

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Financial Aid Advisory Committee Annual Report November 2021 – October 2022

Rachelè Garrett, Committee Chair and Denise Welch, Past Committee Chair

January 25, 2023

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Summary of Tasks Completed

- Working with Coordinating Board staff, to host presentations and discussions several topics relative to state financial aid funding and best practices within higher education aid administration. These discussions included: Succession Planning, Leveraging Financial Aid, Administering GEER: Reskilling and Upskilling, Recruiting and Retaining Students After COVID. Presentations included: When Your Business Impacts Your Business, State of Student Aid and Higher Education in Texas (SOSA) and NASFAA Certified Financial Aid Administrator Program.
- Working with financial aid administrators and high school representatives on recommended changes for the paper and online Texas Application State Financial Aid (TASFA) structure.
- Providing valuable input on the processing for the Texas Transfer Grant Pilot Program, Authority to Transfer funds, and Financial Aid Database certification.
- Assisting as a user acceptance tester for the THECB new data submission portal for the Financial Aid Database file process.

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Recommendations to the Board

- Continue to work with the Financial Aid Advisory Committee (FAAC) in providing feedback and recommendations on new initiatives when there would be an implied or real impact on state financial aid program policies and procedures.
- Continue to create and utilize FAAC subcommittees with subject matter experts to review and identify areas of development.
- Continue the work or create necessary subcommittees to share information that helps both the THECB and the institutions make informed decisions related to financial aid concerns and challenges in higher education.
- Continue to allow members to represent all sectors in order to provide a perspective on ways to advance the state's mission and goals in Building a Talent Strong Texas.

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Thank You!

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