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Memorandum

To: Public Institutions of Higher Education
From: DeChà Reid
Director III, Student Financial Aid Programs (SFAP) Operations
Date: February 29, 2024

Subject: UPDATE: Texas First Scholarship Program

The Texas First Scholarship Program was established to incentivize the enrollment of high performing students at Texas institutions of higher education (as defined in [Texas Education Code, Section 61.003](#)). Eligible students who graduated early under the Texas First Early High School Completion Program can receive a scholarship, which is applied as a state credit to the student's charges for tuition, mandatory fees, and other costs of attendance.

On January 25, 2024, the Board adopted rules that reflect amendments to align with statutory changes enacted on September 1, 2023, through Senate Bill 2294, during the 88th Legislative Session. Outlined below are rule changes (see [Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 22, Subchapter T](#)) and roster updates to help institutions administer the program:

Rule Changes

- Expands the program from ten emerging/research institutions to *all* Texas public institutions of higher education;
- Adds the definition of the term *academic year*;
- Clarifies the academic year used in determining the discontinuation of a student's eligibility;
- Clarifies the academic year used in determining the scholarship amount; and
- Clarifies the time period used to calculate an institution's disbursement.

Roster Updates

- Added *date of high school graduation* on the roster
- Moved *date roster issued by THECB* to column G

Beginning **Friday, March 1**, updated program rosters can be accessed via the institution's Grant_Output folder in [MOVEit DMZ](#). Rosters can be used to validate a student's eligibility for a Texas First Scholarship. Updates will be made available when new students are added to the roster. As a reminder, MOVEit DMZ does not generate a "file upload" notification, so institutions should determine their file retrieval frequency.

Additional training will be provided during the March 21, 2024, webcast. Information to register and join the webcast will be sent in a separate communication.

For questions, call 844-792-2640 or submit an online inquiry through [CONTACT US](#) (select "Financial Aid Question" for the Contact Reason).