# State Financial Aid Webcast

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Student Financial Aid Programs
September 15, 2020





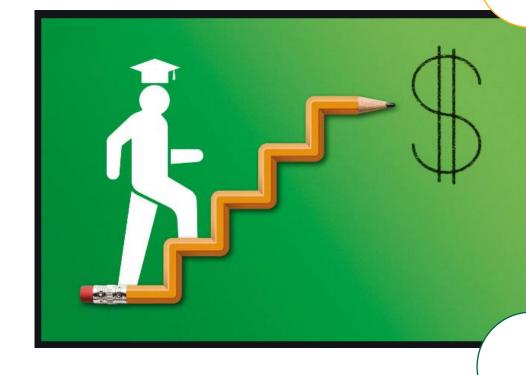
**Topics of Discussion** 





**GEER Funding Information** 

Updates, Training, & Deadlines



# **Net Price Calculator (NPC)**



### NPC 2020-21 Overview

 NPC Guidelines provide a breakdown of the steps to update the tool.

### **Student Financial Aid Programs**

The Office of Student Financial Aid programs (SFAP) supports institutions of higher education with the administration of state financial aid programs. We are committed to expanding financial aid knowledge through excellence in customer service, communication, and training for Texas students, borrowers, and institutions of higher education.

### **GEER State Grant and Emergency Educational Grant \*\*NEW\*\***

Find answers to frequently asked questions, reporting requirements and other important information associated with the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) for State Grants and Emergency Educational Grant.

### **Stay Connected**

Access the Institutional Calendar of Program Deadlines, subscribe to the SFAP listserv, follow the Financial Aid Advisory Committee, view an archive of Financial Aid Services monthly webcast, and download SFAP published memos.

### **Program Resources**

Find information to assist with the administration of state grants, loans, work-study, scholarships, exemptions and waivers, tuition set asides, Selective Service Statement of Registration Status, and download the Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA).

### **SFAP Frequently Asked Questions**

Find answers to common questions associated with the administration of state grants, loans, work-study, exemptions and waivers.

### Learning Resources

Request training, view recorded webinars and download presentations and available handouts

### **Contact Information**

The institutional customer service line (844-792-2640) and the Texas financial Aid Information Center (888-311-8881) phone line will both be unavailable until further notice.

During these phone closure times, please send online inquiries through <u>CONTACT US</u> (select "Financial Aid Question" for the Contact Reason) and someone will respond as soon as possible. We appreciate your understanding.

### **Net Price Calculator (NPC)**

- 2020-21 State Net Price Calculator (NPC) Guidelines
- Institution Admin Tool

### Coronavirus

The THECB has created a dedicated webpage for <u>coronavirus</u> <u>information</u> relevant to higher education stakeholders.

Visit the <u>Coronavirus Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)</u> webpage to get guidance on: Tuition, Refunds, and Financial Aid.

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY: Take a moment to provide foodback



### NPC 2020-21 Overview

 If you have questions or need NPC login assistance, send an inquiry through CONTACT US.





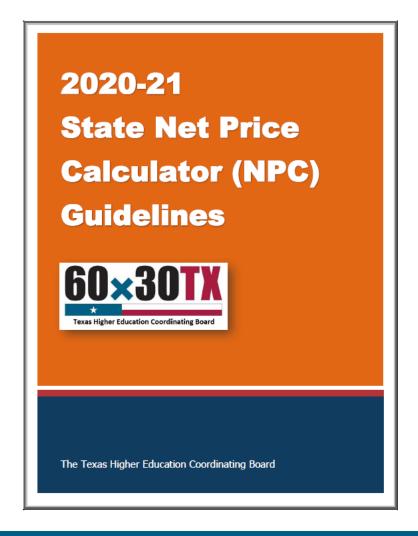
### NPC 2020-21 Overview Continued

### Aug. 27 memo highlights:

Per the Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965, institutions participating in the state's NPC must:

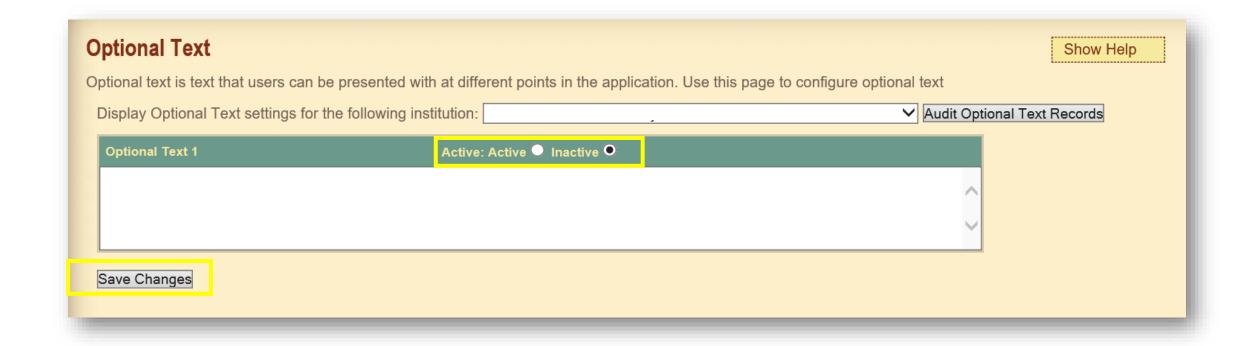
- annually upload estimated financial assistance (grants, scholarships, loans) typically awarded to full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking students by EFC range; AND
- include the percentage of its cohort (full-time, first-year students) that received grant and scholarship aid under the "Optional Text" section.

**Deadline to upload data: Oct. 2, 2020** 



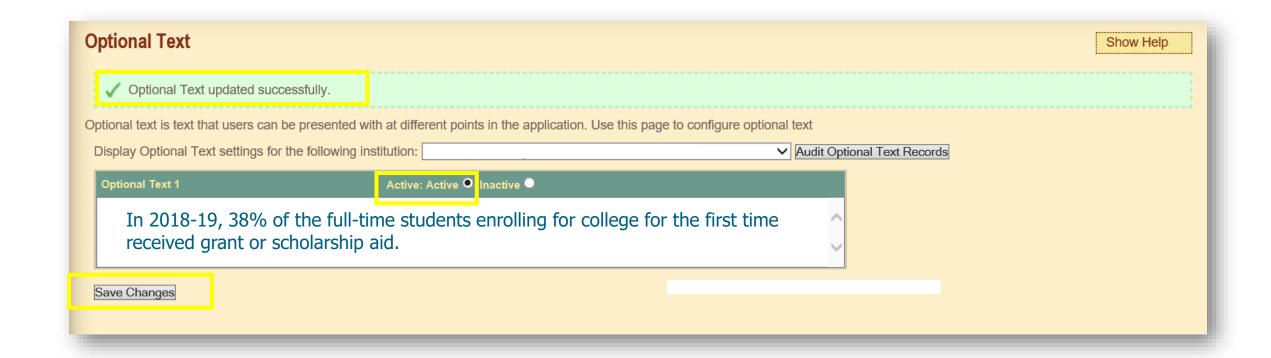


# NPC Optional Text





# **NPC Optional Text**





# Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA)



The English TASFA was released early to institutions, giving them time to:

- Customize the TASFA and post it online for the Oct. 1 release to students
- Provide the TASFA to vendors for software updates

**NOTE:** The English and Spanish versions of the TASFA will be posted on College for All Texans on or before Oct. 1, 2020.

### **2021-22 TASFA** Texas Application for State Financial Aid The Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA) is a free application that collects information to help determine eligibility for state (or institutional financial aid programs administered by institutions of higher education in the state of Texas. Students classified as Texas residents who are not eligible to apply for federal financial aid using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) are encouraged to complete the TASFA. To review the FAFSA filing requirements, visit fafsa.gov or contact the financial aid office at the institution you plan to attend for the 2021-22 award year. Note: The federal application covers federal and state financial aid opportunities. If you meet the FAFSA filing requirements, then you should submit a completed FAFSA. You do not need to complete both the FAFSA and TASFA. The state financial aid priority application deadline for many institutions of higher education is January 15, 2021 for the 2021-22 award year. In order to be considered for the most financial aid that may be available to you, it is important to complete and submit this application with all required documentation to the financial aid office on or before Jan. 15. Note: Texas residency and final eligibility for financial aid can only be determined by the institution that you To complete this application, answer each item within each section. If a question does not apply to you, answer N/A for not applicable. For clarification or certain items, refer to the TASFA Notes on pages 6-8. If you have further questions about this form, contact the financial aid office at your institution. Some institutions have an online version of the TASFA; check with your institution before filling out the pdf or paper version. Note: Personal information collected on the TASFA is protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974. SECTION ONE: STUDENT INFORMATION (See Notes for questions 5-6) 2. First Name 3. M.I. DACA Number or N/A 7. Permanent Mailing Address 10. Zip Code 8. City 9. State 11. Phone Number High school diploma when you begin college in the 2021-22 school year? General Educational Development (GED) certificate None of these 14. High School Name 17. Date of 15. High School City 20. What degree or certificate will you be working on when you begin (No college credits) Continuing graduate/professional or beyond 2021-22 Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA Page 1



- Added text that students should answer all questions on the TASFA or select "N/A."
- Added hyperlink to SSS.gov as a resource for students.
- Added Note that selecting the last option in the Selective Service status section could result in the loss of eligibility.

21. Where do you plan to live during the 2021-22 school year?  On-campus Off-campus With parent or relative  22. At the start of the 2021-22 school year, how many credits/hours will you be enrolled in?  Full-time (12 hours or more) Three-quarter time (9-11 hours)  Half-time (6-8 hours) Less than half-time (5 hours or less)  Not sure  23. If you are transferring schools, have you earned an Associate Degree?  Yes  (Enter date you earned Associate Degree: /	25. Have you been convicted of a felony or a crime involving a controlled substance?  Yes No  26. Have you previously received state Financial Aid?  Yes No  27. (A) Do you have authorization to work in the United States?  Yes No Don't know N/A  (B) If yes, are you interested in applying for a work-study program?  Yes No Don't know  28. What is your current marital status?  I am single I am separated  I am married/remarried I am divorced or widowed  29. Month and year you were married, remarried, separated, divorced, or widowed. Month: Year: N/A			
SELECTIVE SERVICE STATEMENT OF REGISTRATION STATUS  Male students must verify their current Selective Service registration status by marking one of the statements below and providing proof of their registration status to their current institution. Failure to do so may result in the loss of eligibility for state financial aid.  For more information about the Selective Service System, visit <a href="mailto:sss.gov">sss.gov</a> .				
I am under the age of 18 and not currently required to register.				
Check the Johnwing box that applies.	I am EXEMPT from registration and,  Check the following box that applies:  I have already submitted proof of my exemption to my current institution.			



- Added Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) to better align with the FAFSA.
- Added taxes paid.

SECTION FOUR: INCOME INFORMATION					
STOP: If you answered "Yes" to any of the questions in SECTION TWO, parental information is NOT required in the purple section below. You are required to enter income information for only yourself (and your spouse, if applicable).  If you answered "No" to all the questions in SECTION TWO, you must include parental information, as defined in SECTION THREE.					
PART A. EARNINGS ( <u>See Notes for questions 57-70</u> ) The financial aid office m	ay require documentation, such as W-2s, tax returns, or tax transcripts.				
Student Earnings and Tax Information	nformation Parent Earnings and Tax Information				
57. Did you (or your spouse) work in 2019? Yes No	63. Did your parent(s) work in 2019? Yes No				
58. If yes, how much did you (or spouse) earn from working in 2019?	64. If yes, how much did your parent(s) earn from working in 2019?				
Student: N/A Spouse: N/A	Parent 1: N/A Parent 2: N/A				
59. Did you (or spouse) file a 2019 tax return?	65. Did your parent(s) file a 2019 tax return?				
Student Yes No Spouse Yes No	Parent 1 Yes No Parent 2 Yes No				
60. Was an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) used to file a 2019 tax return? If so, enter the ITIN below, or mark N/A.	66. Was an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) used to file a 2019 tax return? If so, enter the ITIN below, or mark N/A.				
Student: N/A Spouse: N/A	Parent 1: N/A Parent 2: N/A				
61. Enter your (or spouse) 2019 adjusted gross income from IRS Form 1040 – line 8b.	67. Enter your parents' 2019 adjusted gross income from IRS Form 1040 – line 8b.				
Student: N/A Spouse: N/A	Parent 1: N/A Parent 2: N/A				
62. Enter your (or spouse) 2019 income tax from IRS Form 1040 – line 14 minus Schedule 2 – line 2. If negative, enter a zero.  68. Enter your parents' 2019 income tax from IRS Form 1040 – line 14 minus Schedule 2 – line 2. If negative, enter a zero.					
Student: N/A Spouse: N/A	Parent 1: N/A Parent 2: N/A N/A				



- Elaborated on the Dislocated Worker question for clarity.
- Modified question 74 (previously 70) to better align with the FAFSA.

Student Earnings and Tax Information continued	Parent Earnings and Tax Information continued			
69. As of today, are you (or spouse) a dislocated worker (currently unemployed)? This question is unrelated to previous tax years and is asking about right now. (See Notes page 8.)  Student Yes No I don't know  Spouse Yes No I don't know	70. As of today, is either parent a dislocated worker (currently unemployed)? This question is unrelated to previous tax years and is asking about right now. (See Notes page 8.)  Parent 1 Yes No I don't know			
Spouse Yes No I don't know	Parent 2	Yes No	I don't know	
For questions, 71-82, if the answer is zero or the question does not apply to you, enter "0." DO NOT LEAVE ANY BLANKS. Report whole dollar yearly amounts with no cents.	STUDENT	SPOUSE (If applicable)	PARENT 1	PARENT 2 (If applicable)
PART B. 2019 UNTAXED INCOME (See Notes for questions 71-76)				
71. Child support received for any of your children.				
72. Housing, food, and other living allowances paid to members of the military, clergy, and others. (See Notes page 8.)				
73. Other untaxed income not reported.  (Such as worker's compensation, disability, veterans noneducation benefits, etc.)				
74. Cash earnings. (Income not already reported on taxes. Do NOT include W-2 earnings.)				
75. Money received, or paid on your behalf (e.g., bills), not reported elsewhere on this form.			N/A	N/A
76. TOTAL UNTAXED INCOME (Automatically calculates if completed electronically.)	\$ (	0.00	\$ 0	.00



# Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund



### **GEER Contract**

To receive funding, an eligible institution must sign and return both a contract and supporting federal documents.

### **Contract highlights:**

- Eligibility requirements
- Reporting
- Allocation amounts
- Deadline to use funding



# Two Types of GEER Funding Available

**Public Institutions ONLY:** GEER provides FY 2021 funding for Emergency Educational Grants.

**Public and Private/Independent Institutions:** GEER provides additional funds for the FY 2021 TEXAS Grant, TEOG, and TEG programs.



## **GEER Emergency Educational Grants**

- Emergency Educational Grants provide financial relief to victims of the pandemic emergency through federally funded educational grants that keep Texans on track to attaining high-value educational credentials.
- Institutions have until **Nov. 2, 2020**, to disburse all GEER funding for Emergency Educational Grants to eligible students.
- Any unexpended Emergency Educational Grants funds must be returned to the THECB by Nov. 16, 2020.

NOTE: Emergency Educational Grant GEER funding is separate from the state grants GEER funding; institutions may NOT transfer funding between the two allocations.



## **GEER Emergency Educational Grants**

### **Highlights:**

- Funds can only be used for a single semester.
- Recipients must be Title IV eligible.
- Grant has specific eligibility requirements written into the contract.
- Unallowable expenses: An institution is prohibited from using funds for administration costs.



## **GEER Funding for State Grants**

### **Highlights:**

- Students must meet all state grant eligibility requirements **AND** be Title IV eligible.
- Unlike the Emergency Educational Grant funding, these funds can be used through Feb. 1, 2021.
- Any unexpended funds must be returned to the THECB by Feb. 15,
   2021.



# **GEER Monthly Report**

Each institution **must** provide a GEER monthly report to the THECB on the first of each month, or the first working day thereafter if it falls on a weekend or holiday, beginning **Oct. 1, 2020**.

**NOTE:** The THECB will provide a reporting template to institutions.

### **Reporting Requirements:**

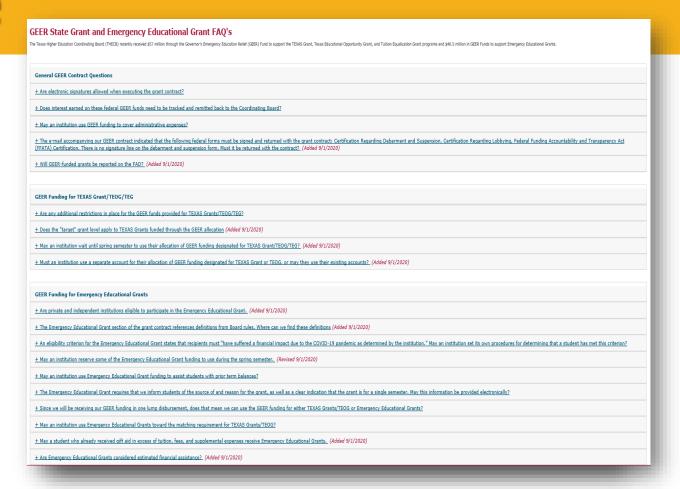
- YTD total number of students who have received a state grant funded by GEER
- YTD total **amount** of GEER funding disbursed to students for state grants
- YTD total number of students who have received an Emergency Educational Grant funded by GEER
- YTD total **amount** of GEER funding disbursed to students for Emergency Educational Grants



# **GEER FAQ Webpage**

### **Categories include:**

- Contract Questions
- Funding for TEXAS
   Grant, TEOG, and TEG
- Funding for Emergency Educational Grants



Questions? Email DeChà Reid directly at DeCha.Reid@highered.texas.gov



# Updates, Training, & Deadlines



22

### Updates

- 2020-21 allocation amounts have been released; requests can now be submitted.
- Financial Aid Database Cycle Three begins **Sept. 28, 2020**.
- Pre-disbursement changes in HelmNet are currently unavailable and must be submitted through CONTACT US for processing.
- The institutional phone line is being tested.
   More information will be provided when it is functional and available for calls.

### Training

- Training Series
  - October Proposed Topic: State Campus-Based Report
- TASFAA ABC Workshop: Oct. 7 9

### Deadlines

- Deadline for legislators to make a TASSP appointment was extended to Sept. 30, 2020; appointed students must complete their TASSP online application by Oct. 15, 2020.
- Net Price Calculator data upload is due Oct. 2, 2020.



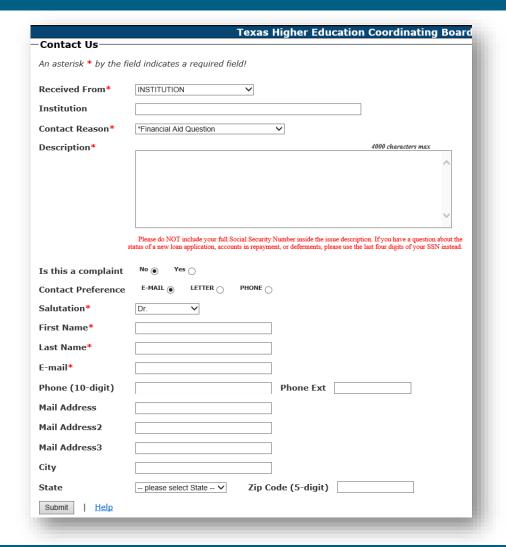
### Contacting Financial Aid Services

The THECB's customer phone lines are unavailable until further notice.

All inquiries must be submitted online through the **CONTACT US** web form.

- Loan reporting requests
- Loan processing changes
- State financial aid program eligibility questions

NOTE: Loan cancellation requests can be sent for multiple students in one request instead of individual submissions.

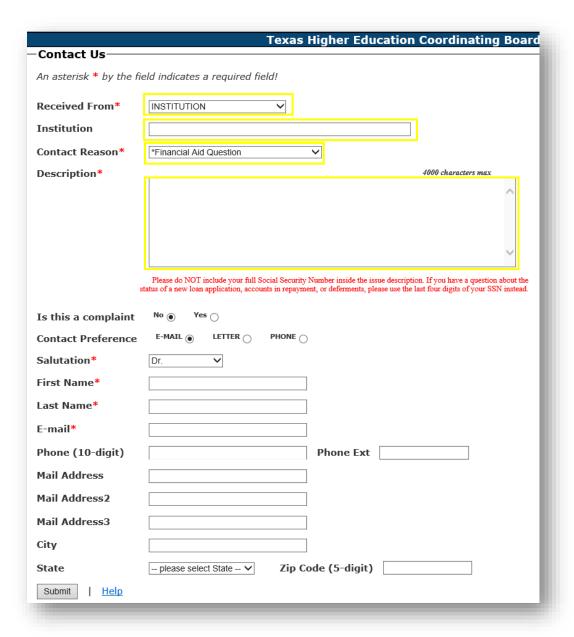




# Submitting a CONTACT US

To ensure inquiries are routed correctly, complete these steps:

- Select "Institution" in Received From box
- Enter the institution's full name
- Always select "Financial Aid Question" as the Contact Reason





### **Stay Connected**

Subscribe to the SFAP listserv, download SFAP published memos, and view the Institutional Calendar on the Stay Connected SFAP webpage.

### Stay Connected

### Recent Communications

- 04/06/2020 UPDATE: Selective Service Status Statement Requirement New Guidance Memo [PDF]
- 02/12/2020 Financial Aid Database (FAD) Reporting Cycle One 2019-20 (FY 2020) Memo [PDF]
- . 02/10/2020 B-On-Time (BOT) Loan Certification Deadline FY 2020 Memo [PDF]
- 02/03/2020 College Access Loan (CAL) Opt-In/Opt-Out Form 2020-21 (FY 2021) Memo [PDF]
- 02/03/2020 Texas State Financial Aid Opt-In/Opt-Out Form 2020-21 (FY 2021) Memo [PDF]
- 02/03/2020 Good Neighbor Program 2020-21 (FY 2021) Memo [PDF
- 01/30/2020 Tuition Equalization Grant (TEG) Award Amounts for 2020-2021 (FY 2021) Memo [PDF]
- 01/30/2020 Toward EXcellence, Access and Success Grant and Texas Educational Opportunity Grant (TEOG) Award Amounts for FY 2020-2021

  Memo [PDF]
- 01/27/2020 State Financial Aid Resource Undate Memo [PDF
- 12/20/2019 Financial Aid Database (FAD) Manual for FY 2020 Memo [PDF]

### Webcast

Join the Financial Aid Services (FAS) team for our monthly live informational we

### STUDENT FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS LISTSERV

Subscribe to receive memos, notifications, reminders and announcements thro

### CALENDAR OF PROGRAM DEADLINES

Download the Institutional calendar of events and deadlines to know what is con

- Institutional Financial Aid Calendar Summer 2020 [PDF]
- Institutional Financial Aid Calendar Spring 2020 [PDF]
- Institutional Financial Aid Calendar Fall 2019 [PDF]

### FINANCIAL AID ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Follow the Financial Aid Advisory Committee and provide the THECB with advice and evaluation of state financial aid programs for college students.

### ARCHIVE MEMOS

Memos 2019 Expand

Memos 2018 Expand



Zip Code:

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
Office of Student Financial Aid Programs

This list is intended to provide a communication medium devoted to the sharing of information about state-funded programs administered by Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board office of Student Financial Aid Programs. Subscriptions are authorized by the Coordinating Board and are limited to Texas public and private institutions of higher education.

First Name:	
Last Name:	
Affiliation/Institution:	

Designated Program (Optional):

Email:
Phone Number:

Address:
City:
State:

Subscribe I understand that my information will be stored and that periodic correspondence will be sent to the e-mail indicated.

Unsubscribe I understand that my information will be deleted and I will no longer receive any correspondence from this listserv.



### Contact Information and Feedback

Email: leah.smalley@highered.texas.gov

Webcast Survey: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/58YRM92">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/58YRM92</a>

Contact Us: <a href="https://www1.highered.texas.gov/Apps/CRAFT/Home/Create">https://www1.highered.texas.gov/Apps/CRAFT/Home/Create</a> (Select "Financial Aid Question" as the Contact Reason.)



# **Questions?**

