

261.2 Duties of commission.

The commission shall:

1. Prepare and administer a state plan for a state supported and administered scholarship program. The state plan shall provide for scholarships to deserving students of Iowa, matriculating in Iowa universities, colleges, community colleges, or schools of professional nursing. Eligibility of a student for receipt of a scholarship shall be based upon academic achievement and completion of advanced level courses prescribed by the commission.
2. Administer the tuition grant program under this chapter.
3. Develop and implement, in cooperation with the state board of regents, an educational program and marketing strategies designed to inform parents about the options available for financing a college education and the need to accumulate the financial resources necessary to pay for a college education. The educational program shall include, but not be limited to, distribution of informational material to public and nonpublic elementary schools for distribution to parents and guardians of five-year and six-year old children.
4. Approve transfers from the scholarship and tuition grant reserve fund under section 261.20.
5. Develop and implement, in cooperation with the judicial district departments of correctional services and the department of corrections, a program to assist criminal offenders in applying for federal and state aid available for higher education.
6. Develop and implement, in cooperation with the department of human services and the judicial branch, a program to assist juveniles who are sixteen years of age or older and who have a case permanency plan under chapter 232 or 237 or are otherwise under the jurisdiction of chapter 232 in applying for federal and state aid available for higher education.
7. Adopt rules to establish reasonable registration standards for the approval, pursuant to section 261B.3A, of postsecondary schools that are required to register with the secretary of state in order to operate in this state. The registration standards established by the commission shall ensure that all of the following conditions are satisfied:
 - a. The courses, curriculum, and instruction offered by the postsecondary school are of such quality and content as may reasonably and adequately ensure achievement of the stated objective for which the courses, curriculum, or instruction are offered.
 - b. The postsecondary school has adequate space, equipment, instructional material, and personnel to provide education and training of good quality.
 - c. The educational and experience qualifications of the postsecondary school's directors, administrators, and instructors are such as may reasonably ensure that students will receive instruction consistent with the objectives of the postsecondary school's programs of study.
 - d. Upon completion of training or instruction, students are given certificates, diplomas, or degrees as appropriate by the postsecondary school indicating satisfactory completion of the program.
 - e. The postsecondary school is financially responsible and capable of fulfilling commitments for instruction.

The commission may require a school seeking registration under chapter 261B to provide copies of its application to the Iowa coordinating council for post-high school education. The commission may consider comments from the council that are received by the commission within ninety days of the filing of the

application. However, if the council meets to consider comments for submission to the commission, the meeting shall be open to the public and subject to the provisions of chapter 21. The commission shall render a decision on an application for registration within one hundred eighty days of the filing of the application.

8. Establish an advisory committee on postsecondary registration to review and make recommendations relating to applications from schools required to register pursuant to chapter 261B. The commission shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to establish the policies and procedures of the advisory committee. Meetings of the advisory committee are subject to the requirements of chapter 21. The members of the advisory committee shall include one representative from each of the following:

a. The state board of regents.

b. The department of education.

c. The office of the secretary of state.

d. The office of the attorney general.

e. A community college located in this state.

f. An accredited private postsecondary institution as defined in section 261.9, subsection 1, incorporated or otherwise organized under the laws of this state.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, § 261.2]

83 Acts, ch 101, § 60; 83 Acts, ch 184, § 5, 11, 15; 88 Acts, ch 1003, §1; 88 Acts, ch 1261, § 2; 88 Acts, ch 1284, § 20, 21; 89 Acts, ch 300, § 2; 90 Acts, ch 1253, § 122; 90 Acts, ch 1272, §45; 92 Acts, ch 1231, §42; 92 Acts, ch 1240, §17; 93 Acts, ch 179, § 20; 95 Acts, ch 70, § 1; 98 Acts, ch 1047, §27; 2000 Acts, ch 1095, §3; 2004 Acts, ch 1145, §2; 2005 Acts, ch 59, §1