
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

July 25, 2018



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION — JULY MEETING

Meeting. The College Student Aid Commission met on July 20, 2018, in Des Moines. The items discussed or acted upon during the meeting included the following:

- Executive Director Karen Misjak noted that the Teacher Shortage Loan Forgiveness Program will continue issuing renewal awards only for two more years. The Legislature prohibited the issuance of new awards in 2017 Iowa Acts, [HF 642](#) but permitted and continues to fund renewals for teachers already in the Program until those teachers' loan forgiveness is completed. Final payments were issued to 26 teachers in FY 2018. The Commission anticipates that 25 teachers will exit the Program in FY 2019, and that the remaining 46 teachers will exit in FY 2020.
- The Commission approved four proposed Notices of Intended Action on administrative rules regarding the All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship, the Health Care Loan Repayment Program, the National Guard Educational Assistance Program, and the Rural Iowa Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant Loan Repayment Program. All the proposed changes result from legislation enacted in 2018.
- The Commission authorized staff to draw down \$20,000 from the GEAR UP 2.0 Scholarship Fund for scholarship awards.
- The Commission elected Kathleen (Katie) Mulholland as Chairperson and Doug Shull as Vice Chairperson for FY 2019. Both are public representatives on the Commission. The Commission also approved the recommendations of the Human Resources and Nominations Committee for appointments of commissioners to the Audit and Finance Committee, the Human Resources and Nominations Committee, the Legislative Action Committee, and the Board Structure Committee for FY 2019. The Commission also appointed Mark Wiederspan as Delegate and Executive Director Misjak as Alternate Delegate to the Iowa Coordinating Council for Post-High School Education (ICCPHSE) and staff member Todd Brown as Commissioner Alternate to the Midwest Higher Education Compact (MHEC).
- The Commission received a report from the Audit and Finance Committee regarding the move of the Commission office to a new location. Executive Director Misjak noted that the approved budget for the move was \$250,000, but there have been a few cost overruns. She noted that the most significant overrun was for the purchase and installation of cubicles for staff, as the new space has no private offices. The Commission approved the Committee's recommendation to increase the budget for the move by \$80,000.

Representative Cindy Winckler, a nonvoting member of the Commission, expressed concern that the State is providing no funding for the move and is requiring that the move be funded from the Commission's operating fund, which is non-State dollars. Representative Winckler said that the Commission is being treated differently than other agencies, noting that the recent move of the Iowa Finance Authority (IFA) was State-funded, even though the IFA has non-State funds that could have been used. Representative Winckler asked the Commission to consider sending a letter to the Legislative Council or Executive Council about the matter.

- The Commission reviewed FY 2018 financial reports that showed the Commission's operating fund will end the year over budget by \$2.0 million. The overage is the result of a one-time transfer of \$3.0 million to the GEAR Up 2.0 Scholarship Fund earlier in the year.

Next Meeting. The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for September 21, 2018. Information and agenda items for Commission meetings can be found [here](#).

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