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# MINUTES

## COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

October 31, 2013

Lincoln Public Schools

Administrative Offices - Boardroom

5905 O Street

Lincoln, Nebraska

Public notice of meeting

Public notice of time and place of regular meeting was given to Commission members, institutional representatives, news media, the Legislative Fiscal Office and the Department of Administrative Services.

### NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION WILL HOLD A MEETING ON OCTOBER 31, 2013. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 8:00 A.M. AND ADJOURN AT APPROXIMATELY 2:00 P.M.

AN AGENDA IS MAINTAINED IN THE COMMISSION OFFICE, 140 N. 8<sup>TH</sup> STREET, SUITE 300, LINCOLN, NEBRASKA.

DR. RON HUNTER, CHAIR

Meeting called to order at 8:06 a.m.

### CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Ron Hunter called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m. and asked for introductions.

#### Commissioners Present

Colleen Adam  
Clark Anderson  
Dr. Deborah Frison  
Dr. Ron Hunter  
Mary Lauritzen

Eric Seacrest  
Dr. Joyce Simmons  
W. Scott Wilson  
Carol Zink

#### Commissioners Absent

John Winkleblack

#### Commission Staff Present

Dr. Kathleen Fimple  
Jill Heese  
Jason Keese  
Kadi Lukesh  
Dr. Barbara McCuen

Ritchie Morrow  
Dr. Carna Pfeil  
Helen Pope  
Mike Wemhoff

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Dr. Steve Joel, LPS

**GREETING BY DR. STEVE JOEL, SUPERINTENDENT OF LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AND INTRODUCTION OF CAREER ACADEMY CENTER PRESENTATION**

Dr. Steve Joel, Superintendent of Lincoln Public Schools, welcomed the Commissioners to the new Lincoln Public Schools Administration offices. He stated he is excited to present the career academy concept that will make an impact on the city of Lincoln and the state of Nebraska. LPS has entered into a partnership with Southeast Community College to create the Career Academy Center LPS/SCC.

Dr. Dennis Headrick, SCC, and John Neal, LPS, speak about Career Academy Center

Dr. Joel introduced Dr. Dennis Headrick, Vice President of Instruction at Southeast Community College, and John Neal, Assistant to the Superintendent at Lincoln Public Schools, who showed a PowerPoint presentation on the Career Academy Center.

Career academies have become one of the best-tested and strongest components of a high school reform strategy to prepare students for both college and careers. SCC and LPS representatives visited several sites around the country, and collaborated with the Nebraska Department of Education, local business and industry leaders, administrators, teachers, parents and students to come up with a model.

The Career Center will cost approximately \$25 million, with LPS and SCC each investing half of the cost. There will be a bond issue vote, potentially in February 2014. The site is planned for the Southeast Community College 88<sup>th</sup> and O Street campus, which will allow for possible expansion and give high school students the “feel” of college of life. At 125,000 square feet, the center will house up to eight lab and classroom combinations, and be fully utilized, including summers and weekends.

Drs. Joel and Headrick, and Mr. Neal answered questions from the Commissioners.

Minutes of September 19, 2013  
Commission meeting approved

**MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2013 COMMISSION MEETING**

**Commissioner Adam moved that the September 19, 2013 minutes be approved. Commissioner Zink seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.**

Chair Hunter announces  
nominating committee

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

Chair Hunter announced Commissioners Frison, Simmons and Seacrest as the nominating committee members who will submit nominations for next year’s Commission Chair and Vice Chair. The nominating committee’s slate of officers will be voted on at the December Commission meeting.

Chair Hunter recognizes  
Commissioner Frison

Chair Hunter recognized Commissioner Frison, principal at Burke High School, who was recently awarded the Omaha Public Schools Excellence Award. The award celebrates the work of principals whose schools’ test

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scores on the Nebraska State Assessments test jumped five percent or more in three testing categories during the 2012-2013 school year.

Dr. Pfeil explains process of new executive director search

Chair Hunter asked Interim Executive Director Carna Pfeil to explain the process of searching for a new executive director for the commission. Dr. Pfeil stated that for this level of position, a search firm will be used. There are three firms that have been contacted. One stands out as a good choice and is considerably less expensive than the other two.

### **INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dr. Pfeil speaks about out-of-service area application

Dr. Carna Pfeil, Interim Executive Director, reported that the following out-of-service area application has been authorized:

1. Offered by Central Community College  
Traditional delivery at Cedar Catholic High School in Hartington, NE
  - PHIL Introduction to Ethics (3 cr.)  
-August 19, 2013 – December 20, 2013

Dr. Pfeil introduces Jill Heese

Dr. Pfeil announced that Dr. Barbara McCuen, research coordinator, is retiring and today is her last day with the Commission. Dr. McCuen stated that she has truly enjoyed working for the Commission and is pleased to introduce her replacement, Jill Heese, the Commission's new research coordinator. Jill noted that her background is in healthcare and market research not in education research, but she is very excited with the work she will be doing. She most recently was employed at University of Nebraska Medical Center. She has a bachelors degree from UNL in business administration and a masters from UNL in survey research and methodology.

Kadi Lukesh presents quarterly budget report

Kadi Lukesh, Office Manager/Bookkeeper, presented the quarterly budget report. She noted there are some vacancy savings due to Dr. Marshall Hill's resignation as executive director and the data analyst starting in August instead of July. Those savings will help contribute to Dr. McCuen's retirement, vacation and sick-leave payout. She noted there was an increase in Commission travel expenses. Ms Lukesh explained that the June 13 meeting was paid in the current fiscal year along with the August 1 meeting.

Dr. Pfeil discusses peer process

Dr. Pfeil discussed the peer process. The last time peers were decided was 1993, those peers are now outdated. Ritchie Morrow, Financial Aid Coordinator, uses the peers extensively in his tuition and financial aid report. Dr. Pfeil and Mr. Morrow reviewed the criteria and presented that information to the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee because the committee uses the peers for budget recommendations. The peer selection criteria was also presented to the Planning Committee because the peers will be part of the Comprehensive Statewide Plan. The CCPE research staff is taking on the peer process as a project. Dr. Pfeil also met with the advisory group from the community colleges, and will possibly meet with them in January of 2014 to share their list of peers.

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Jason Keese presents  
*Commission Update Newsletter*

Jason Keese, Public Information and Special Projects Coordinator, has put together a newsletter titled *Commission Update*. A copy was distributed to all Commissioners. Jason noted that about 10 years ago there was a similar newsletter. It will be distributed monthly in electronic form to Commissioners, legislators, community members, former Commissioners, colleges and universities, and anyone else who may be interested. He plans to send out the first issue in November, and asked for feedback or suggestions from the Commissioners.

Letter from UNL President  
Milliken

Dr. Pfeil distributed a letter to the Commissioners from University of Nebraska President J.B. Milliken regarding the University of Nebraska's Virtual Scholars program. The program provides scholarships for Nebraska high school students to take online high school courses from the University of Nebraska's Virtual High School at no cost. The Commissioners asked Dr. Pfeil to invite Ron Withem, Vice President for University Affairs, to a future Commission meeting to discuss the program in detail.

Public Comment on Matters of  
General Concern

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS OF GENERAL CONCERN**

There was no testimony regarding Matters of General Concern.

**Chair Hunter closed the public hearing on Matters of General Concern.**

Jason Keese introduces  
representatives to present GED  
Program Status

**GED PROGRAM STATUS**

Jason Keese stated that at the September Commission meeting the Commissioners expressed interest in hearing more on the GED programs in the Omaha area, particularly since Omaha Public Schools stopped offering its GED series. Three representatives were present to share information about programs they are involved in and answer questions from the Commissioners.

Vicki Bauer, Nebraska  
Department of Education

Vicki Bauer, Director of Adult Education at the Nebraska Department of Education, provided a handout from the Nebraska Department of Education Adult Education in Nebraska. Adult education in Nebraska is a federal program serving adults 16 years of age and older who do not have a high school diploma or lack the skills to function effectively in the workplace. Nebraska has 15 adult education programs that are sponsored by public schools, community colleges, corrections, and community-based organizations. In 2012, 3,654 people took the GED test, with 2,347 completing all five tests, and 1,874 achieving scores high enough to qualify them to receive a Nebraska high school diploma.

Mona Dowding, Metropolitan  
Community College

Mona Dowding, Director of Adult Education at Metropolitan Community College, briefed Commissioners on adult education in Omaha that MCC provides. In 2012, MCC served 3,000 students in its program. Classes are provided in 12 separate locations, five of which are MCC campus locations, along with two testing centers in the Omaha area. Students are given a free bus pass that allows them to attend classes. MCC does a

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great deal of outreach in the Omaha community. Last program year the student enrollment increased by 19 percent. In June of 2012, about the same time as OPS closed its GED program, Metro opened a new community-based facility called MCC Express in south Omaha. MCC Express provides accessible adult education services and supports individualized workforce and college readiness.

Cynthia Jenkins, Creighton University

Cynthia Jenkins, Director of the Educational Opportunity Center at Creighton University, reported that as a smaller university Creighton is able to serve 1,000 individuals over the course of a year with a variety of programs, one of which is the GED. Individuals must be first-generation college students, low-income, residents of the United States, and 19 years of age to join their program. They are fortunate to have retired professors and student volunteers to work with students one-on-one to increase their success.

Commission Meeting break

Chair Hunter called for a break at 10:18 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:32 a.m.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET, CONSTRUCTION, AND FINANCIAL AID COMMITTEE ITEMS**

Public Hearing on Budget, Construction and Financial Aid Committee Items

Dr. David Hardin, Director of the School of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at UNL, was present to address the proposal for the Veterinary Diagnostic Center. He thanked the Commissioners for taking due diligence with this project. The Veterinary Diagnostic Center is the state's only American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) accredited lab, and is a vital part of the USDA animal health laboratory network. That network monitors the health of the nation's livestock industry.

Dr. David Hardin, UNL School of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

Dr. Vergil Heyer, Nebraska Veterinary Medical Association

Dr. Vergil Heyer, President, Nebraska Veterinary Medical Association, expressed his appreciation to the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee for its efforts to move this project forward. The diagnostic lab will serve veterinarians in both companion and food animal practices. This facility will protect the economic vitality and life quality for all Nebraskans by promoting healthy livestock and companion animals, safeguarding humans from zoonotic diseases, and enhancing the understanding of disease through education and research.

Dr. Ronnie Green, University of Nebraska

Dr. Ronnie Green, Vice President, Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, thanked the Commissioners for their work on this important project. He gave an update on the fundraising portion of the project, stating that the Unicameral committed up to all but 10 percent of the funding, leaving \$4.1 to \$4.2 million to be raised from non-state funds. He is pleased to report they are within \$60,000 of that fundraising commitment.

Pete McClymont, Nebraska Cattlemen

Pete McClymont, Executive Vice President of Nebraska Cattlemen, stated that his organization, involved in the planning of the Veterinary Diagnostic Center from the beginning, has received funding dollars in support of this

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project from its affiliates and members. The impact of the Nebraska beef industry's \$6 billion annual revenue ensures the safety and quality of beef. He offered to answer any questions from the Commissioners.

Lee McQueen, University of Nebraska at Kearney

Lee McQueen, Facilities Director at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, was present to support the Health Science Education Center at UNK. He noted that the Health Science Education Center would be a collaborative effort between UNK and the University of Nebraska Medical Center. The facility will be developed to house an expansion of the medical center's nursing program and six allied health programs at UNK. This would be the first UNMC satellite program for allied health.

**Chair Hunter closed the public hearing on Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee Items.**

**BUDGET, CONSTRUCTION, AND FINANCIAL AID COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Anderson gave a brief summary of the Nebraska Veterinary Diagnostic Center project. He introduced Mike Wemhoff, Facilities Officer, to present the proposal.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
East Campus - Nebraska  
Veterinary Diagnostic Center

Mr. Wemhoff presents the proposal

**University of Nebraska-Lincoln East Campus – Nebraska Veterinary Diagnostic Center**

Mr. Wemhoff noted the existing veterinary building was built in 1975 and is insufficient in size and outdated. The current facility does not meet accreditation standards. The new facility would provide both diagnostic and research lab facilities, interaction space used for conferences, meetings, seminars, and provides office space. A primary advantage of the new facility is its ability to separate these functions.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
East Campus - Nebraska  
Veterinary Diagnostic Center  
approved

**Commissioner Anderson, on behalf of the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska-Lincoln proposal to construct a Nebraska Veterinary Diagnostic Center on East Campus, as outlined in the governing board-approved program statement and follow-up materials, including the October 3<sup>rd</sup> email stating that the University will not request State funds for an incremental increase in operating and maintenance funds for this project. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioner Simmons abstained, with all other Commissioners voting yes.**

University of Nebraska at  
Kearney – Health Science  
Education Center

Mr. Wemhoff presents the proposal

**University of Nebraska at Kearney – Health Science Education Center**

Mr. Wemhoff presented the proposal, noting this is an excellent example of collaboration between the University of Nebraska at Kearney and the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Commissioner Lauritzen asked how far students will travel to get to the new facility, and if this facility will increase the number of students at UNK. Commissioner Adam inquired about this facility being the only satellite campus for the Medical Center and keeping allied health graduates in central Nebraska.

Steve Pitkin, UNMC College of  
Nursing

Steven Pitkin, RN, MN, Assistant Dean Kearney Division, UNMC College

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University of Nebraska at  
Kearney – Health Science  
Education Center approved

of Nursing, answered Commissioners' questions stating that the building will be approximately a block from an existing parking lot. It will not be a substantial distance for students to travel. He noted that UNK will be opening a south campus and they are currently discussing funding and infrastructure arrangements with Nebraska Department of Roads and the City of Kearney. Mr. Pitkin discussed the goal of keeping students in the out-state Nebraska area once they have completed an allied health program.

**Commissioner Anderson, on behalf of the Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska at Kearney and University of Nebraska Medical Center's proposal to construct a Health Science Education Building on the UNK campus as outlined in the governing board-approved program statement and follow-up materials, including the October 14<sup>th</sup> email stating that the university does not anticipate requesting State funds for an incremental increase in operating and maintenance funds for this project. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.**

Chair Hunter moved financial aid  
programs reports to after APC  
items.

Chair Hunter amended the agenda by moving the financial aid programs reports after the Academic Programs Committee Items.

Public Hearing on Academic  
Programs Committee Items

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE ITEMS**

John Blaylock, Northeast  
Community College in Norfolk

John Blaylock, Vice President of Education Services at Northeast Community College in Norfolk, offered to answer questions the Commissioners may have on the proposal of moving into a long-term commitment with the city of O'Neill for an Extended Campus facility.

Steve Carper, Omaha School of  
Massage and Healthcare of  
Herzing University

Steve Carper, Campus President, Omaha School of Massage and Healthcare of Herzing University, gave a brief description of the school's offerings, noting the core curriculum is in place and that a personal fitness training program would benefit the institution's students.

Nichole Sedlacek, Holt County  
Economic Development Agency  
in O'Neill

Nicole Sedlacek, Executive Director, Holt County Economic Development Agency in O'Neill, was present to express her support of the Northeast Community College – O'Neill Extended Campus proposal. This is an exciting project, she said, not only for the city of O'Neill and Holt County, but for the entire north central Nebraska region.

**Chair Hunter closed the public hearing on Academic Programs Committee Items.**

Omaha School of Massage and  
Healthcare of Herzing University  
– Personal Fitness Training –  
Diploma, AS

**ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Zink introduced Dr. Kathleen Fimple, Academic Programs Officer, to present the proposal from Herzing University.

**Application to Modify a Recurrent Authorization to Operate - Omaha School of Massage and Healthcare of Herzing University - Personal**

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Dr. Fimple presents the proposal

**Fitness Training – Diploma, AS**

Dr. Fimple noted that if there are curriculum questions, Lee O'Donnell is present along with Mr. Carper to answer those. The state of Nebraska does not require any certification or accreditation to become a personal trainer; only athletic trainers are required to have certification. This program proposes to provide a curriculum that will help students pass the voluntary American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) personal trainer exam.

Omaha School of Massage and Healthcare of Herzing University – Personal Fitness Training – Diploma, AS approved

**Commissioner Zink, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the modification to the recurrent authorization to operate for Herzing University (dba Omaha School of Massage and Healthcare of Herzing University) to include the Diploma and AS in personal fitness training. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.**

Northeast Community College  
Proposal to enter into a long-term commitment – Northeast Community College – O'Neill Extended Campus

**Proposal to Enter into a Long-term Commitment - Northeast Community College - O'Neill Extended Campus**

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal, stating that it may be confusing because NECC is constructing a new facility but this does not have to go to the Budget, Construction and Financial Aid Committee because the project will be paid for with private funds. NECC has pledged that until all the money is raised, it will not break ground. NECC is asking for funding only for operating and maintenance in an amount that does not trigger Commission review. A floor plan diagram of the proposed center was included in the materials for the benefit of a visual of what the institution is proposing.

Dr. Fimple presents the proposal

Commissioner Lauritzen discusses success of NECC Educational Center in West Point

Commissioner Lauritzen talked about the NECC Educational Center located in West Point which has been a great success, providing the community with much-needed educational resources.

Commissioners Adam and Wilson ask questions regarding the proposal

Commissioner Adam asked how long the agreement relating to nursing between Northeast Community College and the University of Nebraska Medical Center had been in effect. Mr. Blaylock stated it is an ongoing agreement. They intentionally reduce the number of nursing students brought into the program, allowing students to get their electives on the O'Neill campus. The agreement has been in effect for three years and is working well for both institutions.

Commissioner Wilson asked Dr. Fimple to elaborate on why this is not a branch campus. Dr. Fimple stated when the Commission redid the rules defining when an institution must come to the Commission for facilities and centers, it tried to align its definition with the Higher Learning Commission. The HLC definition of a branch campus requires the facility to be almost free-standing, with a full-range of services, financial aid office, and student advisors. She noted that this proposal does not meet the standards for a branch campus. Commissioner Wilson congratulated the representatives from O'Neill on the impressive support they are receiving from the community.

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NECC long-term commitment –  
NECC – O’Neill Extended  
Campus approved

**Commissioner Zink, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the proposal from Northeast Community College for an off-campus center with a long-term commitment in O’Neill (O’Neill Extended Campus). A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.**

UNK – French (BA/BAE) and  
UNK – German (BA/BAE)

Dr. Fimple presents the proposal

**Follow-up Reports on existing instructional programs - UNK – French (BA/BAE) and, UNK – German (BA/BAE)**

Dr. Fimple reported that both of these programs are chronically low producing. An internal review was done by UNK and it provided information specific to each program. Peer institutions that offer these programs and their number of graduates were provided by Commission staff. Staff also surveyed high schools in the central and western part of the state to see if there was a need for German and French teachers. UNO and UNL offer programs in French and German that are also below the Commission’s thresholds, along with all of the peer institutions. During its meeting, the committee discussed UNK’s status as a comprehensive university; that comprehensive universities would normally have a selection of foreign languages, the need for preparing French and German foreign language teachers; and the Commission’s charge to consider productivity and unnecessary duplication when reviewing programs.

Dr. Fimple was asked to read the process for reviewing and discontinuing low producing programs.

Commissioner Zink reads  
Committee recommendation

**Commissioner Zink, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the proposal that the BA/BAE in French and the BA/BAE in German at UNK be continued with the following stipulations:**

- **A report is submitted by October 15, 2015 that includes evidence of implementation of the recommendations made in the 2011 internal Review Team Report and documentation of results.**
- **The report also includes the number of majors and minors, the number of degrees and minors awarded, and the student credit hour production.**
- **UNK provides a justification for continuing the program.**

**Following receipt of this information in 2015, the Commission will make a decision on whether this program should be continued or the process to discontinue should be initiated.**

UNK – French (BA/BAE) and  
UNK – German (BA/BAE) tabled  
until December Commission  
Meeting

**Commissioner Simmons moved to amend the motion to table the French BA, BAE, and German BA, BAE Follow-up Report until the December Commission meeting, and request that UNK have representatives from the program available to discuss the implementation of the recommendations from the 2011 study. Commissioner Lauritzen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was**

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**taken. Commissioner Adam voted no, with all other Commissioners present voting yes.**

Existing Program Review

**Existing Program Review**

Interim Executive Director Dr. Pfeil approved the continuation of the following existing programs, whose productivity fell within the Commission thresholds or provided significant justification if below the thresholds.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Insect Science – BSIS  
Entomology – MS, PhD  
Forensic Science – BS

Central Community College

Construction Technology – AAS, Diploma, Certificate  
Electrical Technology – AAS, Diploma, Certificate

Metropolitan Community College

Construction Technology – AAS, Certificate  
Electrical Technology – AAS, Certificate  
Industrial & Commercial Trades – AAS, Certificate

Mid-Plains Community College

Building Construction Technology – AAS, Diploma, Certificate  
Electrical Technology – AAS, Diploma, Certificate

Northeast Community College

Building Construction – AAS  
Electrical Construction & Control – AAS

Southeast Community College

Building Construction – AAS

Information Items

**Information Item: Report on name changes, deletions, reasonable and moderate extensions, and other institutional activities relating to existing programs**

Reasonable and Moderate Extension

**Reasonable and Moderate Extension**

1. UNO – Data Analytics (graduate certificate)

Discontinued Program

**Discontinued Program**

1. UNO – Instructional Technology (graduate certificate)

Program Name Change

**Program Name Change**

1. UNO – Master of Science in Reading to *Master of Science in Literacy*

Commission Meeting lunch break

Chair Hunter called for lunch break at 12:18 a.m. The meeting resumed at 12:57 p.m.

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Ritchie Morrow presents  
Financial Aid Program Reports

### **Financial Aid Program Reports**

Ritchie Morrow, Financial Aid Coordinator, provided information on two financial aid programs administered by the Commission.

2012-13 Access College Early  
Scholarship Year-end Report

### **2012-13 Access College Early Scholarship Year-end Report**

Mr. Morrow reported that Nebraska high school students received 3,445 Access College Early (ACE) Scholarships in 2012-2013, with the average award per scholarship being \$236.21. The ACE scholarship allowed low-income high school students to enroll in 11,877 credit hours of college course work. Of these students, 76 % received a grade of B or better. Demographic information was presented and Mr. Morrow answered questions from the Commissioners. Dr. Pfeil noted that the students who have received ACE scholarships will be eligible for ACE Plus scholarships, another program administered by the Commission.

2012-13 Nebraska Opportunity  
Grant Year-end Report

### **2012-13 Nebraska Opportunity Grant Year-end Report**

A revised copy of the Nebraska Opportunity Grant 2012-13 Year-end Report was distributed to the Commissioners. As part of the report, Mr. Morrow reviewed the federal Pell Grant program, noting that the largest number of Nebraska Pell students attended the community colleges. The NOG process was presented and Mr. Morrow noted that over \$15 million was awarded in 2012-13. After the 2015-16 fiscal year, recently passed legislation calls for the elimination of lottery funding for NOG. Lottery funds make up about 56 percent of the program's funding.

2013-14 Nebraska Opportunity  
Grant Allocations

### **2013-14 Nebraska Opportunity Grant Allocations**

Mr. Morrow presented the 2013-14 NOG Allocations Report, noting that every year funds are allocated based on a formula that is in statute. All five sectors and the amounts available to their students are listed on the report. The dollars available and percentages are broken down by year since 2002-03 and by sector and public and private institutions.

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

2014 Commission meeting dates

### **Approve the proposed 2014 Commission meeting dates**

Chair Hunter noted that due to 2014 being a budget year, there will be eight Commission meetings. Dr. Pfeil stated that the September meeting will be held on a Tuesday because the college presidents or sector representatives will present their budgets that were submitted on September 15 to the Governor and the State Legislature. The institutional budget recommendations are due to the Legislature on October 15.

2014 Commission meeting dates  
approved

**Chair Hunter, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved to approve the proposed 2014 Commission meeting dates. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.**

Commissioner Lauritzen left the meeting at 1:34 p.m.

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Commission Deficit Request

**Approval of Commission Deficit Request**

Dr. Pfeil stated that the Commission is asking for money for the executive director search process and money to bring the salary up to the mid-point of SHEEO executive directors. There is also a deficit request to the Legislature for additional funds to payout Dr. Pfeil' s unused vacation and sick leave upon her retirement. Further, the Commission is requesting funds to hire a community college specialist. This position is needed because of the increased volume of work the Commission has experienced since accepting the numerous statutory duties and responsibilities in regard to Nebraska's community colleges.

Commission Deficit Request approved

**Chair Hunter, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved to approve the proposed Commission Deficit Request. A roll call vote was taken, with all Commissioners present voting yes.**

Next Commission Meeting  
December 5, 2013

**FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next Commission meeting will be Thursday, December 5, 2013 in the north loft of The Apothecary Building, 140 North 8<sup>th</sup> Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Commissioner Zink discusses meeting with State Senator Sue Crawford

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Zink commented that she, along with Dr. Pfeil, Ritchie Morrow and Jason Keese, recently met with State Senator Sue Crawford, who is a Midwest Higher Education Compact (MHEC) Commissioner. Since this was Senator Crawford's first year with the Legislature, they took the opportunity to explain what the Commission does.

Meeting adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:42 p.m.



## **Facility Operating and Maintenance Costs Inflationary Adjustment** *January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2015*

### **Committee Draft**

*Background:* The Commission reviews, approves or disapproves, and monitors capital construction projects submitted by public postsecondary education institutions. Included are new capital structures, or any proposed addition, renovation, or acquisition of an existing capital structure financed with tax funds above a minimum threshold.

*Legislation:* LB 440, signed by the Governor on May 22, 2009, revised the definition of capital construction project to include increases in the threshold amounts for capital construction projects to \$2,000,000 in tax funds and an incremental increase in tax funds used for facility operations and maintenance (O&M) costs of \$85,000/year. The \$2,000,000 threshold for capital construction costs does not include an inflationary adjustment. The facility O&M costs threshold requires the Commission to review and make adjustments for inflation biennially.

*Statutory language:* Section 85-1402 of Statutes defines the threshold for facility operations and maintenance (O&M) costs as a base amount of eighty-five thousand dollars (\$85,000) for any one fiscal year. The base amount for facility O&M costs shall be subject to any inflationary or market adjustments made by the Commission. The Commission shall adjust the base amount on a biennial basis beginning January 1, 2010. The adjustments shall be based on percentage changes in a construction cost index and any other published index relevant to operations and utilities costs, as selected by the Commission in cooperation with the public institutions. The index or indices shall reflect inflationary or market trends for the applicable operations and maintenance costs.

*Review Process:* Commission staff submitted recommendations to representatives of the University of Nebraska, Nebraska State Colleges and Nebraska Community College Areas on November 8, 2013, requesting comments or recommended modifications. The university responded that it will not request state funds for O&M until such time as it appears it will be funded by the legislature.

*Methodology:* LB 440's \$85,000 facility O&M costs threshold took effect in August 2009. The Commission has previously used the Commonfund Institute's annual *Higher Education Price Index* (HEPI) to measure facility O&M costs inflation. Sub-indices within HEPI that are relevant to facility O&M costs include: personnel compensation, supplies & materials costs, and utilities costs. The 2009 HEPI data is proposed to serve as the starting point to measure inflationary increases for purposes of LB 440. Over the following four years the weighted facilities O&M cost index increased by 1.47% (see attached table).

*Recommendation:* It is recommended that the facility O&M costs threshold remain an incremental increase in tax funds of \$85,000/year for the biennial period of January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2015.

**Biennial Revision to "Minimum Capital Expenditure"**  
**Facility Operating and Maintenance Costs Inflationary Adjustment**  
*January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2015*

**Committee Draft**  
*November 20, 2013*

Reporting Period	Sub-Indices of the Higher Education Price Index						Facility O&M Cost Index <sup>4</sup>		Higher Educ. Price Index <sup>5</sup>	
	Personnel Cost Index <sup>1</sup>		Supplies & Mtl. Cost Index <sup>2</sup>		Utilities Cost Index <sup>3</sup>					
July 2013	308.3	1.92%	180.1	-11.67%	195.9	2.19%	249.7	0.32%	297.8	1.53%
July 2012	302.4	1.73%	203.9	5.16%	191.7	-4.86%	248.9	0.26%	293.3	1.70%
July 2011	297.3	1.83%	193.9	8.14%	201.5	4.03%	248.3	3.15%	288.4	2.34%
July 2010	292.0	1.40%	179.3	-1.21%	193.7	-9.49%	240.7	-2.20%	281.8	0.90%
July 2009	287.9	3.32%	181.5	0.83%	214.0	-15.08%	246.1	-3.32%	279.3	2.23%
<i>Total Change Since 2009</i>		7.06%		-0.77%		-8.46%		1.47%		6.62%
<i>Avg. Annual Change</i>		1.72%		0.10%		-2.03%		0.38%		1.62%

**2009 Facility O&M Base Amount per LB 440**

**Incremental increase of \$85,000/year in facility O&M**

**2013 Facility O&M Base Amount Inflated by HEPI Sub-Indices**

**\$86,248**

**Proposed Facility O&M Base for 1/1/14 thru 12/31/15**

**Incremental increase of \$85,000/year in facility O&M**

<sup>1</sup> Weighted Total Personnel Compensation Index per [Commonfund Institute - Higher Education Price Index: 2013 Update, page 4.](#)

<sup>2</sup> Supplies & Materials Cost Index per *Commonfund Institute - Higher Education Price Index: 2013 Update*, page 4.

<sup>3</sup> Utilities Cost Index per *Commonfund Institute - Higher Education Price Index: 2013 Update*, page 4.

<sup>4</sup> Weighting for Combined Facility O&M Cost Index = 50% of Personnel Index + 15% of Supplies & Materials Index + 35% of Utilities Index.

<sup>5</sup> Most recent *Commonfund Institute - Higher Education Price Index: 2013 Update*, page 3.



**Postsecondary Institutional**

**Operating Budget**

# **Deficit Appropriation Requests**

**Fiscal Years 2013-14 and 2014-15**

Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education

**Committee Draft  
November 20, 2013**

## Executive Summary

The Commission reviewed a deficit request submitted by the State Colleges. The Commission's recommendation follows:

### Operating Budget Requests

Institution	Request		Commission Recommendation
<b>State Colleges</b>	Funding to implement the contract reporting requirements as part of LB 429.	2013-14 \$164,990  2014-15 \$156,990	The Commission recommends that the Legislature identify a minimum contract amount of \$1,000 or \$5,000 which would decrease the amount of work required. If a minimum contract amount cannot be instituted, the Commission recommends consideration of some additional state general funds for the implementation of LB 429 in 2013-14 and continuation of funding for the on-going cost for 2014-15.

The Commission is required by Section 85-1416, Nebraska Revised Statute (Supp. 2012), to provide a recommendation on all major deficit requests submitted by public postsecondary institutions.

Section 85-1416, Neb. Rev. Stat. (Supp. 2012)

(1) Pursuant to the authority granted in Article VII, section 14, of the Constitution of Nebraska and the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education Act, the Commission shall, in accordance with the coordination function of the Commission pursuant to section 85-1403, review and modify, if needed to promote compliance and consistency with the Comprehensive Statewide Plan and prevent unnecessary duplication, the budget requests of the governing boards.

(2)(a) At least thirty days prior to submitting to the Governor their biennial budget requests pursuant to section 81-1113 and *any major deficit appropriation requests* pursuant to instructions of the Department of Administrative Services, the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska and the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges shall each submit to the Commission an outline of its proposed operating budget. The outline of its proposed operating budget or outline of proposed state aid request shall include those information summaries provided to the institution's governing board describing the respective institution's budget for the next fiscal year or biennium. The outline shall contain projections of funds necessary for (i) the retention of current programs and services at current funding levels, (ii) any inflationary costs necessary to maintain current programs and services at the current programmatic or service levels, and (iii) proposed new and expanded programs and services. In addition to the outline, the Commission may request an institution to provide to the Commission any other supporting information to assist the Commission in its budget review process. An institution may comply with such requests pursuant to section 85-1417.

(b) On September 15 of each biennial budget request year, the boards of governors of the community colleges or their designated representatives shall submit to the Commission outlines of their proposed state aid requests pursuant to the Community College Foundation and Equalization Aid Act.

(c) The Commission shall analyze institutional budget priorities in light of the Comprehensive Statewide Plan, role and mission assignments, and the goal of prevention of unnecessary duplication. The Commission shall submit to the Governor and Legislature by October 15 of each year recommendations for approval or modification of the budget requests together with a rationale for its recommendations. The analysis and recommendations by the Commission shall focus on budget requests for new and expanded programs and services and major statewide funding issues or initiatives as identified in the Comprehensive Statewide Plan. If an institution does not comply with the Commission's request pursuant to subdivision (a) of this subsection for additional budget information, the Commission may so note the refusal and its specific information request in its report of budget recommendations. The Commission shall also provide to the Governor and the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature on or before October 1 of each even-numbered year a report identifying public policy issues relating to student tuition and fees, including the appropriate relative differentials of tuition and fee levels between the sectors of public postsecondary education in the state consistent with the Comprehensive Statewide Plan.

(3) At least thirty days prior to submitting to the Governor their biennial budget requests pursuant to section 81-1113 and *any major deficit appropriation requests* pursuant to instructions of the Department of Administrative Services, the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska and the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges shall each submit to the Commission information the Commission deems necessary regarding each board's capital construction budget requests. The Commission shall review the capital construction budget request information and may recommend to the Governor and the Legislature modification, approval, or disapproval of such requests consistent with the statewide facilities plan and any project approval determined pursuant to subsection (10) of section 85-1414 and to section 85-1415. The Commission shall develop from a statewide perspective

a unified prioritization of individual capital construction budget requests for which it has recommended approval and submit such prioritization to the Governor and the Legislature for their consideration. In establishing its prioritized list, the Commission may consider and respond to the priority order established by the Board of Regents or the Board of Trustees in their respective capital construction budget requests.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect other constitutional, statutory, or administrative requirements for the submission of budget or state aid requests by the governing boards to the Governor and the Legislature.

## **Introduction**

According to statutes, the Commission is to review and make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature regarding any major operating budget deficit appropriation requests coming from Nebraska's public postsecondary institutions. The Commission considers the institutional deficit request submitted this year to be major and, consequently, will review and make recommendations on the college deficit request.

The state budget administrator has stated in his deficit appropriations memorandum that "a deficit budget request should only be made for extraordinary circumstances that are beyond an agency's control and ability to manage during the 2013-15 biennium." The state DAS Budget Administrator further states that an agency is to undertake any necessary management actions that will allow an agency to operate within the 2013-15 biennial appropriation.

**Operating Budget Requests**

The deficit request submitted by the governing board of the Nebraska State College System is as follows:

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Dollars Requested</b>	<b>Dollars Requested</b>
	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>2014-15</b>
<b>State Colleges</b>	\$164,990	\$156,990

## State Colleges

- A. Funding to implement the LB 429 contract reporting requirements at the three state colleges.

### Description and Narrative:

The State Colleges are requesting funding for staffing and software to meet the reporting requirements of LB 429 that was passed into law during the 2013 legislative session. The State Colleges were aware of the bill and understood there would be an impact on workload as a result of implementation of the bill. However, after receiving specific information from Department of Administrative Services (DAS) regarding the implementation requirements, the State Colleges became aware of the full impact of complying with the requirements of LB 429 and the resulting consequences on the workload of the colleges.

According to the State Colleges, there will be a significant increase in workload, as well as a need for software to track all contracts at each college and the system office. The State Colleges estimate the new reporting requirements will require at least the equivalent of one FTE employee at each college. There will be software implementation to track contracts, data entry of all existing contracts, reviewing all contracts and removing sensitive information, and scanning all contracts and revisions. The State Colleges are requesting funding to support a 0.75 FTE at each college for 2013-14, and a continuation of that funding to support a 0.75 FTE for each campus on an ongoing basis. The State Colleges are also requesting a one-time appropriation of approximately \$8,000 for a software renewal/maintenance fee.

### **Recommendation:**

**The Commission recommends consideration of some additional state general funds for the implementation of the requirements of LB 429 in 2013-14 and continuation of the funding for ongoing costs in 2014-15.**

### **Rationale:**

In the 2013 legislative session, the Legislature passed and the Governor signed into law LB 429 requiring Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to create an online database for all State of Nebraska contracts. This database is to be searchable by the public and must contain all State of Nebraska contracts that are the basis of any expenditure of state funds. All agencies, boards, commissions, and departments of the state must provide to DAS, in electronic form, copies of all contracts for inclusion in the database.

As part of the process of identification and review of contracts, each agency, board, commission, and department must remove sensitive information before any contract is included in the database. Some examples of sensitive information would be: social security numbers, federal tax identification numbers, personal health information, any information considered confidential by state or federal law or regulation, information other than directory information regarding students, prospective students or former students, trade secrets or proprietary information, security procedures and standards, or records developed or received by law enforcement agencies.

For most agencies, boards, commissions, and departments of the state, compliance with this new law will be an arduous task and many state entities will struggle to comply. Complicating factors in complying with the law are (1) no minimum contract amount, (2) even purchase orders will be considered contracts, (3) state funding is defined as any funds that flow through the State Treasurer such as general funds, cash funds, federal funds, and trust funds, and (4) electronic files must have “normalized data”, which means that utilized terminology must follow the definitions outlined by DAS.

While many state agencies will struggle complying with the new law, the State Colleges cited several areas that will cause them significantly increased workloads. Because there is no minimum contract amount, all State College contracts will need to be reviewed and entered into the database, even such minimal amounts as \$50 contracts for umpires. The work for a small dollar contract is virtually the same as a high dollar contract. Because all purchase orders are considered contracts, and the State Colleges purchase numerous items daily, the colleges’ workload will increase significantly just to comply with reviewing and electronically entering all the purchase agreements into the state database.

It appears the contracting area that will present the most difficulty for the State Colleges is complying with the “normalized data”. The State Colleges are decentralized and each college, plus some departments within colleges, use different terminology for the same items and processes. All of the State College contracts, large and small, will need to be centrally gathered, reviewed, and “normalized” to match DAS terminology and DAS vendor lists.

After reviewing the new law, it is a reasonable conclusion that the State Colleges and many other state entities will have significant increases in workload to comply with LB 429. The Commission suggest the most prudent approach to assisting with implementation of LB 429 is to ask for a change in the law during the 2014 legislative session, prior to full implementation on July 1, 2014. Identification of a minimum contract amount of \$1,000 or \$5,000 would certainly be appropriate and would decrease the amount of work required, but would not lessen the intended impact of having a Taxpayer Transparency law.

The Commission supports public accessibility to information about the expenditure of state tax funds. However, it is questionable whether the public wants data on insignificant state expenditures that would cause additional expenditures of state tax funds to report the insignificant amounts of expenditures. There is a cost benefit rationale that should be examined and possibly changes made to the law before it is fully implemented.

If warranted changes cannot be instituted before the full implementation of LB 429, **the Commission recommends consideration of some additional state general funds for the State Colleges for the implementation of LB 429 in 2013-14 and continuation of funding for the ongoing cost for 2014-15.**

# ACE Plus Scholarship

The First Three Years  
2011-2012, 2012-2013, 2013-2014



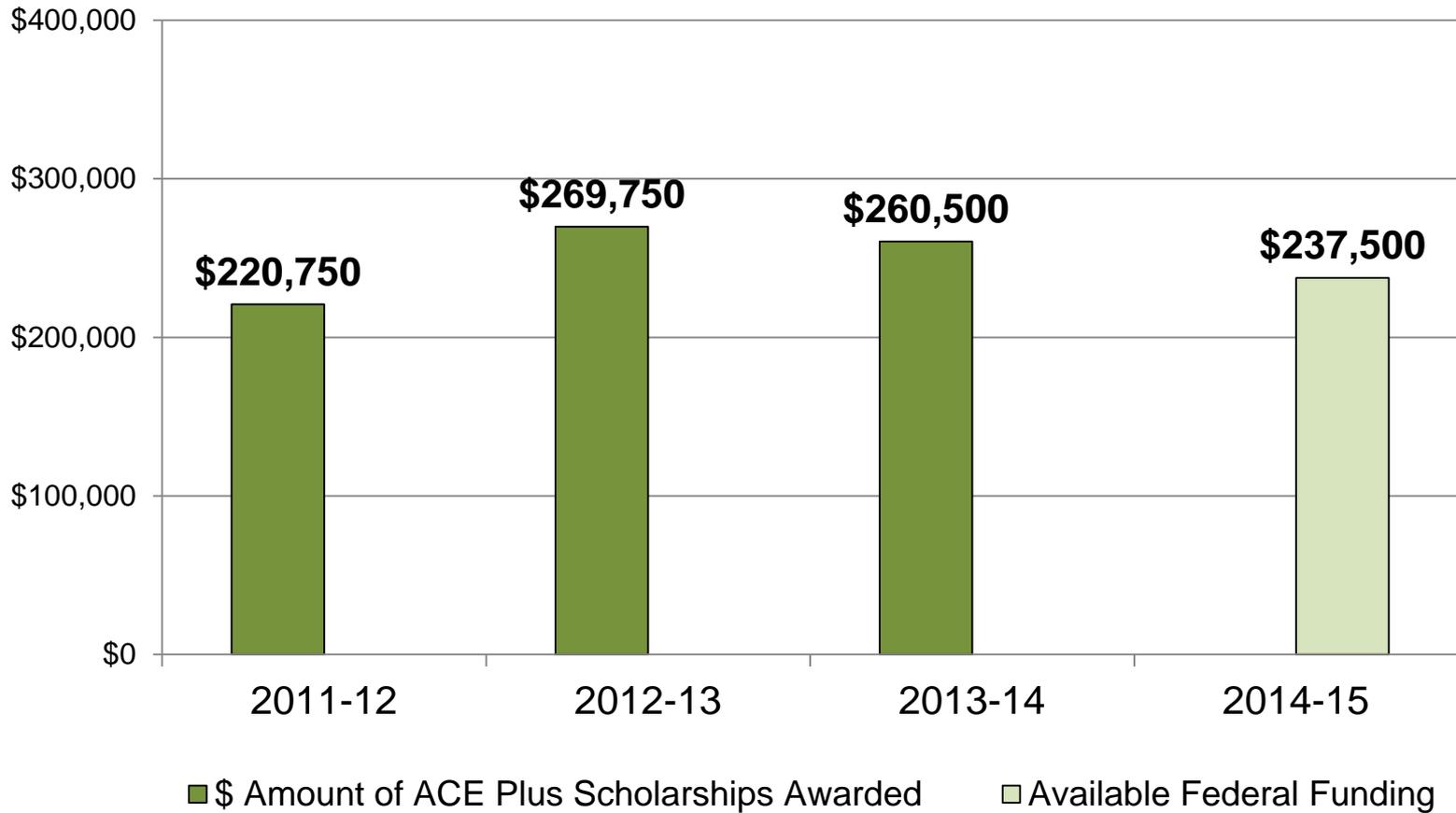
COLLEGE ACCESS  
CHALLENGE G R A N T

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# Scholarship Overview

- AY2011-12 was the first year operating the scholarship program
- Awards this year were made beginning in July for the 2013-2014 academic year, the third year of the program
- Fully funded by the federal CACG

# CACG Funding of the Program



# Awards

- Need-based assistance serving our low-income students
- First-come, first-served basis
- Must allow funds to go to any accredited US postsecondary institution as these are federal funds

For AY2011-2012

- First-year student award = \$500
- Second-year student award = \$1,250

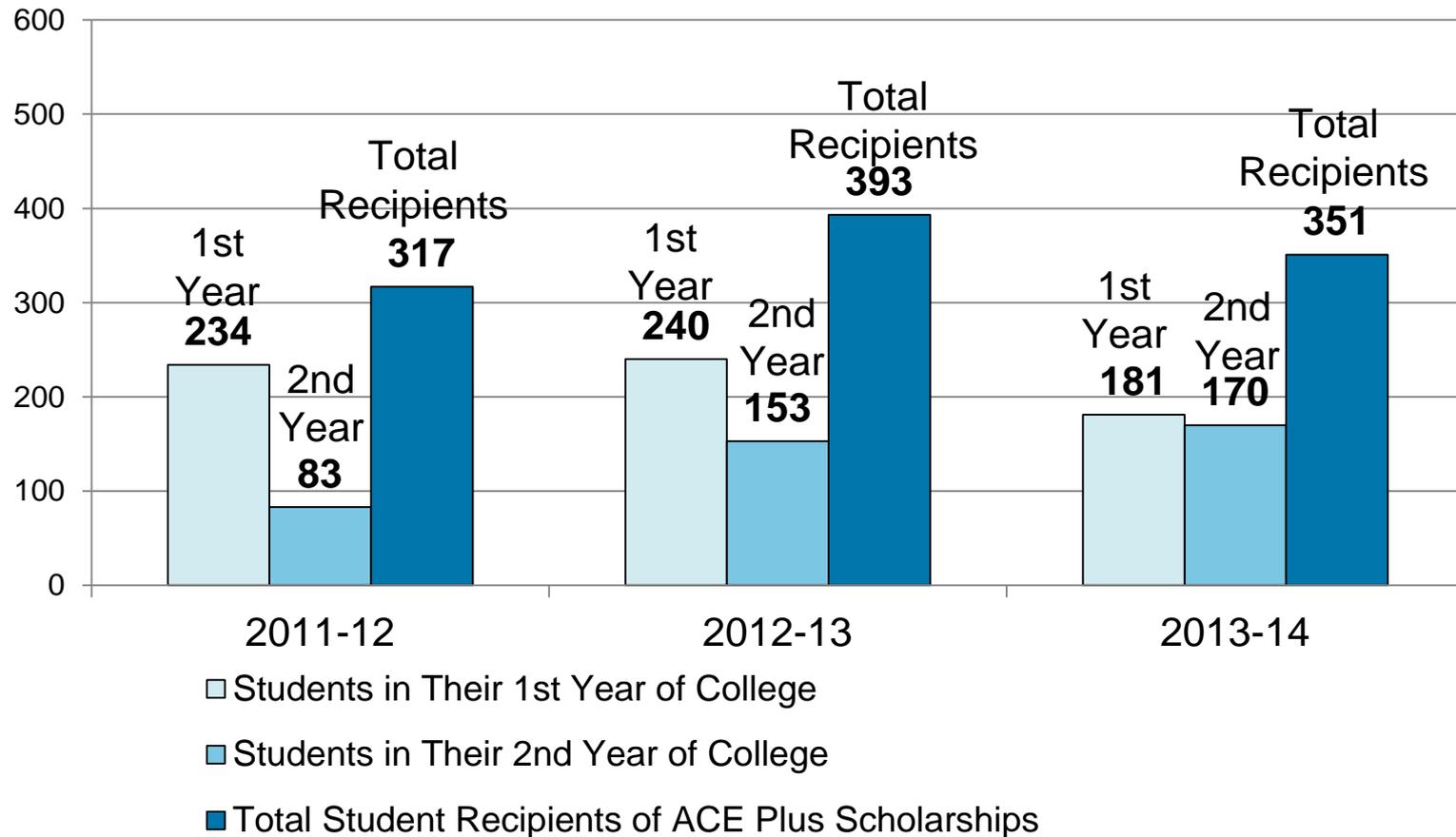
For AY2012-2013 & 2013-2014

- First-year student award = \$500
- Second-year student award = \$1,000

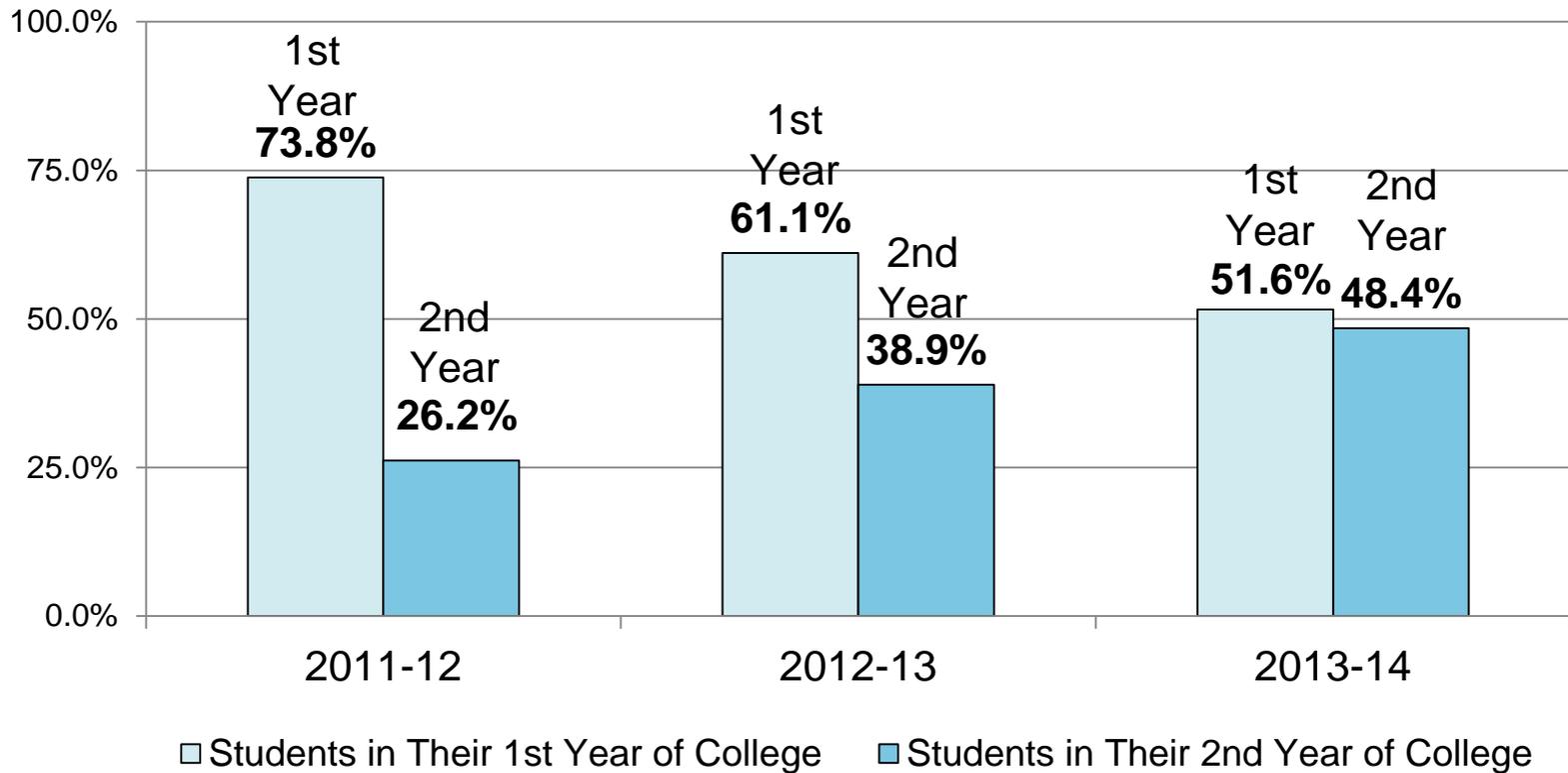
# Student Qualifications

- Need-based, must qualify as low-income
- Must take at least one college course while in high school funded by the Access College Early (ACE) program
- Must earn at least a 2.0 GPA in ACE courses
- Must be enrolled full time in college for the full academic year
- To qualify for a second-year award, must earn at least a 2.0 GPA during first year of college

# Number of Recipients by Award Type

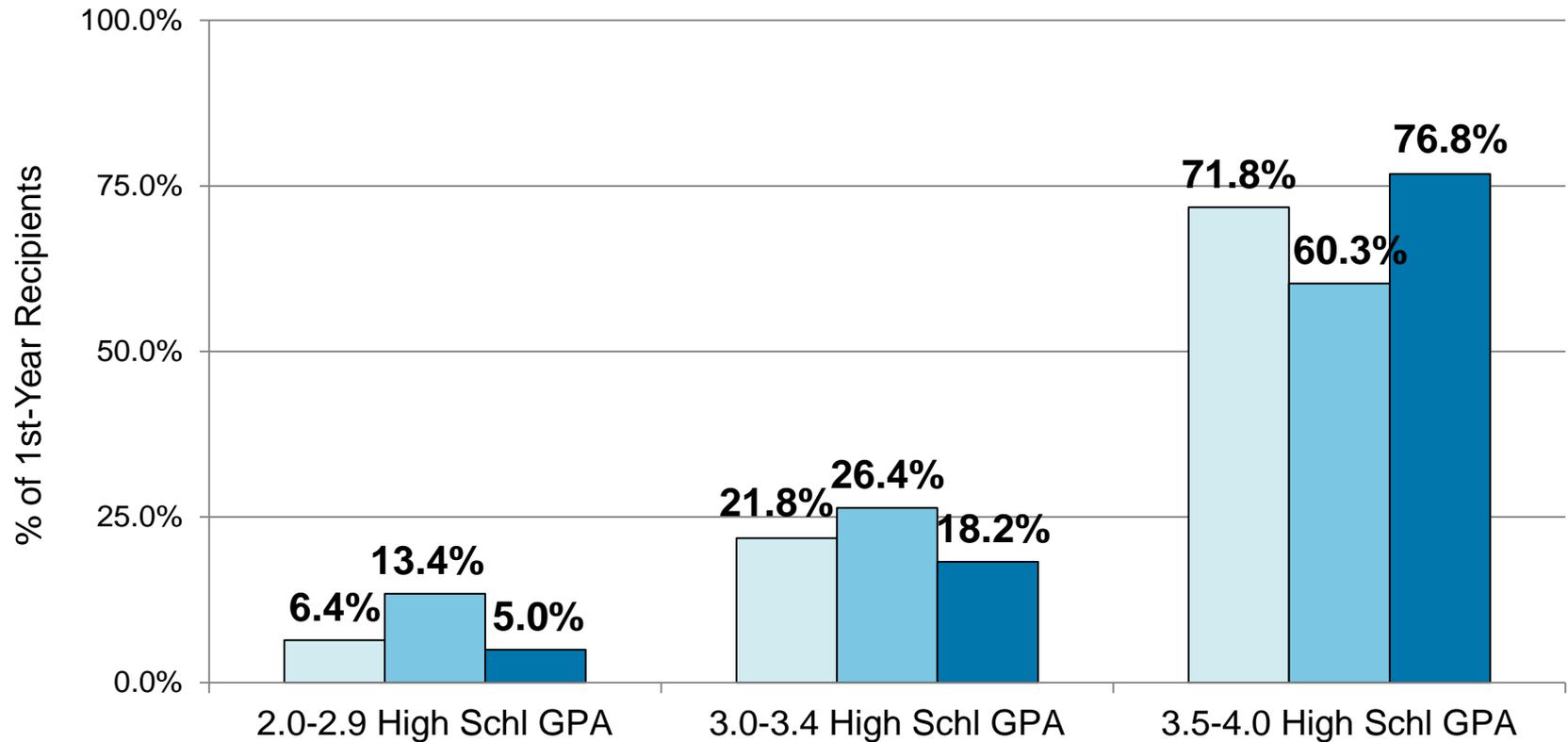


# Percentage of Recipients by Award Type



# The Academic Success of ACE Plus Scholarship Recipients

# Cumulative High School GPA<sup>1</sup> for ACE Plus Recipients Who Received ACE Plus Scholarships for Their First Year of College in AY2013-2014

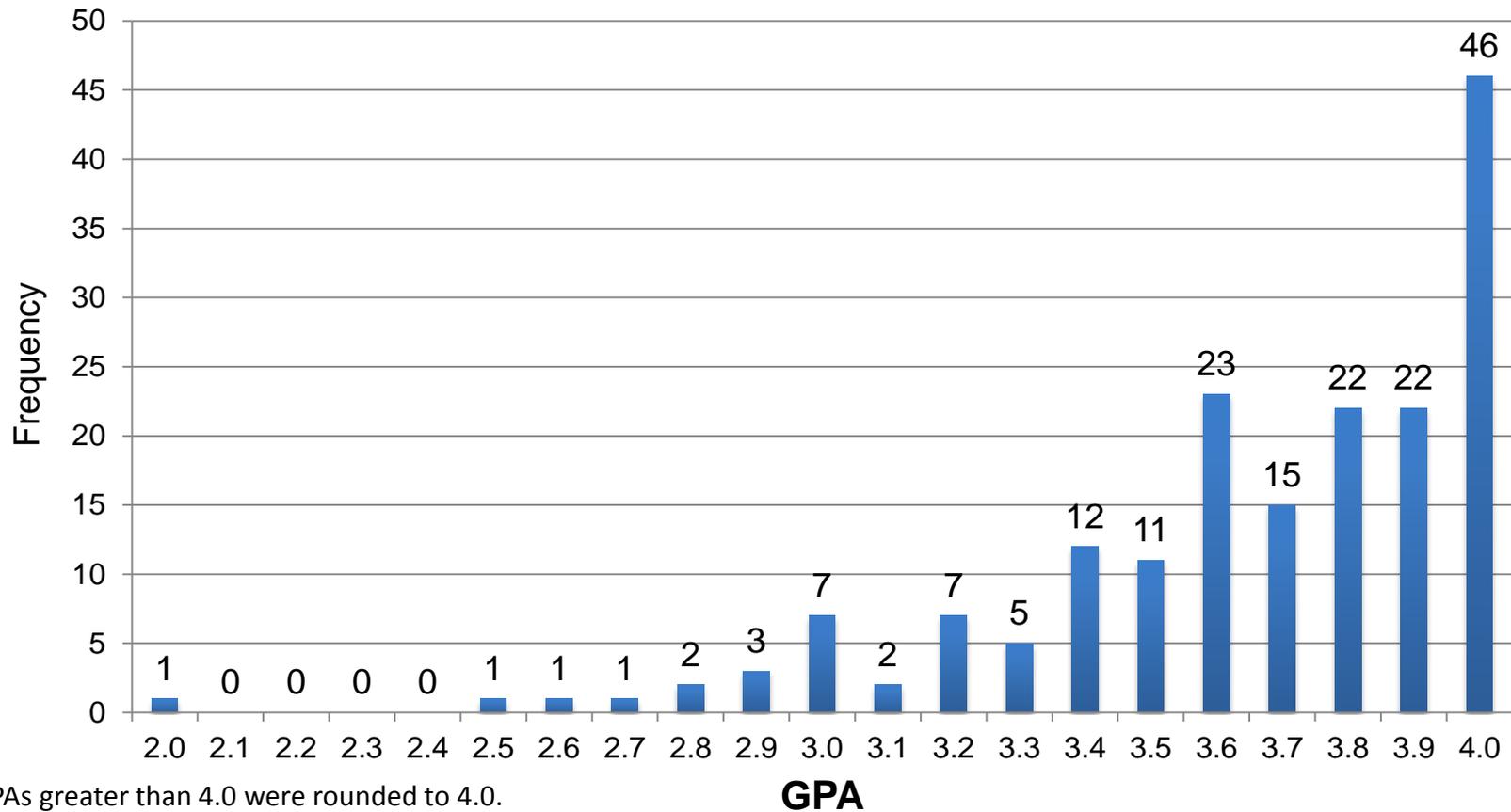


2011-12
  2012-13
  2013-14

Note. GPAs greater than 4.0 were rounded to 4.0.

<sup>1</sup>High School GPA is self-reported by the student at the time of his/her ACE Plus application.

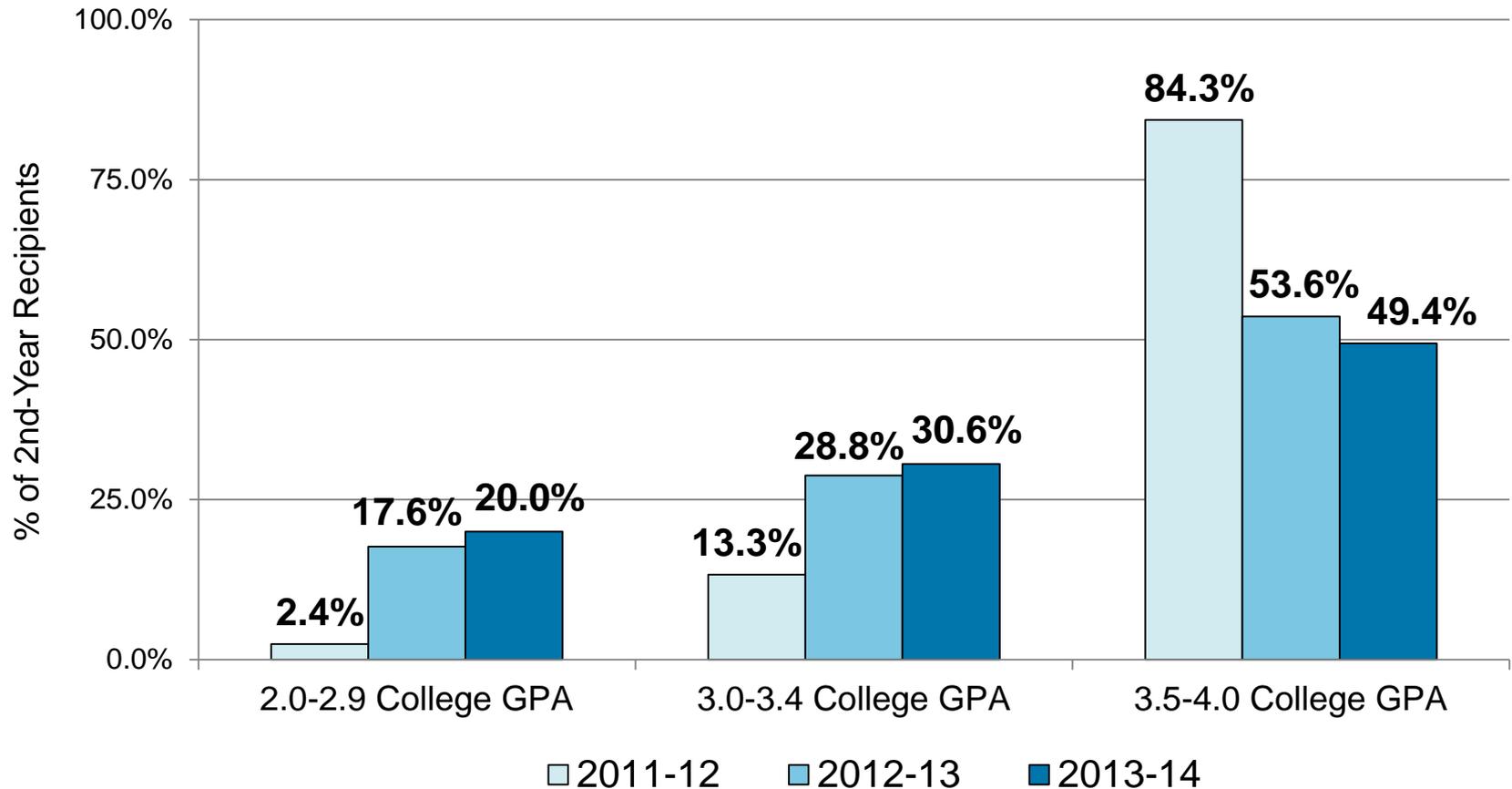
# Cumulative High School GPA<sup>1</sup> for ACE Plus Recipients Who Received ACE Plus Scholarships for Their First Year of College in AY2013-2014



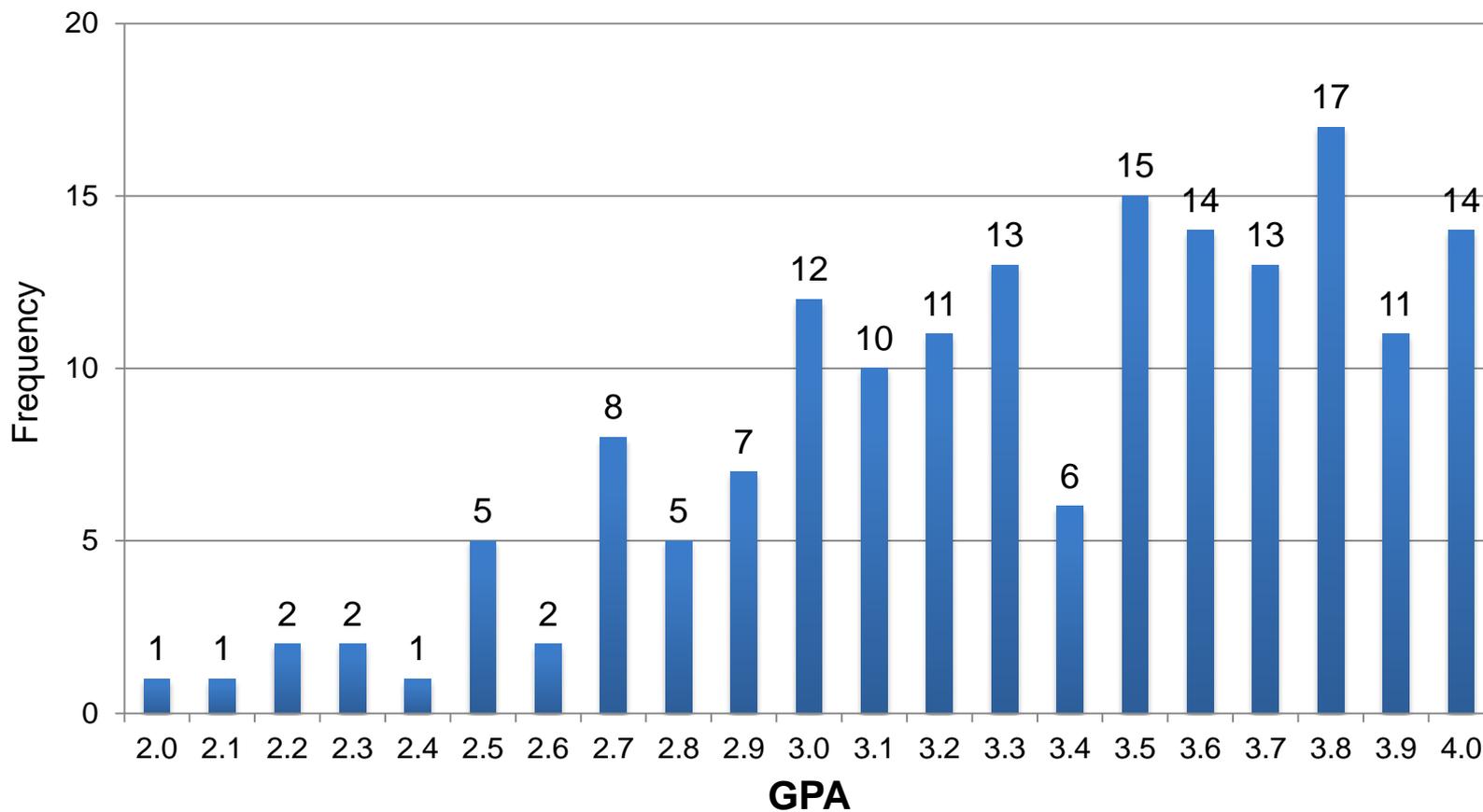
Note. GPAs greater than 4.0 were rounded to 4.0.

<sup>1</sup>High School GPA is self-reported by the student at the time of his/her ACE Plus application.

# Freshman Year (College) GPA for ACE Plus Recipients Who Received ACE Plus Scholarships for Their Second Year of College in AY2013-2014

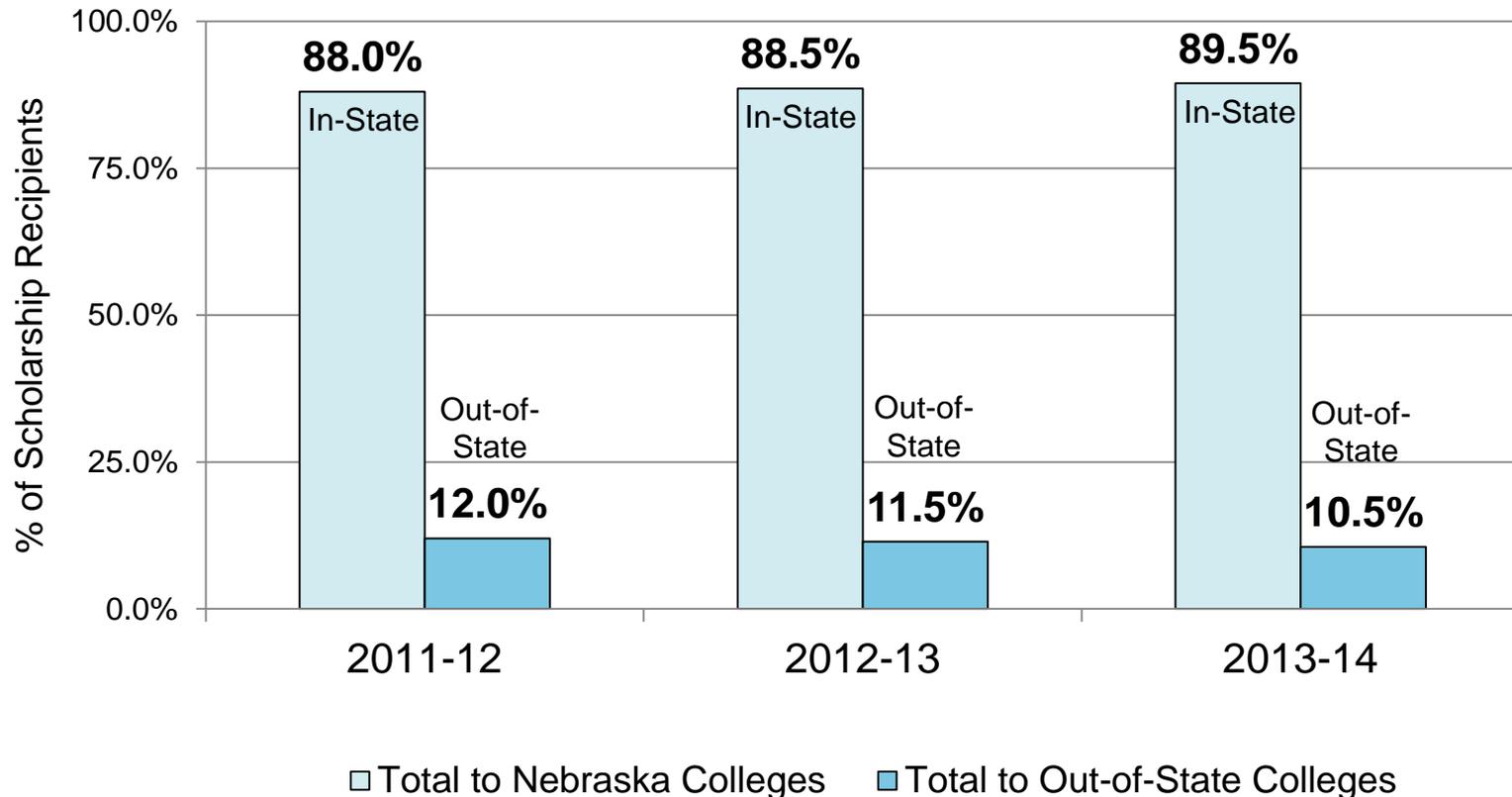


# Freshman Year (College) GPA for ACE Plus Recipients Who Received ACE Plus Scholarships for Their Second Year of College in AY2013-2014

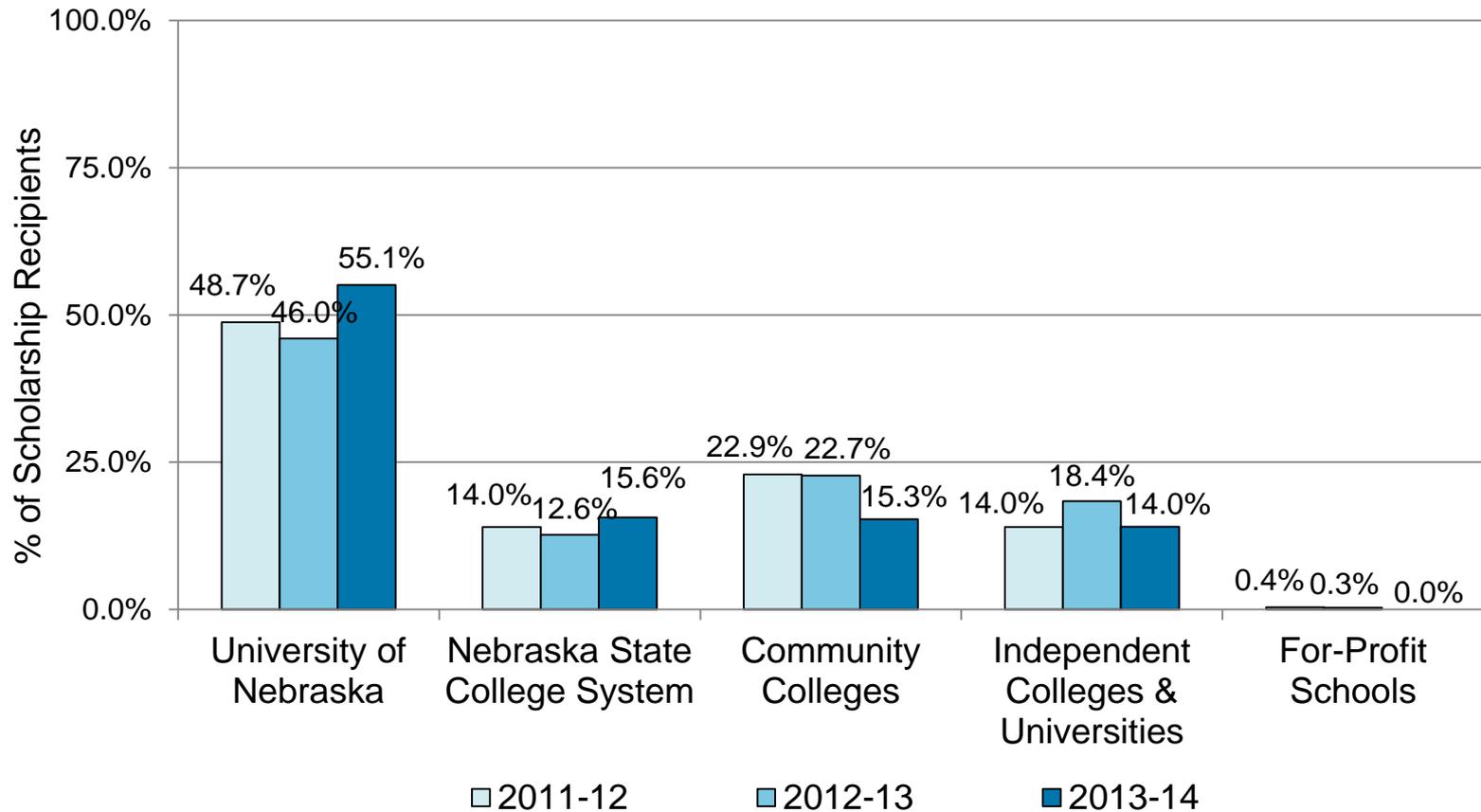


# Almost 90% of ACE Plus Scholarship Recipients Go to College in Nebraska

# % of ACE Plus Scholarship Recipients Who Attended (or are now attending) Nebraska and Out-of-State Schools

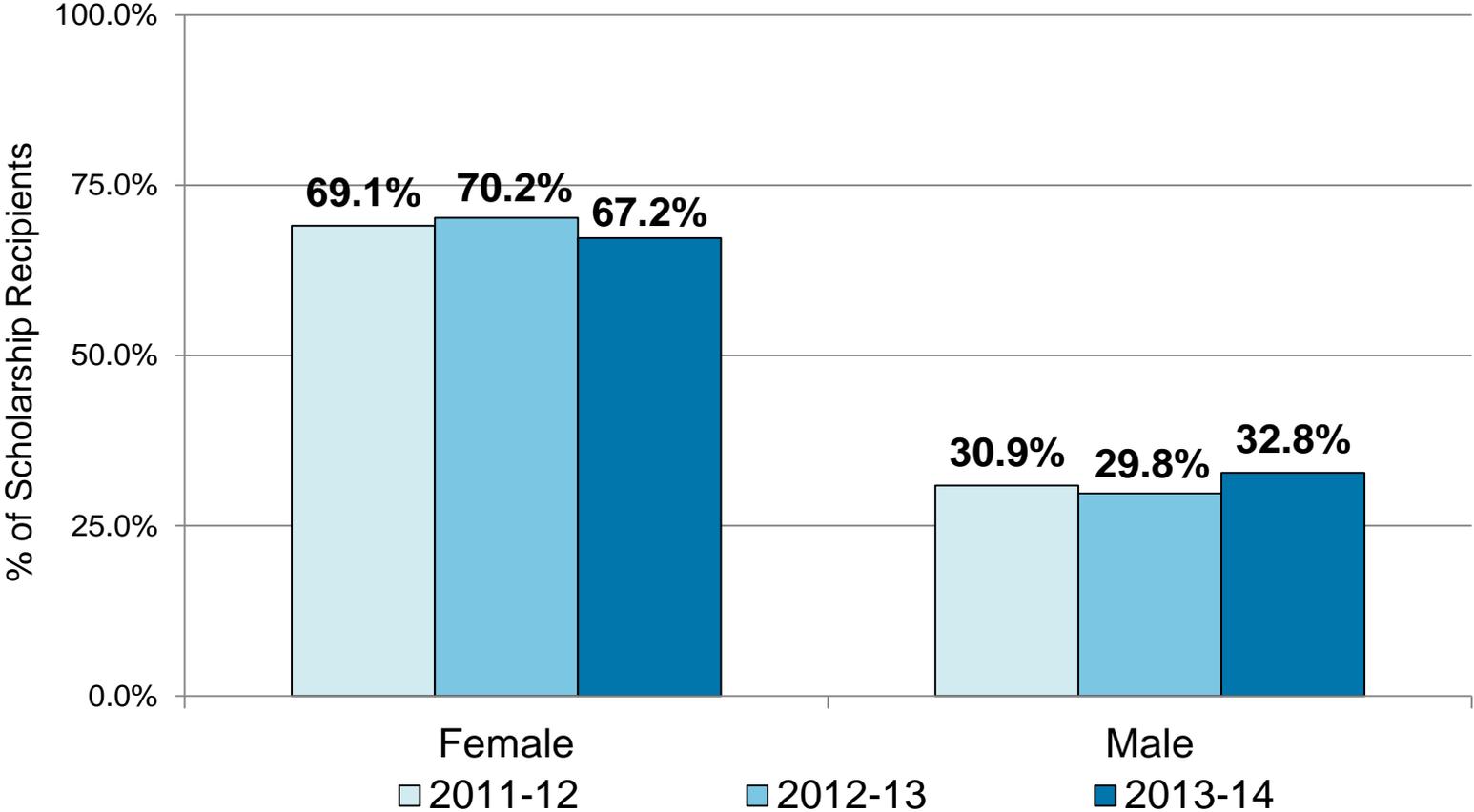


# % of ACE Plus Scholarship Recipients Who Attended (or are now attending) Nebraska Schools by Sector



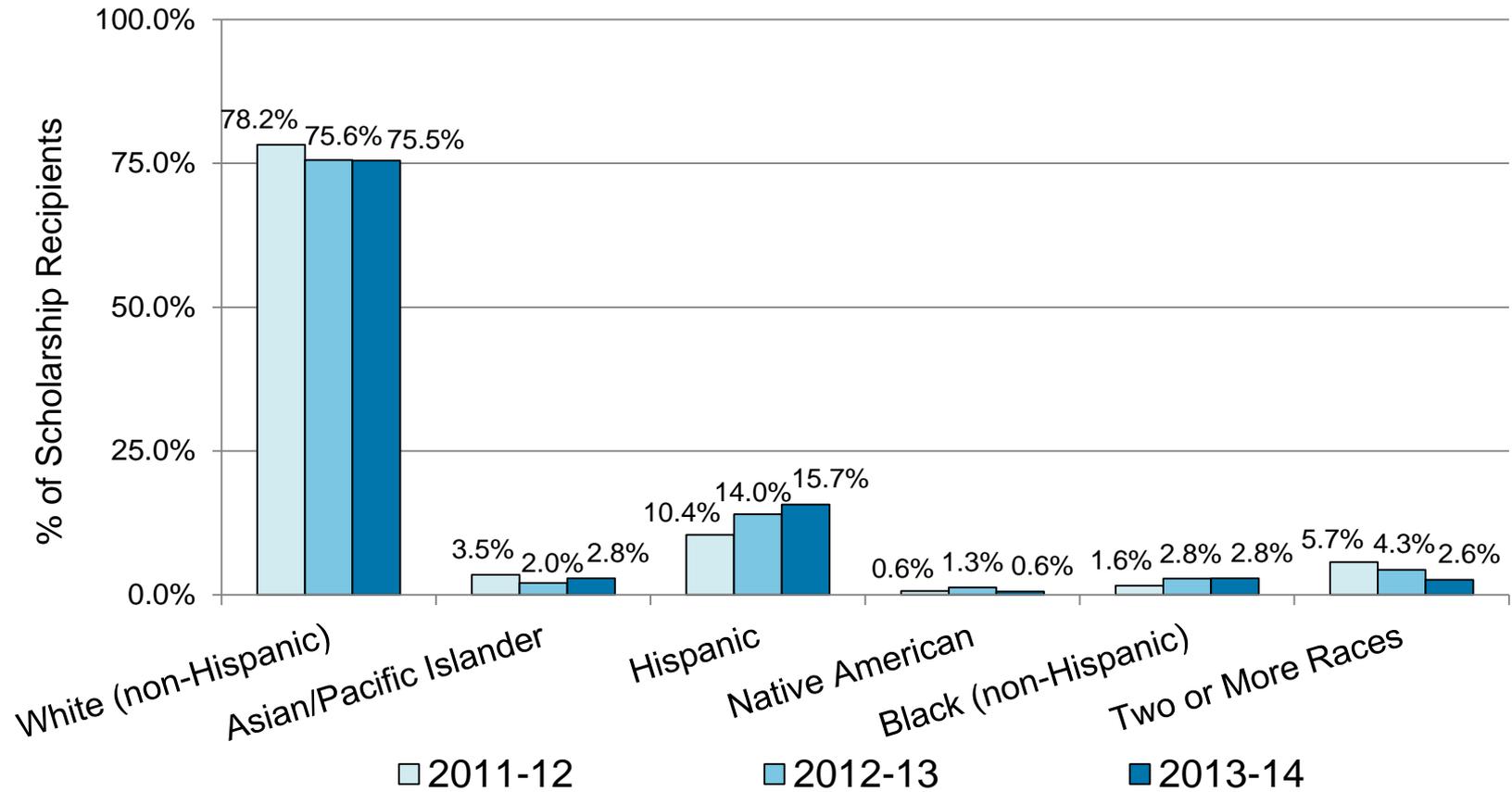
Significantly more ACE Plus Scholarships have been awarded to females than males.

# % of ACE Plus Scholarship Recipients by Gender



The majority of ACE Plus Scholarships have been awarded to white non-Hispanics, but 24.5% of the scholarships have been awarded to minority students.

# % of ACE Plus Scholarship Recipients by Race/Ethnicity



**French—BA, BAE  
University of Nebraska at Kearney  
Follow-up Report**

**Background:**

- In **2005** the Commission reviewed the modern language programs at UNK.
  - The modern language department, with 374 student credit hours per full-time equivalent faculty (SCH/FTE), exceeded the Commission productivity threshold of 300.
  - The French baccalaureate program averaged 2.0 graduates per year.
  - The Commission **deferred their decision**, encouraged UNK to maximize efforts to increase enrollments, and called for a **report on enrollments and number of graduates**.
  
- In **2008** UNK reported several changes to their programs.
  - The requirements for a BA degree changed to allow students to study a second foreign language and receive 10 hours credit at the beginning level. UNK believed that this would increase enrollments in French, which had been losing students to Spanish. In fall 2007 in response to increased enrollments, UNK added a second section of beginning French.
  - The Commission requested an **in-depth review** of the BA and BAE in French.
  
- In **2010** UNK reported that the number of BA/BAE majors and minors remained steady (averaging 6 and 7 students respectively). The program averaged one graduate per year for 2007-08 and for each of the four years prior. Course enrollments for beginning and intermediate French had increased from 44 in 2004 to 77 in 2008. The Commission **continued the program** until the next regular review.
  
- In **2011** during the regular program review, UNK reported an average of 1.0 graduate in French. The program had been placed under internal review. The Commission **continued the program with a report** on the results of UNK's review at which time the Commission would review the enrollment and graduation rates and consider if it should initiate the process to discontinue the BA/BAE program in French.

**Summary of UNK's Report:**

- The five-year average for number of degrees awarded was 1.2.
- The average number of majors was 7.6.
- There was an increase in the number of French minors (16 on record in fall 2011 and 16 in fall 2012). The minor consists of 24 credit hours (versus 36 for the major) and is increasingly popular. A total of nine minors in French were awarded between 2008 and 2012.
- Courses leading to both the major and minor have good enrollments, ranging from 20 to 25 in beginning level courses and 10 to 15 for intermediate level classes.
- The student credit hour production average for the three-year period from 2010-11 to 2012-13 was 404. The credit hours were steady over the period. (Note that this is the credit hours for the individual language, not SCH/FTE.)

- There is an increased interest in combining a language major with a major or minor in International Studies.
- The integration of language study into the 2010 general studies program (general education) supports the enrollments and creates a better opportunity to recruit majors.
- Summer study abroad opportunities are available and semester-long study abroad options are provided by UNL.
- The modern language programs are central to the mission of UNK.
- Among the recommendations of the internal review team:
  - Investigate the possibility of expanding the French degree to Francophone Studies, allowing the department to collaborate with related disciplines to build an area of concentration across disciplines.
  - Hire a language acquisition professor with instructional technology skills that include experience in online course development and support. This would result in an increased use of the technology lab, integration of technology into the curriculum, development of hybrid and online courses, and greater access to potential students globally. (This has been accomplished.)
  - Make connections with high schools to increase awareness and visibility of language opportunities; pursue dual credit options.
  - Pursue study abroad exchanges/internships that are often less expensive than traditional study abroad programs.

***Committee Comment:***

The University of Nebraska requires two years of a foreign language in high school for admission. However, if a student has not taken those courses, he or she can be admitted with the stipulation that one year of a foreign language is taken at the university. Commission staff conducted a sample survey of the foreign language offerings at high schools, varying in size and location, in western and central Nebraska. Of the 43 schools surveyed, 16 schools (37%) offered French (all offered Spanish).

In addition to UNK, there are at least six four-year institutions offering a baccalaureate degree in French in Nebraska. IPEDS data show that neither UNL nor UNO meets the Commission's threshold for number of graduates at the baccalaureate level (7). From 2006 to 2011 UNL averaged 5.4 graduates and UNO averaged 3.0. Also, Creighton University offers a program that averaged 2.0 graduates for that time period. The UNL and UNO five-year averages are lower than the previous five-year averages (from 2001 to 2006) that were 6.2 and 4.0 respectively, suggesting a decline in student interest in foreign language study at those institutions.

The Commission has identified nine peer institutions for UNK. Eight have baccalaureate programs in French. The number of graduates as reported to IPEDS is displayed below. Most of the programs average about two graduates per year; UNK's average is the lowest of the nine. None of the programs would meet the Commission threshold of seven graduates.

## Number of Graduates with a Baccalaureate Degree in French—UNK and Peers

Peer Institution	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Average
Minn. St. Moorhead						
W. Illinois	4	0	0	1	2	1.4
Pittsburg State (KS)	2	0	1	0	1	0.8
Central Missouri	1	4	2	2	1	2.0
SE Missouri State	4*	0*	3*	2*	1*	2.2*
Western Carolina	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bloomsburg of PA	2	3	2	10	6	4.6
Wisc. Whitewater	2	1	1	2	4	2.0
Wisc. La Crosse	2	3	2	1	2	2.0
UNK	1	1	0	0	1	0.6

\*plus 5, 4, 4, 6, 6 in “Foreign Language Teacher Education” (2008 through 2012 respectively; averaging 5.0 for all foreign language teachers)

The number of declared French majors at UNK is steady while the number of minors is increasing. Course enrollments have also increased, at least partly in response to changes in general education requirements. While the increase in minors and SCH is encouraging, neither is likely to contribute to a significant increase in the number of majors or graduates. The addition of a Francophone Studies concentration has the potential for increasing majors and/or minors without increasing departmental expenditures. A foreign language is a good companion (double major or major and minor) for international studies, as UNK points out, as well as for business and other fields. Marketing this aspect of foreign language study, as well as marketing to high school students, could also contribute to an increase in enrollments and ultimately graduates.

Based on the offerings of UNK’s peers, it appears that French is a major that the majority of the institutions have chosen to offer despite consistently low graduation rates. Many Nebraska high schools are teaching French. If UNK is to continue to prepare foreign language teachers endorsed to teach French, it must continue to offer a French major (the BA for language majors and the BAE for language teachers are essentially the same).

At the October 31 meeting, the Committee Recommendation presented to the Commission was:

*The committee is concerned that this program is chronically low producing, averaging less than two graduates per year, and is continuously on the Commission’s list for follow-up or in-depth reviews. Even so, for this follow-up review the committee recommends that the BA/BAE in French at UNK be continued with the following stipulations:*

- *A report is submitted by October 15, 2015 that includes evidence of implementation of the recommendations made in the 2011 internal Review Team Report and documentation of results.*
- *The report also includes the number of majors and minors, the number of degrees and minors awarded, and the student credit hour production.*
- *UNK provides a justification for continuing the program.*

*Following receipt of this information in 2015, the Commission will make a decision on whether this program should be continued or the process to discontinue should be initiated.*

**The Commission voted (8-1-0) to table (postpone) consideration of the report, asking UNK representatives to attend the December Commission meeting and speak about implementation of the Internal Review Team Report recommendations.**

**German—BA, BAE  
University of Nebraska at Kearney  
Follow-up Report**

***Background:***

- In **2005** the Commission reviewed the modern language programs at UNK.
  - The modern language department, with 374 student credit hours per full-time equivalent faculty (SCH/FTE), exceeded the Commission productivity threshold of 300.
  - The German baccalaureate program was reported as a collaborative program with UNL.
  - The Commission **deferred their decision**, encouraged UNK to maximize efforts to increase enrollments, and called for a **report on enrollments and number of graduates**.
  
- In **2008** UNK reported that the requirements for a BA degree changed to allow students to study a second foreign language and receive 10 hours credit at the beginning level. UNK believed that this would increase enrollments in foreign languages. The Commission requested an **in-depth review of the French program**. The German program was not included because it had been reported as a collaborative program with UNL.
  
- In **2010** UNK reported on the French program only. However, UNK reported to IPEDS five graduates from the German program between 2004 and 2009 (five-year average of 1.0). The Commission **continued the French program** until the next regular review.
  
- In **2011** during the regular program review, UNK reported an average of 2.2 graduates in German. The program had been placed under internal review. The Commission **continued the program with a report** on the results of UNK's review at which time the Commission would review the enrollment and graduation rates and consider if it should initiate the process to discontinue the BA/BAE program.

***Summary of UNK's Report:***

- The collaboration with UNL for German courses was discontinued, making German an independent program at UNK.
- The five-year average for number of degrees awarded was 1.0.
- The average number of majors was 7.8.
- Two minors in German were awarded between 2008 and 2012. The minor consists of 24 credit hours (versus 36 for the major).
- Courses leading to both the major and minor have good enrollments, ranging from 20 to 25 in beginning level courses and 10 to 15 for intermediate level classes.
- The student credit hour production average for the three-year period from 2010-11 to 2012-13 was 260. This was an increase of 75% over the period. (Note that this is the credit hours for the individual language, not SCH/FTE.)
- There is an increased interest in combining a language major with a major or minor in International Studies.
- Theme-based courses, such as one offered on Berlin, have resulted in two new majors in German.

- The integration of language study into the 2010 general studies program (general education) supports the enrollments and creates a better opportunity to recruit majors.
- Summer study abroad opportunities are available and semester-long study abroad options are provided by UNL.
- The modern language programs are central to the mission of UNK.
- Among the recommendations of the internal review team:
  - Investigate the possibility of expanding the German degree to German Studies, allowing the department to collaborate with related disciplines to build an area of concentration across disciplines.
  - Hire a language acquisition professor with instructional technology skills that include experience in online course development and support. This would result in an increased use of the technology lab, integration of technology into the curriculum, development of hybrid and online courses, and greater access to potential students globally. (This has been accomplished.)
  - Make connections with high schools to increase awareness and visibility of language opportunities; pursue dual credit options.
  - Pursue study abroad exchanges/internships that are often less expensive than traditional study abroad programs.

***Committee Comment:***

The University of Nebraska requires two years of a foreign language in high school for admission. However, if a student has not taken those courses, he or she can be admitted with the stipulation that one year of a foreign language is taken at the university. Commission staff conducted a sample survey of the foreign language offerings at high schools, varying in size and location, in western and central Nebraska. Of the 43 schools surveyed, 11 schools (25%) offered German (all offered Spanish).

In addition to UNK, there are at least six four-year institutions offering a baccalaureate degree in German in Nebraska. IPEDS data show that neither UNL nor UNO meets the Commission's threshold for number of graduates at the baccalaureate level (7). From 2006 to 2011 UNL averaged 5.2 graduates and UNO averaged 0.8. The UNL and UNO five-year averages are lower than the previous five-year averages (from 2001 to 2006) that were 6.2 and 2.0 respectively, suggesting a decline in student interest in foreign language study at those institutions.

The Commission has identified nine peer institutions for UNK. Five have baccalaureate programs in German. The number of graduates as reported to IPEDS is displayed below. The programs vary in average number of graduates; UNK's average is the lowest of the six. None of the programs would meet the Commission threshold of seven graduates.

Number of Graduates with a Baccalaureate Degree in German—UNK and Peers

Institution	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Average
Minn. St. Moorhead						
W. Illinois						
Pittsburg State						
Central Missouri						
SE Missouri State	8*	2*	7*	3*	4*	4.8*
Western Carolina	1	1	1	2	2	1.4
Bloomsburg of PA	4	0	0	2	2	1.6
Wisc Whitewater	1	4	2	2	1	2.0
Wisc La Crosse	7	3	4	2	7	4.6
UNK	1	1	0	1	0	0.6

\*plus 5, 4, 4, 6, 6 in “Foreign Language Teacher Education” (2008 through 2012 respectively; averaging 5.0 for all foreign language teachers)

The number of declared German majors at UNK is steady. Course enrollments have increased, at least partly in response to changes in general education requirements. The increase in SCH is especially encouraging, but is unlikely to contribute to a significant increase in the number of majors or graduates. The addition of a German Studies concentration and theme-based courses has the potential for increasing majors and/or minors without increasing departmental expenditures. A foreign language is a good companion (double major or major and minor) for international studies, as UNK points out, as well as for business and other fields. Marketing this aspect of foreign language study, as well as marketing to high school students, could also contribute to an increase in enrollments and ultimately graduates.

Based on the offerings of UNK’s peers, it appears that German is a major that over half of the institutions have chosen to offer despite consistently low graduation rates. Some Nebraska high schools are teaching German. If UNK is to continue to prepare foreign language teachers endorsed to teach German, it must continue to offer a German major (the BA for language majors and the BAE for language teachers are essentially the same).

At the October 31 meeting, the Committee Recommendation presented to the Commission was:

*The committee is concerned that this program is chronically low producing, averaging less than two graduates per year, and is continuously on the Commission’s list for follow-up or in-depth reviews. Even so, for this follow-up review the committee recommends that the BA/BAE in French at UNK be continued with the following stipulations:*

- *A report is submitted by October 15, 2015 that includes evidence of implementation of the recommendations made in the 2011 internal Review Team Report and documentation of results.*
- *The report also includes the number of majors and minors, the number of degrees and minors awarded, and the student credit hour production.*
- *UNK provides a justification for continuing the program.*

*Following receipt of this information in 2015, the Commission will make a decision on whether this program should be continued or the process to discontinue should be initiated.*

**The Commission voted (8-1-0) to table (postpone) consideration of the report, asking UNK representatives to attend the December Commission meeting and speak about implementation of the Internal Review Team Report recommendations.**

**Civil Engineering Technology-AAS, Certificate, Specialist Diploma  
Metropolitan Community College  
Follow-up Report**

***Background:***

- In **2002** the Commission reviewed the civil engineering technology program as part of its regular program review process. The five year average for SCH/FTE was 488 and the average number of graduates was 5.0 (Commission thresholds are 275 and 10.0, respectively). The Commission **continued the program with a report** on need and demand.
- In **2004** MCC reported that enrollments were up, but that students were only enrolling in enough courses to obtain employment. In response, MCC added a diploma in surveying—a rapidly growing area. The Commission **continued** the program.
- In **2010** the Commission again reviewed the program as part of its regular program review process. The five year average for SCH/FTE was 572 and the average number of graduates was 6.8. MCC reported that the courses offering surveying software were popular with UNO students, but those students were not seeking an award from MCC. The Commission **continued the program with a report** on enrollments and number of graduates.

***Summary of Institution's Report:***

- Average SCH/FTE was 462 and average number of graduates was 7.8.
- In 2011-12 there were nine AAS degrees awarded and one certificate (the number of diplomas was not reported and is not yet available from IPEDS).
- STEM and STEM-related fields are gaining popularity and MCC expects a rise in the average number of graduates.
- The lower tuition at MCC continues to attract students.

***Committee Comment:***

Students taking only enough classes to obtain employment is a chronic condition in high-demand technology fields at community colleges. This was apparent in 2004. A related situation was reported in 2010 when UNO students were taking surveying classes to transfer to UNO. Nonetheless, the number of graduates is slowly increasing. In the most recent year the ten graduates met the Commission threshold.

***Committee Recommendation:***

Continue the program. The next regular program review is due June 30, 2016.



## Application to Modify a Recurrent Authorization to Operate

**Institution:** National American University

**Programs:** Management (BS, AAS); Health Information Technology (AAS); Healthcare Coding (Diploma); Pharmacy Technician (AAS)

**Awards/Degrees:** Bachelor of Science (BS), Associate of Applied Science (AAS), Diploma

**Institution's Existing Degree(s) in Same or Similar Discipline:** All degrees and programs are offered at other National American University locations

**Proposal Received by Commission:** October 11, 2013

**Proposed Start Date:** No earlier than March 10, 2014 (start of spring quarter)

### Background

National American University (NAU) was founded in 1941 in Rapid City, South Dakota, as National School of Business. It earned accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools in 1985. In 1997 the college changed its name to National American University. During this same time period NAU began development of online courses.

NAU, a for-profit institution, currently enrolls approximately 1,330 full-time and 10,350 part-time students on 33 campuses in 11 states. The university offers an Ed.D., four master's degrees, baccalaureate degrees in nine fields, associate degrees in 23 areas, and six diplomas. Program areas are primarily in business and technology and allied health fields.

In 2011 the Commission approved the application from NAU to establish a campus in Bellevue, Nebraska, offering an AAS in Applied Information Technology, Information Technology, Business Administration, Criminal Justice, and Medical Assisting and a BS in Applied Information Technology, Information Technology, Business Administration, Criminal Justice, and Healthcare Management. There are approximately 200 students currently attending the Bellevue campus.

### REVIEW CRITERIA

#### ***A. The financial soundness of the institution and its capability to fulfill its proposed commitments and sustain its operations***

High-----Low
√

National American University provided its annual report filed with the U.S. Securities Exchange. The audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending in May 2013 indicated decreasing academic revenue over the



this structure, students in Nebraska would use the same course syllabi, textbooks, and other instructional materials, and participate in the same assessment activities as students on other NAU campuses.

The university has a basic general education curriculum, although some programs deviate from it slightly. For a bachelor’s degree, there are 66 quarter credit hours (44 semester credit hours) of general education requirements. The courses include communication, science, math (college algebra and business statistics), humanities, behavioral/social science, computer literacy, and success/career management. There are 39 quarter credit hours (26 semester credit hours) of general education requirements for the associate degree. These are appropriate and common requirements for associate and baccalaureate degrees.

The following table contains a summary of the required hours for the five programs proposed for Bellevue. All are within the commonly accepted range of credit hours for the respective degrees and awards. All except the diploma program carry national programmatic accreditation (see Section F).

**Program Requirements (in quarter credit hours)**

Program	Degree	Total Hours	Major Hours	Option/Emphasis Hours	Support Hours	Elective Hours	General Education Hours	Other Requirements
Management	BS	180	60			63	57	
	AAS	93	27	27			39	
Health Information Technology	AAS	105	54				51	Extra science in gen ed
Healthcare Coding	Diploma	64.5	36				28.5	
Pharmacy Technician	AAS	92.5	39*		8.5		45	*Includes 2 externships

Nebraska has no higher educational requirements or licenses for any occupation associated with these five programs. Pharmacy technicians working in certain health care facilities must *register* with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, but this is not a licensure. Many current pharmacy technicians learned their skills by on-the-job training. However, some pharmacists do not have the time to train technicians. Others prefer to hire a Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT)—one who has passed a voluntary national exam administered by the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board. A program that is accredited by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists prepares graduates to sit for this exam (the NAU program is so accredited).

NAU intends to offer courses on-site in Bellevue as well as online. Students would be able to choose face-to-face or online delivery for many classes.

**Outside placements** – The Pharmacy Technician program requires two externships. NAU states that the program coordinator would communicate with potential locations, including local sites with national providers with whom the university has established relationships. Externships could be in hospitals, clinics, pharmacies, or retail stores that house pharmacies. The number of pharmacies and retail stores with pharmacies in the Omaha area should be large enough to provide externships for this program as well as the other pharmacy technician program in Omaha.

**Enrollment** – National American University estimates that the three associate degree programs would enroll five students each year for the first five years while the BS and diploma programs would enroll seven each year. The projections are based on experience in other NAU locations. The estimates may be high for initial enrollments for some of the programs, but all these programs have the advantage of having related programs already in place at NAU-Bellevue (e.g., business administration, information technology, and medical assisting).

There are several institutions in the Omaha area that offer business and health information management programs; only one offers a pharmacy technician program. The Commission staff consulted the Nebraska Department of Labor’s website. The estimated number of job openings between 2010 and 2010 as well as starting salaries are displayed in the following table. “Management” is too broad a category to research on the Department’s website because employment and wage information is compiled for more specific occupational titles.

NAU Program	Projected Openings <sup>1</sup>	Starting Salary <sup>2</sup>	Local Institutions w/ similar programs	Comparable program
Management BS	Not available <sup>3</sup>	Not available <sup>3</sup>	UNO Bellevue Creighton	Management BSBA Management BS Management BSBA
Management AAS			MCC	Business Management AAS
Health Information Technology AAS	181 <sup>4</sup>	\$25,743	MCC  Clarkson College  Kaplan University	Health Information Management AAS Health Information Management AS Health Information Management AAS
Healthcare Coding Diploma			MCC  Clarkson College	Medical Coding and Billing Certificate Health Information Mgt Certificate
Pharmacy Technician AAS	457	\$22,354	Vatterott College	Pharmacy Technician AOS

<sup>1</sup>Openings in the state 2010-2020 (Nebraska Department of Labor)

<sup>2</sup>Source: Nebraska Department of Labor

<sup>3</sup>This field is too broad to access Nebraska Department of Labor information that is occupation specific.

<sup>4</sup>For “Medical Records and Health Information Technicians” (Nebraska Department of Labor)

NAU may experience competition from other institutions in all five programs. Some initial enrollments may come from students transferring from existing NAU programs (e.g., from business administration to management). With new electronic health records, the employment opportunities for graduates from the health information programs should be good; it is likely that NAU will have sufficient student interest to sustain enrollments in those programs. The two existing pharmacy technician programs in Nebraska produce about 26 graduates a year, but less than nine with associate degrees. With the number of projected job openings, NAU is likely to draw sufficient numbers for a viable program. All programs may attract students because of the flexible scheduling (nights, weekends, online) NAU offers.

**Credit** – The university offers courses on an academic quarter system. One quarter credit requires ten hours of instruction.

**Graduation and retention rates** – NAU’s Bellevue campus hasn’t been in operation long enough to report graduation and retention rates to IPEDS. The graduation rate for most of the other NAU campuses for 2011 falls in the mid-twenty percent range. For comparison, ITT Technical Institute’s Omaha campus had a graduation rate of 16.1% while Kaplan University’s Omaha campus had a rate of 51.1%. Note that IPEDS graduation rates are only for first-time, full-time freshman. Many students at institutions like NAU, Kaplan, and ITT have attended college previously and therefore cannot be counted in the graduation rates. These institutions also target working adults, so many students are part-time and not included in the graduation data.

The retention rate for full-time students at NAU’s campuses most commonly fell near 50%. For comparison, Vatterott College’s Omaha campus reported a 59% retention rate for full-time students. (IPEDS changed its reporting rules and as a result there is no current data for Kaplan and ITT.)

**C. The quality and adequacy of teaching faculty, library services, and support services**

High-----Low

**Faculty** – The proposal included the resumes for 83 faculty members “available to teach the requested programs.” Only three had Nebraska addresses. The remainder presumably are online instructors. The three local faculty hold a JD, MBA, and MA. No additional on-site faculty were identified. However, faculty initially hired for Bellevue all held a minimum of a master’s degree in the field in which they taught. Commission staff has requested additional faculty information.

NAU had previously provided its Faculty Qualification Guidelines. For faculty teaching courses in a major, support core, or emphasis area, a doctorate or master’s degree with professional certification, experience in the field, or additional course work is required. Faculty teaching general education courses must hold a minimum of a master’s degree in the area of their assigned teaching responsibility.

The 2013-14 university catalog listed the administrative staff at Bellevue: campus director, academic dean, director of admissions, associate director admissions, and medical assisting program coordinator.

The proposal states that faculty and staff at the Bellevue campus would receive support from skilled and experienced staff at the university’s central administration in Rapid City, South Dakota.

**Library** – The university reported that no new library and learning resources would be needed. When approved in 2011, NAU stated that students would have access to the National American University library’s electronic resources. The proposal provided a list of all the databases and services available at that time. The list included nine databases each for business and allied health, ten databases for general education, six electronic book collections, three electronic catalogs, and three library service resources. The latter included an online full-text database (EBSCO) and Interlibrary Loan.

**Support Services** – National American also reported in 2011 that students in Nebraska would have access to the same student support services as students in other locations. These include pre-admission assistance, financial aid counseling, course registration, academic advising, career advising, and technical support (available via email and telephone).

***D. The specific locations where programs will be offered or planned locations and a demonstration that facilities are adequate at the locations for the programs to be offered***

NAU classes are held at the Omaha campus, 3704 Summit Plaza Drive, Bellevue (near the intersection of 36<sup>th</sup> Street and Highway 370). The building was remodeled for NAU in 2011. The facility includes three large classrooms, administrative offices, eight general purpose offices, two interview rooms, an assessment center, and a learner services room. Two large areas were not initially needed and left unfinished in 2011, available for future expansion.

NAU reported that the only additional equipment that would be needed is an IV hood and medication cart for the pharmacy technician program.

***E. Assurances regarding transfer of credits earned in the program to the main campus of such institution [if applicable] and clear and accurate representations about the transferability of credits to other institutions located in Nebraska and elsewhere***

Since National American University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, students should be able to transfer credits in the same manner as they transfer credits earned at any other regionally accredited institution. Acceptance of transfer credits from any institution is at the discretion of the receiving institution. The proposed programs are offered on other National American University campuses and therefore would transfer fully to those locations.

NAU has an articulation agreement with Vatterott College for transfer of credits or an associate degree into a National American University baccalaureate program.

***F. Whether such institution and, when appropriate, the programs, are fully accredited, or seeking accreditation, by an accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education***

National American University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, the same entity that accredits Nebraska's public, and many private, institutions of higher education. Accredited since 1985, NAU is authorized to offer certificates, associate, baccalaureate, and master's degrees, and the Ed.D.

The proposed management programs are accredited by the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education (IACBE). The IACBE is one of three programmatic accrediting bodies for business. The Health Information Technology AAS program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM). Both the IACBE and CAHIIM are accrediting bodies recognized by the United States Department of Education. The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)—slated to join the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education to form a U.S. Department of Education approved accrediting body—currently accredits the pharmacy technician program.

***G. The institution's policies and procedures related to students, including, but not limited to, recruiting and admissions practices***

The admission standards were outlined; they are also included in the college catalog. The college reported that they will recruit students using television commercials, online inquiries, student referrals, job and career fairs, and business-to-business recruitment.

**H. Other Information**

The Commission received one letter in response to its notification to institutions of NAU's application. The letter from the University of Nebraska is attached.

**Committee Recommendation: Approve the modification to the recurrent authorization to operate for National American University to include the BS and AAS in management, the AAS in pharmacy technician, the AAS in health information technology, and the diploma in healthcare coding.**

**Reporting Requirements:**

Commission rules require annual reporting one year from the date of receiving recurrent authorization. National American University's report is due March 1, 2014.

October 29, 2013

**RECEIVED**

**OCT 31 2013**

**Coordinating Commission  
for Postsecondary Ed.**

Dr. Carna Pfeil  
Interim Executive Director  
Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education  
140 North 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 300  
P.O. Box 95005  
Lincoln, NE 68509-5005

Dear Dr. Pfeil,

Thank you for alerting the University of Nebraska about the application from the National American University to modify its recurrent authorization to operate in Nebraska.

As you are likely aware, three of our four campuses offer undergraduate programs in management; all three campuses report they are able to meet the current student demand for these programs. Therefore, it is not evident that there is a need or demand for the National American University to offer another management program in Nebraska.

Additionally, in considering applications such as this one from National American University, it is our hope that the Commission requires applicants to report their student retention and graduation rates as well as average student loan debt incurred and student loan default rates. As I am sure you will agree, it is in the best interest of Nebraska students that we don't expose them to educational opportunities that have a stronger chance of resulting in failure and insurmountable debt than success and little to no debt.

Sincerely,



Susan Fritz  
Interim Executive Vice President and Provost

C: President James B. Milliken  
Dr. Charles Bicak  
Dr. Dele Davies  
Dr. B. J. Reed  
Dr. Ellen Weissinger  
Mr. Ron Withem

## 2012-2013 EXISTING PROGRAM REVIEW

<b>UNIVERSITY &amp; STATE COLLEGE PROGRAMS APPROVED by the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</b>									
Institution	Program	5 yr Average (2007-2012)							
		SCH/ FTE	Baccalaureate Degrees awarded		Masters Degrees awarded		Doctorate Degrees awarded		
UNL	Advertising	444	BJ	85.4					
	Advertising & Public Relations		BJ	102.0					
UNL	Broadcasting	341	BJ	46.6					
UNL	Communication Studies	916	BA/BS	59.2	MA	2.2	PhD	4.6	
UNL	Journalism & Mass Communication	327			MA	23.4			
UNL	News and Editorial	431	BJ	34.4					
UNO	Broadcasting	1,013	BA	2.6					
			BS	19.0					
	Communication					MA	11.4		
	Human Resources & Management					Grad Cert	2.2		
	Technical Communication					Grad Cert	0.6		
	Journalism			BS	58.6				
				BA	14.2				
	Mass Communication		BGS	6.4					
			BS	17.6					
	Speech Communication		BGS	3.4					
			BA	2.6					
WSC	Mass Communication	399	BA	0.2					
			BS	8.6					

<b>COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROGRAMS APPROVED by the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</b>							
Institution	Program	5 yr Average (2007-2012)					
		SCH/ FTE	Associate		Diploma	Certificate	Total Awards
CCC	Occupational Therapy Assistant	344*	AAS	13.5**			13.5
SCC	Physical Therapist Assistant	299*	AAS	14.5**			14.5
NECC	Physical Therapist Assistant	288	AAS	14.2			14.2

\*3-year average

\*\*2-year average (new program)

<b>PROGRAMS DISCONTINUED by the INSTITUTIONS</b>			
<b>Institution</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Degree(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
MCC	Leadership & Supervision	AAS	This was a Cox Communication Program that has run its course. MCC hasn't been contacted by Cox about the program in several years.
UNO	Broadcasting	BGS	Low enrollments. Will be offered as part of Mass Communication (BGS).
UNO	Communication	BGS	

## Commission Thresholds

### Number of Degrees/Awards in this Program (the mean of the prior 5 years)

Less Than Two Years and Associate	10
Baccalaureate and First Professional	7
Masters Degree	5
Specialist	4
Doctoral Degree	3

### Student Credit Hour Production by Department Per Full-Time Equivalent Faculty (the mean of the prior 5 years)

All credit hours produced at the baccalaureate levels and all credit hours at the associate level or below except those described below.	300	All credit hours produced at the associate level and below in programs which utilize contact hours that are converted to credit hours for purposes of determining full-time equivalency pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1503 (2008)	275
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## Information Items

### **Program Deletions**

1. UNO – Broadcasting (BGS)
2. UNO – Communication (BGS)
3. MCC – Leadership & Supervision (AAS)

### **Department Name Change**

1. UNK – Department of Computer Science and Information Systems to  
*Department of Computer Science and Information Technology*