



Coordinating Commission
BY THE NUMBERS:

83

Percentage of 2020-21 Access
College Early scholarship
recipients who went to
college after high school -
compared to 48% of other
low-income, public school
students. The Commission
administers this program.

13,188

The number of low-income
Nebraska college students who
received a Nebraska
Opportunity Grant in 2021-22.
The Commission administers
this program.

VII-14

Article in the
Nebraska constitution that
created the current
Coordinating Commission

11

Commissioners, appointed by
the Governor and confirmed
by the Legislature, who serve
as voting members of the
Commission

Originally formed in 1976, Nebraskans amended the state constitution in 1990 to create a new **Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education** with increased duties and responsibilities. Those duties and responsibilities now include:

- Creating and putting into action a **comprehensive statewide plan** to guide Nebraska's higher education system
- Partnering with Legislators to develop **innovative and results-driven higher education policy**
- **Helping low-income Nebraska students** attend college by awarding nearly \$26 million in need-based financial aid programs and developing state financial aid strategy
- Administering the **Community College Gap Assistance Program**, which offers financial aid to students who want to work in high-need fields
- Ensuring the **efficient use of taxpayer funds** by approving or disapproving postsecondary construction projects that rely on tax funds and reviewing institutional biennial budget requests
- **Approving or disapproving academic programs based on specific criteria:** need, demand, unnecessary duplication, resources, and cost
- **Reviewing and verifying information submitted by institutions** to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System at the U.S. Department of Education
- Assembling and analyzing **statewide data** and publishing reports **tied to the state's higher education goals**. The Coordinating Commission is the only Nebraska entity that does this kind of work on a statewide level
- Administering roughly **\$110 million** in annual State appropriations and **\$75 million** of federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to **Nebraska's six community colleges**
- **Saving Nebraska colleges and universities thousands of dollars** through the administration of a nationwide distance learning agreement
- **Protecting Nebraska students** who attend for-profit institutions in the state by administering the Guaranty Recovery Cash Fund

Contact us if you want to know more about: Graduation rates • Enrollment • Degrees and certificate programs • Remedial education • Assessment • Online education • Dual enrollment • Higher ed funding • Postsecondary construction projects • Financial aid • College affordability and student debt • Workforce development • Tuition and fees