - Providers have new tools for reviewing applications, sending custom emails to applicants, attaching documents to electronic application, ability to add custom criteria
  - New fields for CTE/Tech Prep credits and Student ID
  - Seekers are given clearer indication of required information, streamlined interface, and more targeted matches
100+ Video contest entrants: “Why are scholarships important to you?
theWashBoard.org YouTube channel
Washington Scholars & WAVE

- 582 nominations for recognition-only award received from 242 high schools (compared to 670 nominations from 290 schools in 2011)
- No application cycle for WAVE this year by Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (WTECB)
Health Professional Loan Repayment

- Created to attract and retain licensed health professionals to serve in critical shortage areas in WA. Provides educational loan repayment assistance to licensed primary care health professionals who are committed to serving the underserved.

**Eligible Professions include:**
- Physician (MD, DO, and Psychiatrist)
- Physician Assistant or Nurse Practitioner
- Dentist
- Dental Hygienist
- Midwives

*Note: As of January 2013 Registered nurses and Pharmacists will be eligible for the federal/state loan repayment program.*

**New site types eligible as of July 2012:**
- Critical access hospitals
- Nursing homes
- State, county, local mental health hospitals
Aerospace Loan Program

Provides low-interest loans to Washington Aerospace Training and Research Center Program students. Training currently offered at Edmonds Community College and Renton Technical College.

- Students can receive up to $4,800 for 12 weeks of training.
- Recipients have up to three years to repay their loans.
- Funds will be available for classes starting after July 2012.
New issue: report divorced or widowed students as “unmarried.”

More than 216,000 students were reported in URR in 2010-11.

Almost 190,000 students received need based aid in 2010-11.

The need-based aid recipients received a total of almost $2.405 billion in aid.

ERDC will house some URR data for research purposes.

URR manual will be available in the summer.

Training will be offered in August and Sept. via webinar.

Due date is **October 12, 2012**.
• New 6-year grant of $27 million in the latest competition. Will not have scholarship component.

• GEAR UP works with 28 low-income school districts, serving 6800 students.
  ○ Focuses on student achievement outcomes, measuring student college enrollment, persistence and completion.
  ○ Aims to establish a college-going culture at schools and among students and their families.
  ○ Strives to create sustainability for schools through carefully planned professional development activities, and provide strategic liaison and association with proven college access and success programs and organizations.

• 437 current scholars enrolled.
A few contacts

- **Passport to College:** Dawn Cypriano McAferty
dawnc@hecb.wa.gov or 360-753-7846

- **Washington Scholars & WAVE:** Ann Voyles
annv@hecb.wa.gov or 360-753-7843

- **Health Professional Loan Repayment:** Chris Wilkins
chrisw@hecb.wa.gov or 360-596-4817

- **Aerospace Loan Program:** Rochelle Wambach
rochellew@hecb.wa.gov or 360-753-7847

- **thewashboard.org:** Jenny Crane
jennyc@hecb.wa.gov or 360-596-4806

- **GEAR UP:** Marcie Sample
marcies@hecb.wa.gov or 360-596-4809
• Designed to increase BA degrees in high demand fields
  o Residents who intend to enroll full-time 2012-13
  o Pursue eligible fields of study: science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM) or health care.
  o GPA of 2.75 or higher at the time of application
  o File FAFSA with total 2011 family income ≤125% median family income (e.g. an applicant from a family of four must have family income of $102,200 or less)
3,000 scholarships will be awarded for 2012-13 academic year enrollment.

Scholarships will be $1,000 per academic year.

Scholarships will be renewed for students who meet Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) standards, complete the FAFSA each year, apply for the available federal education tax credits (if eligible) and continue in eligible programs of study.

For new freshmen, the maximum eligibility is five years.

Selected students will receive the scholarship until the student either completes their undergraduate degree or has taken the equivalent of 125% of the published length of the program, whichever occurs first.

The total maximum funds to be received per applicant are $5,000 (over a five year period).
About 5,700 applications were submitted.
Of this number, about 4,800 (84%) met all of the requirements for filing.
About 3,000 recipients will be selected, with most receiving notification by email on or about May 1.
Non selects will be notified on or about May 1.

To see the college choices of the ~5700 applicants at the time of application, go to:

March 1 – applications were first available
April 16 – application deadline
May 1 – CSF will begin emailing selection decisions to applicants
Selected students will need to confirm by May 15:
  - the WA colleges they will enroll at in fall 2012
  - Provide CSF a copy of their academic transcript to verify the GPA reported in their application
• June 1 – CSF will begin notifying colleges beginning this date, after students have confirmed with CSF the colleges they will attend for the fall term 2012.

• August – September – CSF will send checks to colleges for the 2012-13 academic year—(the full $1000 will be sent in the fall) and colleges may disburse either all in the fall or divide over several terms.
Program Contact Information

- Website  www.waopportunityscholarship.org
- Email  info@waopportunityscholarship.org
- Toll free phone number  1-877-899-5002