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# MINUTES

## COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION Central Community College - 4500 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, Columbus Campus Student Center, Lower Level, Rooms 176-177, Columbus, Nebraska Friday, May 17, 2024 9:45 a.m. (CT)

### *Public notice of meeting*

Public notice of this meeting was given by posting notice on the Commission's website; posting notice on the State of Nebraska's online public meeting calendar; e-mailing news media; and keeping a current copy of the agenda in the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education's office, listing the date, time, and location of the meeting. A current copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted beside the table containing the documents for the meeting.

### **NOTICE OF MEETING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION WILL HOLD A MEETING ON MAY 17, 2024. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 9:45 A.M. AND ADJOURN AT APPROXIMATELY 1:00 P.M.

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

DR. PAUL VON BEHREN, CHAIR

### *Meeting called to order at 9:45 a.m.*

### **CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Von Behren called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. and asked for introductions.

### **Commissioners Present**

Tim Daniels  
Dr. Deborah Frison  
Dr. LeDonna Griffin  
Dr. Dennis Headrick  
Mary Lauritzen

Molly O'Holleran  
Dannika Nelson  
Dr. Paul Von Behren  
Tami Weber  
W. Scott Wilson

### **Commission Staff Present**

Dr. Michael Baumgartner  
Dr. Kathleen Fimple  
Jill Heese  
J. Ritchie Morrow

Helen Pope  
Matthew Roque  
Gary Timm

*Dr. Kathy Fuchser, Central Community College*

### **WELCOME**

Dr. Kathy Fuchser, Central Community College, Columbus Campus President, welcomed the Commissioners and thanked them for the work they do for the community colleges.

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*Minutes of March 15, 2024,  
Commission Meeting approved*

### **MINUTES OF MARCH 15, 2024, COMMISSION MEETING**

**Commissioner Frison made a motion to approve the March 15, 2024, minutes as written. Commissioner Headrick seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Griffin, Headrick, Lauritzen, Nelson, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. Abstain: O'Holleran. The motion carried.**

#### *Chair's Report*

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Von Behren thanked Dr. Fuchser for an informative tour of the CCC campus before the meeting.

Chair Von Behren noted that the *2024 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report* caught the attention of the media, and he was interviewed by Channel 7 in Omaha.

#### *Nominating Committee*

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Frison reported that she, along with Commissioners Daniels, Headrick, O'Holleran, and Wilson, made up the nominating committee for Commission officers for 2024-2025. She presented the Committee's slate of nominations for Commission Chair, Vice Chair, and two other members of the 2024-2025 Executive Committee.

The Nominating Committee proposed approval of Commissioner Von Behren to continue to serve as Commission Chair from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

*Commissioner Von Behren approved to  
continue as Chair July 1, 2024, through  
June 30, 2025*

**Commissioner Frison, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, moved to approve Commissioner Von Behren to continue to serve as Commission Chair from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Griffin, Headrick, Lauritzen, Nelson, O'Holleran, Weber, and Wilson. Abstain: Von Behren. The motion carried.**

The Nominating Committee proposed approval of Commissioner Daniels to continue to serve as Vice Chair from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

*Commissioner Daniels approved to  
continue as Vice Chair July 1, 2024,  
through June 30, 2025*

**Commissioner Frison, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, moved to approve Commissioner Daniels to serve as Commission Vice Chair from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Frison, Griffin, Headrick, Lauritzen, Nelson, O'Holleran, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. Abstain: Daniels. The motion carried.**

The Nominating Committee proposed approval of Commissioners Frison and Headrick to serve on the Executive Committee along with the Chair and Vice Chair from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

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*Commissioners Frison and Headrick  
approved to serve on the Executive  
Committee from July 1, 2024, through  
June 30, 2025*

**Commissioner Frison, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, moved to approve Commissioners Frison and Headrick to serve on the Executive Committee, along with the Chair and Vice Chair, from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Griffin, Lauritzen, Nelson, O'Holleran, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. Abstain: Headrick. The motion carried.**

*Executive Director's Report*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The following out-of-service area application requests were approved by the executive director:

*Out-of-service area applications  
approved by the Executive Director*

- Offered by University of Nebraska at Kearney  
In-person – adjunct faculty in area, from the University of Nebraska at Kearney to Crete High School, Crete, NE
  - SPAN 200 – Intermediate Spanish I – 3 credits  
August 15, 2024 – May 16, 2025
- Offered by University of Nebraska at Kearney  
In-person – adjunct faculty in area, from the University of Nebraska at Kearney to Crete High School, Crete, NE
  - SPAN 201 – Intermediate Spanish II – 3 credits  
August 15, 2024 – May 16, 2025
- Offered by University of Nebraska at Kearney  
In-person – adjunct faculty in area, from the University of Nebraska at Kearney to Crete High School, Crete, NE
  - SPAN 215 – Introduction to Spanish Studies for Heritage Speakers – 3 credits  
August 15, 2024 – May 16, 2025
- Offered by University of Nebraska at Kearney  
In-person – adjunct faculty in area, from the University of Nebraska at Kearney to Crete High School, Crete, NE
  - HIST 231 – World History Since 1600 – 3 credits  
August 15, 2024 – May 16, 2025

*Gary Timm presented the Third  
Quarter Budget Report*

Dr. Baumgartner introduced Gary Timm, Chief Finance Officer, to present the Third Quarter Budget Report as of March 31, 2024. Mr. Timm gave updates on the status of Administrative Funds, the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Program (NOG), Community College Gap Assistance Program, Access College Early Scholarship (ACE), Guaranty Recovery Program, and the Community College American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grants.

Dr. Baumgartner discussed legislative bills that are of interest to the Commission, noting most of those bills have been marked “indefinitely postponed.” Bills that did not pass will need to be reintroduced as new bills next year. Overall, very few bills that affect postsecondary education were passed. Dr. Baumgartner noted any sales tax proposals that include taxing lottery sales will affect the amount available to the CCPE financial aid programs.

*Staff happenings*

Dr. Baumgartner reported that he and other staff members continue to attend meetings and work on the implementation of the new Excellence in Teaching program, Career Readiness and Dual Credit Education program, and the Door to College Scholarship program. Dr. Baumgartner stated he will attend the Education Commission of the States National Forum and the SHEEO annual meetings in DC in July. He has been appointed to a Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) ad hoc committee on program development and will attend their Executive Committee meeting in St. Louis in June, along with Commissioner Frison.

Dr. Baumgartner along with Dr. Kathleen Fimple, Academic Programs Officer, continue to attend the Nebraska Postsecondary Education Consortium meetings, which are related to requirements for prison education programs that can serve Pell-eligible students. Dr. Fimple will attend the Midwest SARA meeting in Chicago in June.

Dr. Baumgartner stated that Jill Heese, Research Director, and J. Ritchie Morrow, Financial Aid Officer, will present the *2024 Nebraska Higher Education Progress Report* to several Doane University graduate classes in June.

Dr. Baumgartner introduced Mr. Morrow to provide current information on the new Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application. He stated that Mr. Morrow continues to work with the Nebraska FAFSA Task Force, which includes EducationQuest, Nebraska Department of Education, several high school counselors and administrators, and foundation representatives.

Mr. Morrow presented a handout on current FAFSA information and noted we have a system that can track FAFSA results for currently enrolled 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. The report displays graphs of the number of completed vs submitted FAFSAs and the percentage of submitted FAFSA's by gender. Mr. Morrow answered questions from the Commissioners.

*Public Hearing on Matters of General Concern*

**PUBLIC HEARING ON MATTERS OF GENERAL CONCERN**

There was no testimony on Matters of General Concern.

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

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*Public Hearing on Academic Programs  
Committee Items*

*Dr. David Jackson, University of  
Nebraska*

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE ITEMS**

Dr. David Jackson, Vice Provost from the University of Nebraska, came before the Commission to provide context on the list of discontinued programs at University of Nebraska locations. He stated that representatives from the University were present to answer any questions regarding the Bachelor of Science in Media Studies new program proposal.

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

*Academic Programs Committee*

*Commissioner Headrick*

**ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Headrick, Committee Chair, introduced Dr. Fimple to present the agenda items for the Academic Programs Committee.

*University of Nebraska at Kearney –  
Proposal for a New Instructional  
Program – Media Studies, BS*

*Dr. Kathleen Fimple Presented the  
proposal*

**University of Nebraska at Kearney - Proposal for a New Instructional Program - Media Studies, BS**

Dr. Fimple presented the proposal, noting the proposed Bachelor of Science degree in Media Studies is a revision of four existing related BA/BS degrees. Those four degrees would become areas of emphasis. Dr. Fimple stated there is a high demand for the program and that all physical facilities and faculty are currently in place.

*Dr. Nanette Hogg and Dr. Julie Lanz,  
University of Nebraska at Kearney*

Dr. Nanette Hogg, Chair for the Department of Communication, and Dr. Julie Lanz, Associate Dean, of the UNK College of Arts & Sciences, discussed the program proposal and answered questions from the Commissioners.

*Committee recommendation*

Committee recommendation: That the Commission approve the Bachelor of Science in Media Studies at UNK.

*University of Nebraska at Kearney –  
Proposal for a New Instructional  
Program – Media Studies, BS approved*

**Commissioner Headrick, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the University of Nebraska at Kearney's Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Media Studies, BS. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Griffin, Headrick, Lauritzen, Nelson, O'Holleran, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. The motion carried.**

*Fee Schedule for Private, Out-of-State,  
and SARA Institutions*

*Dr. Fimple presented the fee schedule*

**Fee Schedule for Private, Out-of-State, and SARA Institutions**

Dr. Fimple presented the fee schedule noting that fees are charged based on administrative costs and reviewed every two years by the Commission.

*Committee recommendation*

Committee recommendation: That the Commission approve the fees for private postsecondary institution and SARA applications to become effective July 1, 2024.

*Fee Schedule for Private, Out-of-State  
and SARA Institutions approved*

**Commissioner Headrick, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee, moved to approve the Fee Schedule for Private, Out-of-**

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**State and SARA Institutions. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Griffin, Headrick, Lauritzen, Nelson, O'Holleran, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. The motion carried.**

*Annual Reports from Private or Out-of-State Institutions*

*Dr. Fimple presented the report*

**Annual Reports from Private or Out-of-State Institutions**

Dr. Fimple presented the annual report on the following institutions holding a recurrent authorization to operate in Nebraska:

- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- North Park Theological Seminary
- Life Chiropractic College West
- Osiri University

*Report on Institutional Activities Relating to Existing Programs*

**Report on Institutional Activities Relating to Existing Programs**

Dr. Fimple provided information on the following program changes:

**Reasonable and Moderate Extensions**

MCC - Food Studies, Certificate of Achievement  
MCC - Foodservice Fundamentals, Career Certificate  
MCC - Sustainable Baking Management, AAS  
MCC - Bakeshop Operations, Career Certificate  
MCC - Sustainable Culinary Management, AAS  
MCC - Basic Gastronomy, Career Certificate  
MCC - Sustainable Food Systems, Career Certificate  
MCC - Restaurant Operation, Career Certificate  
MCC - Hospitality Leadership, Certificate of Achievement  
MCC – Horticulture, AAS  
MCC - Horticulture Science, Certificate of Achievement  
MCC - Market Farming, Career Certificate  
MCC - Plant ID, Career Certificate  
MCC - Landscape Design, AAS  
MCC - Landscape Design, Certificate of Achievement  
MCC - Landscape Maintenance and Management, Career Certificate  
MCC - Floral Design, Career Certificate  
MCC - Mopar Career Automotive Program, AAS  
MCC - Subaru Career Automotive Program, AAS  
MCC - Introductory Welding Pathway, Career Certificate  
MCC - Software Testing and Automation, Career Certificate  
MCC - Computer Technology Transfer - Cybersecurity, AS  
MCC - Criminal Justice Transfer, AS

Program Name Changes

- MCC - Commercial Refrigeration Technology, Career Certificate, to *Commercial HVAC/R Technology, Career Certificate*
- MCC - Refrigeration Technology, Certificate of Achievement, to *Commercial HVAC/R Technology, Certificate of Achievement*
- MCC - General Studies, AAS, to *Focus Area Exploration, AAS*
- SCC - Electronic System Technician, Certificate, to *Electronic Systems Technology, Electronic System Technician, Certificate*
- SCC - Robotics and Automation, Certificate, to *Automation and Robotics, Certificate*
- SCC - Horticulture & Turfgrass Management AAS, Horticulture Focus to *Landscape Production Focus*.
- SCC - Polysomnographic Technology Certificate to *Polysomnographic (Sleep) Technology Certificate*.
- UNO - Center for Afghanistan Studies to *the Center for Afghanistan and Regional Studies*
- UNMC - Genetics, Cell Biology, and Anatomy, MS, to *Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology, MS*
- UNMC - Pathology and Microbiology, MS, to *Immunology, Pathology, and Infectious Diseases, MS*

Discontinued Programs

- MCC - Diesel Technology - Power Generation, AAS
- MCC - Culinary Arts & Management - Baking and Pastry Option, AAS
- MCC - Culinary Arts & Management - Culinary Arts Option, AAS
- MCC - Hospitality and Restaurant Leadership - Food and Event Management, AAS
- MCC - Hospitality and Restaurant Leadership – Hospitality Entrepreneurship, AAS
- MCC - Baking and Pastry, Certificate of Achievement
- MCC - Culinary Arts and Management, Certificate of Achievement
- MCC - Culinary Arts Foundations, Career Certificate
- MCC - Manage First, Career Certificate
- MCC - Horticulture Management, AAS
- MCC - Floriculture, AAS
- MCC - Grounds Management, AAS
- MCC - Landscape Design, AAS
- MCC - Small Market Farming, AAS
- MCC - Horticulture, Certificate of Achievement
- MCC - Arboriculture, Career Certificate



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*Discontinued Programs continued*

MCC - Floriculture, Career Certificate  
MCC - Greenhouse Production and Propagation, Career Certificate  
MCC - Grounds Management, Career Certificate  
MCC - Landscape Design, Career Certificate  
MCC - Nursery and Retail Management, Career Certificate  
MCC - Small Market Farming, Career Certificate  
UNK - Journalism, BA, BS \*  
UNK - Advertising and Public Relations, BA, BS \*  
UNK - Sports Communications, BA, BS \*  
UNK - Multimedia, BA, BS \*  
UNL - Space Law, JSD  
UNL - Applied Climate Science, BS \*  
UNL - Water Science, BS \*  
UNL - Veterinary Science, MS \*  
UNMC - Community Oriented Primary Care, Certificate  
UNMC - Medicine, BS  
UNMC - Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, PhD \*  
UNMC - Cancer Research, PhD \*  
UNMC - Cellular and Integrative Physiology, PhD \*  
UNMC - Genetics, Cell Biology, and Anatomy, PhD \*  
UNMC - Pathology and Microbiology, PhD \*  
UNMC - Pharmacology and Experimental Neuroscience, PhD \*  
UNL/UNMC - Master of Public Health, Joint Juris Doctorate (JD)

*Institution Withdrawing from  
Nebraska Authorization*

**Institution Withdrawing from Nebraska Authorization**

Mission University, authorized for an administrative office in Omaha, will not seek reauthorization when the current authorization expires August 1, 2024

*Eliminated Center*

**Eliminated Center**

UNL - National Center for Research in Economic Education

\* will become an emphasis, option, specialization, or focus area in a related program

*Public Hearing on Planning and  
Consumer Information Committee  
Items*

**PUBLIC HEARING ON PLANNING AND CONSUMER INFORMATION  
COMMITTEE ITEMS**

There was no testimony on Planning and Consumer Information Items.

**Chair Von Behren closed the public hearing on Planning and Consumer Information Committee Items.**

Chair Von Behren called for a break at 11:25 a.m. The meeting resumed at 11:35 a.m.



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*Planning and Consumer Information  
Committee*

*Commissioner Wilson*

*Jill Heese presented the 2024 Factual  
Look at Higher Education in Nebraska  
– Degrees and Other Awards  
Conferred*

*Executive Committee*

*Proposed Agency Budget FYE  
6/30/2025*

*Mr. Timm presented the proposed  
agency budget*

*Committee recommendation*

*Proposed Agency Budget FYE  
6/30/2025 approved*

*Approval of the 2024-2025 Salary of  
the Executive Director*

*Motion, second, and approval made to  
enter into closed session*

**PLANNING AND CONSUMER INFORMATION COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Wilson, Committee Chair, introduced Jill Heese, Research Director, to present the *2024 Factual Look at Higher Education in Nebraska – Degrees and Other Awards Conferred*.

Ms. Heese delivered a PowerPoint presentation on the *2024 Factual Look at Higher Education in Nebraska: Degrees and Other Awards Conferred*. The report provides a statewide statistical analysis that focuses on the latest 10-year trends by sector, award level, gender, race/ethnicity, discipline cluster, and age group. Ms. Heese stated total degrees and awards were up 1.7% over the last year. A Key Takeaways summary was added to the 2024 report. Ms. Heese provided a demonstration on how to use the Dashboard on the CCPE website. The full report and dashboards are available online at <https://ccpe.nebraska.gov/reports>.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Proposed Agency Budget FYE 6/30/2025**

Mr. Timm presented the Proposed Agency Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, noting that the state appropriates funding for agencies on a two-year basis. He stated if we don't spend the appropriated funds in the first year of the biennium the dollars are carried over.

Committee Recommendation: That the Commission approve the *Agency Budget for July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025*, as presented in the report.

**Vice Chair Von Behren, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved to approve the Proposed Agency Budget Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Griffin, Headrick, Lauritzen, Nelson, O'Holleran, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. The motion carried.**

**Approval of the 2024-2025 Salary of the Executive Director**

**Chair Von Behren made a motion to enter into closed session as authorized by the Nebraska Revised Statutes, Section 84-1410, for the protection of the public interest and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of Dr. Michael Baumgartner, who has not requested a public hearing, for the purpose of discussing the executive director's salary. Commissioner O'Holleran seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Griffin, Headrick, Lauritzen, Nelson, O'Holleran, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. The motion carried.**

Chair Von Behren called for a break to pick up lunch boxes from 12:25 p.m. to 12:33 p.m.

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*Commissioners enter into closed session at 12:34 p.m.*

*Closed session ended by unanimous vote at 12:50 p.m.*

*Executive Director salary increase for 2024-2025 approved*

*Next Commission meeting is July 26, 2024*

*Commissioner Comments*

*Chair Von Behren adjourned the meeting at 12:56 p.m.*

Chair Von Behren requested that staff and guests leave the room while the Commission goes into closed session to discuss the salary of the executive director recommended by the Executive Committee.

The Commission entered into closed session at 12:34 p.m.

The Commission ended the closed session at 12:50 p.m. by a unanimous vote.

Chair Von Behren stated that formal action must be taken in open session on the executive director's salary recommendation, which is a 5.5 percent increase.

**Commissioner Headrick made a motion to approve the proposed 5.5 percent salary increase for 2024-2025 for Executive Director Baumgartner. Commissioner Daniels seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Daniels, Frison, Griffin, Headrick, Lauritzen, Nelson, O'Holleran, Von Behren, Weber, and Wilson. The motion carried.**

### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next Commission meeting will be Friday, July 26, 2024, 8:30 a.m. at Chadron State College, Chadron, Nebraska.

### **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Daniels stated it is nice to have Commissioner Lauritzen present at the meeting. Commissioner Lauritzen has been with the Commission for 24 years.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Von Behren adjourned the meeting at 12:56 p.m.

# Quarterly Report as of June 30, 2024

## Administrative Funds (Program 640)

	2023-2024 Appropriations	2023-2024 Current Expenditures	Balance Remaining	% of Budget Expended Time Elapsed 100.00%
<b>PERSONAL SERVICES</b>				
PSL	\$1,070,438			
Permanent Salaries	\$950,050	\$890,920	\$59,130	93.8%
Benefits	\$247,263	\$240,663	\$6,600	97.3%
Subtotal	\$1,197,313	\$1,131,583	\$65,730	94.5%
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>				
Postage	\$4,216	\$3,673	\$543	87.1%
Communication	\$9,654	\$7,461	\$2,193	77.3%
Data Processing	\$65,039	\$45,849	\$19,190	70.5%
Publication & Printing	\$7,365	\$5,424	\$1,941	73.6%
Awards Expense	\$615	\$217	\$398	35.3%
Dues & Subscriptions	\$52,907	\$31,464	\$21,443	59.5%
MHEC Dues	\$115,000	\$115,000	\$0	100.0%
Conference Registration Fees	\$2,511	\$2,943	-\$432	117.2%
Electricity	\$2,700	\$2,129	\$571	78.9%
Rent Expense	\$58,010	\$53,404	\$4,606	92.1%
Office Supplies	\$2,807	\$1,920	\$887	68.4%
Non Capitalized Equipment	\$450	\$0	\$450	0.0%
Food Expenses	\$2,000	\$1,112	\$888	55.6%
Education Supplies	\$500	\$591	-\$91	118.2%
Account & Auditing Services	\$6,260	\$6,260	\$0	100.0%
Purchasing Assessment	\$120	\$120	\$0	100.0%
Software	\$1,000	\$877	\$123	87.7%
Insurance Expense	\$336	\$336	\$0	100.0%
License Fees	\$2,174	\$2,174	\$0	100.0%
Other	\$805	\$715	\$90	88.8%
Subtotal	\$334,469	\$281,669	\$52,800	84.2%
<b>STAFF TRAVEL</b>				
Board & Lodging	\$6,000	\$6,791	-\$791	113.2%
Commercial Transportation	\$2,000	\$1,671	\$329	83.6%
Meals-Travel Status	\$2,000	\$1,680	\$320	84.0%
State-Owned Transportation	\$2,000	\$2,042	-\$42	102.1%
Mileage	\$2,000	\$2,103	-\$103	105.2%
Other	\$500	\$264	\$236	52.8%
Subtotal	\$14,500	\$14,551	-\$51	100.4%
<b>COMMISSIONER TRAVEL</b>				
Board & Lodging	\$4,600	\$2,549	\$2,051	55.4%
Meals-Travel Status	\$1,500	\$1,221	\$279	81.4%
Mileage	\$10,000	\$7,364	\$2,636	73.6%
Other	\$500	\$15	\$485	3.0%
Subtotal	\$16,600	\$11,149	\$5,451	67.2%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	\$1,562,882	\$1,438,952	\$123,930	92.1%
General Fund	\$1,527,692	\$1,433,411	\$94,281	92.1%
Cash Fund	\$35,190	\$5,541	\$29,649	
<b>Total</b>	\$1,562,882	\$1,438,952	\$123,930	

**Note: The percentage of budget spent without including the MHEC dues is 91.4%.  
The MHEC dues are paid in full (\$115,000) during the first month of the fiscal year.**

# Quarterly Report as of June 30, 2024

## Nebraska Opportunity Grant Program (NOG)

	<i>2023-2024 Appropriations</i>	<i>2023-2024 Current Expenditures</i>	<i>Balance Remaining</i>	<i>% of Budget Expended Time Elapsed 100.00%</i>
<b>GOVERNMENT AID</b>				
Other Government Aid	\$24,448,302	\$24,427,334	\$20,968	99.9%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	\$24,448,302	\$24,427,334	\$20,968	99.9%
General Fund	\$8,093,430	\$8,093,430	\$0	99.9%
Cash Fund	\$16,354,872	\$16,333,904	\$20,968	
<b>Total</b>	\$24,448,302	\$24,427,334	\$20,968	

## Community College Gap Assistance Program

	<i>2023-2024 Appropriations</i>	<i>2023-2024 Current Expenditures</i>	<i>Balance Remaining</i>	<i>% of Budget Expended Time Elapsed 100.00%</i>
<b>PERSONAL SERVICES</b>				
PSL	\$30,612			
Permanent Salaries	\$15,131	\$853	\$14,278	5.6%
Benefits	\$15,579	\$217	\$15,362	1.4%
Subtotal	\$30,710	\$1,070	\$29,640	3.5%
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>				
Data Processing	\$500	\$0	\$500	0.0%
Communications	\$550	\$0	\$550	0.0%
Dues & Subscriptions	\$100	\$0	\$100	0.0%
Conference Registration	\$150	\$0	\$150	0.0%
Other Contractual Services	\$38,403	\$0	\$38,403	0.0%
Subtotal	\$39,703	\$0	\$39,703	0.0%
<b>STAFF TRAVEL</b>				
Personal Vehicle Mileage	\$200	\$0	\$200	0.0%
Subtotal	\$200	\$0	\$200	
<b>GOVERNMENT AID</b>				
Other Government Aid	\$1,932,101	\$1,414,168	\$517,933	73.2%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	\$2,002,714	\$1,415,238	\$587,476	70.7%
Cash Fund	\$2,002,714	\$1,415,238	\$587,476	70.7%
<b>Total</b>	\$2,002,714	\$1,415,238	\$587,476	

# Quarterly Report as of June 30, 2024

## Access College Early Scholarship (ACE)

	<i>2023-2024 Appropriations</i>	<i>2023-2024 Current Expenditures</i>	<i>Balance Remaining</i>	<i>% of Budget Expended Time Elapsed 100.00%</i>
<b>GOVERNMENT AID</b>				
Other Government Aid	\$1,566,872	\$1,046,625	\$520,247	66.8%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	\$1,566,872	\$1,046,625	\$520,247	66.8%
General Fund	\$1,566,872	\$1,046,625	\$520,247	
<b>Total</b>	\$1,566,872	\$1,046,625	\$520,247	66.8%

## Guaranty Recovery Program

	<i>2023-2024 Appropriations</i>	<i>2023-2024 Current Expenditures</i>	<i>Balance Remaining</i>	<i>% of Budget Expended Time Elapsed 100.00%</i>
<b>GOVERNMENT AID</b>				
Other Government Aid	\$8,000	\$0	\$8,000	0.0%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	\$8,000	\$0	\$8,000	0.0%
Cash Fund	\$8,000	\$0	\$8,000	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	\$8,000	\$0	\$8,000	0.0%

## Community College ARPA Grants

	<i>2023-2024 Appropriations</i>	<i>2023-2024 Current Expenditures</i>	<i>Balance Remaining</i>	<i>% of Budget Expended Time Elapsed 100.00%</i>
<b>GOVERNMENT AID</b>				
Other Government Aid	\$51,978,974	\$37,923,704	\$14,055,270	73.0%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	\$51,978,974	\$37,923,704	\$14,055,270	73.0%
Federal Fund	\$51,978,974	\$37,923,704	\$14,055,270	
<b>Total</b>	\$51,978,974	\$37,923,704	\$14,055,270	73.0%

## Community College ARPA Funds - Dual Enrollment (Agency 83)

	<i>2023-2024 Appropriations</i>	<i>2023-2024 Current Expenditures</i>	<i>Balance Remaining</i>	<i>% of Budget Expended Time Elapsed 100.00%</i>
<b>GOVERNMENT AID</b>				
Other Government Aid	\$15,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$10,000,000	33.3%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	\$15,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$10,000,000	33.3%
Federal Fund	\$15,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$10,000,000	
<b>Total</b>	\$15,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$10,000,000	33.3%



## POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION RENEWAL APPLICATION For a RECURRENT AUTHORIZATION to OPERATE in NEBRASKA

**Institution:** CHI Health School of Radiologic Technology

**College Address:** 6901 North 72<sup>nd</sup> Steet, Omaha, NE

**Nebraska Street Address:** 6901 North 72<sup>nd</sup> Steet, Omaha, NE

**Name of Owner:** CHI Health

**Corporate Address:** 6901 North 72<sup>nd</sup> Steet, Omaha, NE

**Legal Status:** ☒ Nonprofit; ☐ For-profit:  
☐ sole proprietorship ☐ partnership ☐ corporation

**Institutional/Programmatic Accreditation:** Joint Review Committee for Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT)

**Last accreditation review and result:** 2019; eight-year accreditation, through 2027

**Date initially approved by CCPE:** July 25, 2019

**Date Authorization Expires:** August 1, 2024

### Description

CHI Health has its Omaha origins in St. Joseph Mercy Hospital (later the Creighton Memorial St. Joseph Hospital), founded in 1870, and Immanuel Hospital, opened in 1890. Through a series of purchases and mergers over many decades, both institutions, along with Bergan Mercy Health System, became part of Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI Health) in 2014. CHI Health became part of CommonSpirit Health in 2019.

The radiology program at Bergan Mercy was founded in 1953, and the program at Immanuel Hospital began in 1955. CHI Health School of Radiologic Technology offered an AAS degree in radiologic technology until receiving approval from the Coordinating Commission in 2019 to operate as a baccalaureate-granting institution.

### Student Data

	Enrollment (headcount)		Graduates	
	2021-22	2022-23	2021-22	2022-23
<b>Programs:</b>				
BS in Radiologic Technology	11	24	7	12

## REVIEW CRITERIA

***A. The financial soundness of the institution and its capability to fulfill its proposed commitments and sustain its operations (and the tuition refund policy for an institution that does not participate in federal financial aid programs described in Title IV of the federal Higher Education Act of 1965...as such act existed on January 1, 2011)***

Meets minimum standards				
yes	√		no	

The 2023 Department Performance Report for CHI Health School of Radiologic Technology and the CommonSpirit Health financial statements were reviewed by Commission staff.

CommonSpirit Health owns and operates health care facilities in 24 states and is the sole corporate member (parent corporation) of other primarily nonprofit corporations. The CHI Health School of Radiologic Technology operates as a small department within the larger CommonSpirit Health, with the school's financial statement consisting of revenue from tuition and expenses from instruction. In both 2022 and 2023 expenses exceeded revenue, although the gap was much smaller in 2023.

The remaining narrative is for CommonSpirit Health.

### **Assets**

CommonSpirit Health cash and investments have decreased by 3% and total assets increased by 3%. This cash and investments balance provides CommonSpirit Health six months of working capital, exceeding the recommended minimum of three months.

### **Liabilities**

An indicator of financial stability is, absent of new borrowing for major capital projects, whether long term debt payable is decreasing. While CommonSpirit Health does have substantial long-term debt representing a 19% increase from 2022, almost 10% of this increase is related to various finance lease obligations used to finance building, property, and equipment leases.

### **Revenue and Expenses**

Another indicator of financial stability is whether revenue and income have increased year over year, or if not, is there a one-time issue or other explanation that reduces concerns. Both operating revenue and operating expenses have increased with expenses slightly exceeding revenues.

In 2022 CommonSpirit Health experienced a ransomware attack that impacted certain of its systems and has had a large adverse financial impact, which includes lost revenues from the associated business interruption, the costs incurred to remediate the issues, and other related business expenses and is exclusive of any potential insurance related recoveries.

Of some concern is the one-time recognition in FY23 and in FY22 of CARES and ARPA federal COVID relief funds which reduced the amount of loss recognized each of these years.

### **Student loan default rate**

The U.S. Department of Education considers a school to be administratively capable if the student loan default rate for most loans is below 25% for the three most recent fiscal years, or



if the most recent default rate is less than 40%. The school's default rate is zero and has been for the three years most recently reported.

**Tuition and fees:** for 2022-2023

Program	Tuition	Fees	Books
Bachelor of Science(BS)	\$170 /credit hour	Varies	\$800/ year (estimate)

A copy of the Program Participation Agreement with the U.S. Department of Education was provided.

**Conclusion**

The financial analysis was based on CommonSpirit Health financial statements, which include CHI Health School of Radiologic Technology. The College is a department of CommonSpirit Health, whose expenses are 0.0008% of CommonsSpirit Health's total expenses. While CommonSpirit Health has incurred additional expenses related to the ransomware attack and revenues have been supplemented through COVID relief funds, net assets have increased, indicating asset growth exceeding liability growth. While the FY23 loss is a large amount of money, this represents only 0.9% of FY23 revenue.

Additionally, CommonSpirit Health is well diversified and is comprised of approximately 2,200 care sites that span the inpatient and outpatient continuum of care.

Based on this analysis, CommonSpirit Health is in sound financial position.

***B. The quality of the programs offered, including courses, programs of instruction, degrees, any necessary clinical placements, and the institution's ability to generate and sustain enrollment***

Changes since previous reporting?				
yes			no	√

**Credit** – One semester credit equals 16 hours of academic classroom education, 32 hours for lab courses, and 64 hours for clinical/practical courses.

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

Changes since previous reporting?				
yes	√		no	

The number of faculty remains at three, but some personnel are new. The curriculum vita for each was included.

JRCERT requires the program director to hold a master's degree and all faculty to hold a bachelor's degree as well as to be certified in the profession. All faculty meet these requirements.

***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***

Changes since previous reporting?				
yes			no	√

See page 1 for location.

***E. 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***

Meets minimum standards				
yes	√		no	

The CHI Health School of Radiologic Technology and its BS degree program are accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT), a body recognized by the U.S.

Department of Education. The school is currently seeking approval from JRCERT to offer all coursework through distance education (synchronous delivery) to better serve CHI Health affiliates in central Nebraska and the surrounding rural communities. The site visit for that change is scheduled for November 2024.

***F. 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***

Changes since previous reporting?				
yes			no	√

Not applicable

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

Changes since previous reporting?				
yes			no	√

**Committee Recommendation:** That the Commission approve the renewal of the recurrent authorization to operate for CHI Health School of Radiologic Technology.

**Institution:** CHI Health School of Radiologic Technology  
**Owner:** CHI Health  
**Level of authorization:** Authorized to offer one or more complete degree programs at the baccalaureate level, limited to the BS in radiologic technology.  
**Length of authorization:** Five years (valid through August 1, 2029)

**Reporting requirements:** Annual reports are required in a form available on the Commission website. The next report is due August 1, 2025.



## NEW INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM PROPOSAL

<b>Institution:</b>	<b>Wayne State College (WSC)</b>
<b>Program:</b>	<b>One Health Studies</b>
<b>Award:</b>	<b>Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Science (BS)</b>
<b>Mode of Delivery:</b>	<b>In person on WSC campus</b>
<b>Institution's Existing Degree(s) in Same or Similar Discipline:</b>	<b>Life Sciences, BA and BS; minors in 11 related fields</b>
<b>Proposal Received by Commission:</b>	<b>May 6, 2024</b>
<b>Proposed Start Date:</b>	<b>Fall 2024</b>

### Background

One Health is an initiative of the World Health Organization, described as “an integrated, unifying approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of people, animals, and ecosystems.” National and international organizations, including the United Nations, have embraced and promoted the One Health concept.

### Description

The proposed program would take an interdisciplinary approach to meet the goals of a program with a One Health theme. The courses would consist of diverse health, environmental, and social science foundations with more in-depth study within four available concentrations. The program would equip students with holistic knowledge, skills, and collaborative aptitudes for diverse professions or post-graduate studies in areas such as human, animal, or environmental health sciences; public health; wildlife management; and social services.

The major would require 55-57 credit hours, consisting of a 37-credit hour core that includes a senior seminar capstone course and an 18-20 credit hour concentration. Four concentrations would be available: health behavior and promotion, health analysts, ecological health, and social health and wellbeing (see page 5 for the curriculum details). Four new courses would be needed, but only one is required for the core. The other three are listed within the optional courses in one or more concentrations.

**Consistent with Institutional Role and Mission?**      ✓   YES           NO

**Consistent with Statewide Comprehensive Plan?**      ✓   YES           NO

## REVIEW CRITERIA

### A. Need for the Program

High-----Low
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The proposal cites employment predictions from the Nebraska Department of Labor for jobs requiring only a baccalaureate degree in “Environmental Scientists and Specialists, including Health.” From 2020 to 2030 the field is expected to grow by 6.5%. The need for “Zoologists and Wildlife Biologists” will grow by more than 14%, and the need for epidemiologists will grow by more than 34%. Median annual salaries of health-related BA/BS professions range from \$50,000 to \$100,000.

The customizable and interdisciplinary nature of the One Health Studies major allows students to prepare for employment in a wide range of fields where jobs are available in the state.

### B. Demand for the Program

High-----Low
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

WSC reports that in 2016 it implemented a Public and Global Health minor. One intent of the minor was to explore student interest for a major. In the eight years since its inception, an average of 11 students per year have graduated with the minor. Since there was no corresponding major, one to three students per year declared a self-constructed Interdisciplinary Studies major in Public and Global Health. As the development of the proposed program progressed, student input was included, “expressing enthusiastic support and interest.”

Based on enrollments in the minor and Interdisciplinary Studies major, and student input during program development, WSC expects to enroll at least eight new students per year. In addition, the college states that it has a significant number of first- and second-year students enrolled in pre-professional programs in health fields who transfer out of WSC to complete degrees. Some of these students might choose to stay in Wayne to complete a baccalaureate degree.

Six letters of support were included in the proposal.

- Two were from academic entities—the University of Nebraska Medical Center (Dean of the College of Public Health) and the Center for Molecular Dynamics Nepal, whose executive director has been promoting One Health in Nepal and who has collaborated with the WSC One Health program director.
- Two were from public health departments. The Northeast Nebraska Public Health Department noted the need for a multisector approach to handling human health and safety challenges, including COVID-19. The Winnebago Public Health Department pledged support for instruction and internships while acknowledging the importance of education focusing on holistic interactions to the Winnebago way of life. (WSC believes that Little Priest Tribal College will be strong transfer partner for the proposed program.)
- Lastly, two current WSC students, both majoring in one or more of the sciences, wrote of the potential presented by a One Health major for them individually and for the community and state.

The reported completers in the minor alone suggest there would be enough students to support the program and meet Commission productivity standards (seven graduates per year averaged over a five-year period). The students enrolled in Interdisciplinary Studies could add to the estimates.

**C. Avoidance of Unnecessary Duplication**

High-----Low
√

There are no One Health baccalaureate programs in Nebraska.

The University of Nebraska Omaha offers a BS degree in Public Health and a Master of Public Health. WSC reports that they contacted UNO. The UNO Program Director was supportive of the WSC One Health proposed program of study and indicated One Health Studies was distinct from their BA/BS program. They also noted that the program may be a good preparation for several of their MS programs in Health Behavior, Physical Activity, and Health Promotion.

UNMC College of Public Health offers only master's and doctoral degrees in Public Health.

There are several master's programs in One Health in the United States but few baccalaureates. The proposal reports that there are two One Health BA/BS programs at private colleges in Missouri.

**D. Resources: Faculty/Staff**

High-----Low
√

The program would build on existing courses and faculty. Four new courses would be needed, but only one is a required course. It would be taught as a one-credit overload by a current faculty member. Two new courses would be taught by adjunct faculty. The fourth new course is an optional practicum. An existing faculty member would serve as the supervisor. WSC notes that with program growth, additional adjunct faculty or faculty overload could be needed.

Because the proposed program is an interdisciplinary major, a One Health Studies Advisory Team of four to six faculty members would be created to include representation from the different departments involved in the development and delivery of the program. The team would monitor enrollment, provide advising, develop promotional materials, visit with prospective students, review Special Topics proposals for inclusion in appropriate concentrations, and oversee assessment efforts.

**E. Resources: Physical Facilities/Equipment**

Acceptable
yes √ no

The proposal states that no additional physical facilities or equipment would be needed.

**F. Informational Resources**

High-----Low
√

WSC lists the following informational resources. For program design:

- The One Health Commission
- WHO – One Health Initiative and CDC - One Health Office.

For local resources and partnerships:

- UNMC College of Public Health
- Creighton University's annual Global Health Conference – Midwest
- Northeast Nebraska Public Health Department
- Winnebago Health Department.

**G. Budget****PROJECTED COSTS AND ANTICIPATED REVENUES FOR THE FIRST FIVE YEARS****As reported by WSC**

<b>PROJECTED COSTS</b>		<b>ANTICIPATED REVENUES</b>	
Faculty and Staff <sup>1</sup>	\$33,200	Reallocated Funds	
		New State Funds	
		New Local Funds	
		Tuition and Fees <sup>2</sup>	\$887,376
<b>Five-Year TOTAL</b>	<b>\$33,200</b>	<b>Five-Year TOTAL</b>	<b>\$887,386</b>

<sup>1</sup>Faculty overload for one course each year. Adjunct faculty for one three-credit course in years one – three and two courses in years four and five.

<sup>2</sup> Based on eight students completing 30 credit hours each year at \$192 per credit hour tuition and \$1,081.50 fees per semester.

**Committee Recommendation: That the Commission approve the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees in One Health Studies at Wayne State College.**

First Program Review Date: Due June 30, 2028 (with Life Sciences).

**One Health Studies Comprehensive Major (BA or BS): 55-57 credit hours**

Credit hours for each course are in parentheses.

**CORE REQUIREMENTS: 37 credit hours**

BIO 200 Zoology (4)  
BIO 325 Ecology (4)  
CNA 418 Health Communication (3)  
EAS 110 Introduction to Meteorology (4)  
EAS 360 Global Climate Change (3)  
FCS 317 Nutrition Through the Lifespan (3)  
GEO 300 Human Geography (3)  
PED 105 Anatomy & Physiology I (3)  
PED 205 Anatomy & Physiology (3)  
PGH 200 Introduction to Personal, Public, and Global (3)  
PGH 480 One Health Studies Senior Seminar (1)  
PSY 316 Social Psychology (3)

**CONCENTRATIONS (select one): 18-20 credit hours**

- **Concentration in Health Behavior & Promotion:**

CNA 374 Public Relations (3)  
PED 305 Exercise Physiology (3)  
PSY 345 Health Psychology (3)  
9-11 credit hours chosen from 19 courses

- **Concentration in Health Analysts**

GEO 435 Computer Mapping (3)  
GEO 439 Geographic Information Systems (3)  
CSC 365 Scripting Languages (Python) (3)  
9-11 credit hours chosen from 20 courses

- **Concentration in Ecological Health**

BIO 345 Conservation Biology (3)  
BIO 451 Advanced Ecology (3)  
GEO 410 Hazards and Disasters (3)  
9-11 credit hours chosen from 11 courses

- **Concentration in Social Health & Wellbeing**

POS 430 Public Policy (3)  
SOC 350 Health & Populations (3)  
SOC 460 Social Inequalities (3)  
9-11 credit hours chosen from 30 courses





## NEW DEGREE PROPOSAL

<b>Institution:</b>	<b>Chadron State College (CSC)</b>
<b>Program:</b>	<b>Mental Health and Addictions</b>
<b>Degree:</b>	<b>Education Specialist (EdS)</b>
<b>Mode of Delivery:</b>	<b>Online (synchronous and asynchronous); local placements for internships</b>
<b>Institution's Existing Degree(s) in Same or Similar Discipline:</b>	<b>Clinical Mental Health Counseling, MAE; School Counseling, MAE</b>
<b>Proposal Received by Commission:</b>	<b>May 6, 2024</b>
<b>Proposed Start Date:</b>	<b>Fall 2025</b>

### Background

An Education Specialist degree is an advanced degree designed for professionals who seek specialized knowledge and skills beyond a master's degree. It allows educators to deepen their expertise in specific areas such as administrative leadership, education technology, special education, or counseling. The degree typically requires 30 to 36 credit hours, although some specialized areas may require more.

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services identifies two types of mental health professionals: independent mental health practitioner and mental health practitioner.

- Independent mental health practitioners can undertake some practices, such as diagnosing major mental illness and using psychotherapy in certain instances, without consultation with a qualified physician or licensed psychologist. A master's or doctorate from an accredited educational program is required.
- Mental health practitioners must have supervision for the activities listed above. A master's, doctorate, or equivalent of a master's from an *approved* educational program is required. Programmatic accreditation is not required.

### Description

The proposed program is designed to help individuals who have completed a master's degree in School Counseling (or a related program) obtain the necessary coursework and requirements for licensure as a Nebraska Licensed Mental Health Practitioner (LMHP). It would also provide a pathway for school counselors to become a Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor (LADC) in Nebraska by supplying the required coursework necessary to apply for an LADC license.

The program would require 30 graduate credit hours in courses already offered at CSC in counseling. Six of the 30 hours would be for an internship (see page 4 for the curriculum details). No new courses would be needed.

While the existing Clinical Mental Health Counseling MAE program is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), CSC does not intend to seek accreditation for the EdS because it does not fit into a standard CACREP accreditation program template. In addition, program accreditation is not required for students intending to become a mental health practitioner.

**Consistent with Institutional Role and Mission?**      ✓   YES \*           NO

**Consistent with Statewide Comprehensive Plan?**   ✓   YES        NO

\*State statutes identify the state colleges' fourth priority as the awarding of the specialist degree in education (NRS §85-951).

## REVIEW CRITERIA

### A. Need for the Program

High-----Low				
√				

The proposal cites information from the Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska or BHECN (created in 2009 under LB 603).

According to the BHECN, one in five Nebraskans has a mental health or substance use disorder. The Nebraska Behavioral Health workforce dashboard indicates that the Nebraska panhandle has among the lowest representation of mental health and addiction counseling professionals in the state.

CSC also cites a report from the Health Resources and Services Administration that states that Nebraska has less than half of the behavioral health workforce needed to adequately meet the state's needs. In addition, 88 of Nebraska's 93 counties are mental health professional shortage areas. The most recent workforce data from the BHECN also indicates that the workforce continues to age, especially licensed drug and alcohol counselors where more than half are older than 56. And, as expected, urban areas outpace rural regions in the supply of the behavioral health workforce.

There is also a need for a program that allows individuals with degrees in School Counseling (SC) to easily enter a program in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) (see Section B). The EdS would be a stacking or scaffolding process in the graduate counseling program, building on the MAE in SC.

## B. Demand for the Program

High-----Low				
	√			

CSC reports that interest and demand for the existing master's program in CMHC is steadily growing, from eight school counselor inquiries in 2021 to 30 in 2023.

Most of these school counselors have 39-credit hours from a graduate counseling program. However, due to institutional policies, only nine to 12 credits from any SC program will transfer into the CMHC program. These individuals have expressed the desire for a degree program option that builds upon, and accepts credit for, the prior coursework and experiences included in their SC master's program and that would be eligible for financial aid. There is currently no reasonable pathway for this within the state. As an online program, the proposed EdS would be available not only to school counselors in the CSC area but also to qualified counselors from across the state. (See page 4 for additional explanation.)

The budget projects five students enrolling in year one and 10 students each subsequent year. This is based on the number of inquiries the department has received.

**C. Avoidance of Unnecessary Duplication**

High-----Low				
√				

There are nine EdS programs in Nebraska at five institutions, but none in Mental Health and Addictions. Four are in administration or leadership, one is in teaching/learning/teacher education, one is in counseling, and three are in school or educational psychology.

According to CSC, six institutions in the state have master's degrees in CMHC, but none accepts more than 12 hours in transfer. UNO has a bridge program for SC to CMHC, but there is no degree earned and therefore no financial aid available.

**D. Resources: Faculty/Staff**

High-----Low				
	√			

The program would utilize existing faculty and courses. All courses have seats available to accommodate projected enrollments. CSC notes that with program growth adjunct faculty could be needed.

Although the college does not anticipate initially hiring adjuncts, cost for the adjuncts is included in the budget.

**E. Resources: Physical Facilities/Equipment**

Acceptable				
yes	√		no	

The proposal states that since the program would be online no additional physical facilities or equipment would be needed.

**F. Informational Resources**

Acceptable				
yes	√		no	

CSC reports that no additional informational resources would be required.

**G. Budget**

**PROJECTED COSTS AND ANTICIPATED REVENUES FOR THE FIRST FIVE YEARS  
As reported by CSC**

PROJECTED COSTS		ANTICIPATED REVENUES	
Faculty and Staff <sup>1</sup>	\$135,000	Reallocated Funds	
		New State Funds	
		New Local Funds	
		Tuition and Fees <sup>2</sup>	\$264,600
Five-Year TOTAL	\$135,000	Five-Year TOTAL	\$264,600

<sup>1</sup>Adjunct faculty for each additional section of required courses, with five courses in year one and nine courses in years two through five. These faculty may not be needed in the first years of the program.

<sup>2</sup> Based on 5 students in year one and ten students each subsequent year completing 15 credit hours each year. Online graduate tuition is \$392 per credit.

**Committee Recommendation: That the Commission approve the Education Specialist degree in Mental Health and Addictions at Chadron State College.**

First Program Review Date: Due June 30, 2029

**MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS REQUIREMENTS—EdS: 30 credit hours**

COUN 520 Psychopharmacology, Social and Medical Issues in Addictions (3hrs)

COUN 523 Diagnoses and the DSM (3hrs)

COUN 532 Treatment Issues in Addictions (3hrs)

COUN 545 Essentials of Addiction Counseling & Case Management (3hrs)

COUN 601 Practicum – CMHC (3hrs)

Choose one:

COUN 629 Child and Adolescent Counseling (3hrs) or

COUN 630 Crisis Counseling (3hrs)

COUN 631 Principles and Practices of Mental Health Counseling (3hrs)

COUN 636 Couples and Family Counseling (3hrs)

COUN 640 Internship in Counseling (6hrs)

\*\*\*\*\*

**School Counseling vs Clinical Mental Health Counseling**

Chadron currently offers an MAE in School Counseling (SC) requiring 39 credit hours. This program meets the education requirements of the Nebraska Department of Education for an endorsement in school counseling.

The college also offers a 60-credit hour MAE in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC). This curriculum meets the education requirements of the Department of Health and Human Services for a Licensed Mental Health Practitioner (LMHP) as well as a licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor (LADC).

All but two of the courses (six credits) for the SC program are also required for the CMHC program. However, institutional policies do not allow students to transfer the 33 credit hours from SC into the CMHC program. Most institutions in Nebraska will transfer only nine to 12 credits. This is due in part to the practices of limiting transfer credits into a graduate program and requiring at least 50% of a program to be completed at the institution awarding the degree. In addition, many institutions, including CSC, do not allow more than 15 credits to count toward two degrees at the same level.

For students with an MAE in school counseling who want to meet the education requirements for a LMHP, there are currently only two options:

- enroll in a 60-hour CMHC MAE program if one were available (CSC would not admit an SC graduate into its CMHC program). This would require retaking 21 to 24 credit hours, not a realistic option from an educational or financial perspective.
- take the remaining 27 credit hours as a non-degree seeking student, in which case they would have taken 27 hours with no academic award to show for it.

In either case, students would not qualify for financial aid.



## NEW INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM PROPOSAL

**Institution:** University of Nebraska-Lincoln

**Program:** Business Analytics

**Award:** Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA)

**Mode of Delivery:** Face-to-face at UNL

**Institution's Existing Degree(s) in Same or Similar Discipline:** Minor, Graduate Certificate, and MS in Business Analytics; PhD in Business with specialization in Supply Chain Management and Analytics

**Proposal Received by Commission:** June 20, 2024

**Proposed Start Date:** August 2024 or upon approval by the Coordinating Commission

### Description

The proposed program would train undergraduate students to solve a variety of problems faced by businesses and other organizations using a range of statistical, analytical, and computational approaches. The program would be housed in the Department of Supply Chain Management and Analytics (SCMA) in the College of Business. The requirements for the major would consist of a 23-credit hour business core, an 18-credit hour intermediate business core, and the business analytics core comprised of seven required courses, including an experiential learning capstone course, and two directed electives (see page 4). Two new courses would be needed. There are no national standards or accreditations for this major. The UNL College of Business is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).

**Consistent with Institutional Role and Mission?** ☒ YES ☐ NO

**Consistent with Statewide Comprehensive Plan?** ☒ YES ☐ NO

### REVIEW CRITERIA

#### A. Need for the Program

High-----Low
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

UNL cites the Bureau of Labor Statistics that predicts up to 20% growth in business analytics jobs nationally between 2021 and 2031, with 19% growth predicted for marketing analytics and 9% for financial analytics.

Within the state of Nebraska, the projected growth rates in analytics-related jobs are similar. Marketing analytics' projected employment in 2030 is 4,510, a 23% change over 2020, with 481 annual openings. Management analysts' projected growth is 14% with 408 annual openings.

Starting salaries for graduates reported by UNL peers include \$58,000 at the University of Iowa, \$61,045 at Iowa State, and \$60,000 at the University of Kansas.

In 2021 UNL contracted with ADV Market Research and Consulting to conduct a market assessment related to data science and closely related fields. The report emphasized the difference between data science, with an emphasis on the data itself, and the need for a business translator to serve as a link between pure analytical talent and applications to business questions that the data scientist may not be able to provide.

In addition, UNL conducted an industry roundtable in November 2022. The participants included representatives of local and regional organizations such as Bryan Health, Hudl, Nelnet, and the Kansas City Chiefs. The feedback on the proposed major was positive overall, and all participants agreed that there is a substantial need for workers trained in both the foundations of business and the quantitative methods used to support decision-making.

Two letters of support were provided by the College of Business at UNL, and three letters came from current students. Six letters were from businesses: Bryan Health, Deloitte, Hudl, the Kansas City Chiefs Football Club, Nelnet, and Werner Enterprises.

Bureau of Labor Statistics projections indicate a substantial need for employees with a combination of data and business skills. This position is supported anecdotally by local businesses.

## B. Demand for the Program

High-----Low
√

In 2023 UNL conducted a market assessment for business analytics programs at the undergraduate level. The study relied on data from IPEDS (Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System). Data was analyzed from all degree granting institutions in the United States and separately from all degree granting institutions bordering Nebraska plus Minnesota, North Dakota, and Montana. Key points from the assessment include:

- Regional competitors have driven substantial completions since 2017.
- Graduates can enter many occupation categories, and the opportunities are strong nationally and regionally at a wide array of companies.
- There is strong competition for this degree program nationally, but there is an opportunity to develop a foothold in the region both on campus and online.

To evaluate the potential demand locally, UNL referenced the business analytics minor that has more than 100 students currently enrolled. The university anticipates that the first year of the program could see enrollment of approximately 30 students, with the potential for enrollments to grow to approximately 65 students by year 5. It is anticipated that a significant number of these students will be double majors. Consequently, UNL estimates the number of *new* enrollments, i.e., students who otherwise would not have enrolled in the College of Business, would start at six and grow to about 19 students by year 5.

There are many minors in business analytics. This will likely translate to a large number of majors, although the vast majority would be current students moving from minor to major. Nonetheless, the projection for *new* students is reasonable.

**C. Avoidance of Unnecessary Duplication**

High-----Low
√

There are four undergraduate degree programs in business analytics or related programs in Nebraska. UNL provided the following list and analysis of the programs.

- Creighton University – business administration with a major in business intelligence and analytics with a track in business analytics. The required courses place much more emphasis on computer information systems than the coursework in the proposed major for UNL.
- UNK – business intelligence emphasis within the BS in business administration, where the emphasis requires about 27 credit hours in analytics content. The emphasis is offered by the Department of Cyber Systems and does not appear to emphasize the role of analytics in supporting business decision-making.
- Midland University and Bellevue University– programs include limited credit hours for business foundation courses.
- UNO – undergraduate concentration in business analytics through the Department of Economics within the College of Business Administration. As a concentration, it requires fewer courses in analytics.

At UNL there are two programs that are related to, but distinct from, business analytics.

- Statistics and data analytics major in the Department of Statistics focuses heavily on math and provides no application to business.
- Interdisciplinary data science program focusses on computing and programming.

Within the region, similar programs exist at Iowa State University, University of Iowa, and University of Kansas. Four other Big 10 institutions offer business analytics degrees, while the remainder have degrees or minors in Management Information Systems.

The emphasis on the role and application of analytics in business makes the proposed program substantially different from existing programs.

**D. Resources: Faculty/Staff**

High-----Low
√

UNL reports that the SCMA Department currently consists of thirteen tenure/tenure-track faculty and three professors of practice. Faculty from other departments would teach the business core fundamentals courses.

The new courses would be taught by current SCMA faculty; PhD students would teach the courses previously assigned to those faculty. The proposed degree would be managed using existing administration, recruiting, and advising staff in the Business Advising and Student Engagement office.

**E. Resources: Physical Facilities/Equipment; Library/Information Access**

Acceptable				
yes	√		no	

UNL states that no additional physical facilities or equipment are necessary to support the major in business analytics.

**F. Resources: Library/Information Access**

High-----Low
√

The proposal identifies the current resources available to students, including the UNL libraries with 10 locations across the UNL campuses. College of Business faculty, students, and staff have access to a variety of business-related databases through a subscription to Wharton Research Data Services.



Other databases are available to College of Business faculty and staff, including BoardEx, SeekEdgar, SDC Platinum, Datastream, and Gallup World Poll.

## G. Budget

### PROJECTED COSTS AND ANTICIPATED REVENUES FOR THE FIRST FIVE YEARS As reported by UNL

PROJECTED COSTS		ANTICIPATED REVENUES	
Faculty and Staff		Reallocated Funds	
General Operating		New State Funds	
Equipment		New Local Funds	
Faculty Start-up		Tuition and Fees *	\$881,280
Five-Year TOTAL	0	Five-Year TOTAL	\$881,280

\* Based on 6 new students in year one (4 resident and 2 non-resident), increasing to 19 new students in year five (13 resident and 6 non-resident). Projections used tuition and fees of \$8,740 per year for residents and \$27,910 for non-residents per year.

**Committee Recommendation:** That the Commission approve the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree in Business Analytics at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln

First Program Review Date: Due June 30, 2029

### Curriculum for BSBA in Business Analytics

<b>College of Business Foundation Courses</b>	
BSAD111, BSAD222, BSAD 333, BSAD444 Career Prep Courses	4
ECON211 Principles of Macroeconomics (ACE)	3
ECON212 Principles of Microeconomics	3
ACCT201 Principles of Accounting I	3
ACCT202 Principles of Accounting II	3
ECON215 Statistics	3
BSAD220 Business Writing	3
BSAD50 Business Computer Applications	0
BSAD250 Spreadsheet Analytics	1
<b>Total Foundation Credit Hours</b>	<b>23</b>

<b>College of Business Intermediate Core Courses</b>	
BLAW371 Legal Environment or BLAW372 Business Law I (ACE)	3
MNGT301 Principles of Management	3
MRKT341 Principles of Marketing	3
FINA361 Finance	3
SCMA350 (Business Analytics/Information Analysis)	3
SCMA331 (Operations and Supply Chain Management)	3
<b>Total Business Intermediate Core Credit Hours</b>	<b>18</b>

<b>Business Analytics Core Requirements</b>	
SCMA 335 Decision Making Models	3
SCMA 437 Risk and Decision Analysis	3
SCMA 450 Communication for Business Analytics	3
SCMA 451 Introduction to Predictive Analytics	3
SCMA 452 Database Management Systems	3
SCMA 453 Machine Learning Applications for Business Analytics	3
SCMA 454 Business Analytics Applications in Practice	3
Electives in the Major (choose two courses from 11 available)	6
<b>Total Major Credit Hours</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Achievement Centered Education (ACE) Requirements not met by business coursework</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>MNGT 475 - Business Strategies</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Achievement Centered Education (ACE) Requirements not met by business coursework</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>General Electives</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Total Credit Hours for Degree</b>	<b>120</b>



## NEW INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM PROPOSAL

**Institution:** University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC)

**Program:** Pharmaceutical Sciences

**Award:** Bachelor of Science (BS)

**Mode of Delivery:** Hybrid, originating from either the UNMC Omaha or UNMC Kearney campus

**Institution's Existing Degree(s) in Same or Similar Discipline:** Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.); Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences; M.S. in Pharmaceutical Sciences

**Proposal Received by Commission:** June 20, 2024

**Proposed Start Date:** Upon approval by the Commission

### Description

The proposed degree is intended to provide a comprehensive undergraduate education for students interested in a Doctor of Pharmacy degree, other health professional degrees (e.g., M.D., D.D.S.), pharmaceutical sciences or other graduate programs, or entry-level careers, such as medical sales representatives or pharmaceutical research technicians. One purpose of the program is to provide a pathway of well-qualified candidates for admission to the College of Pharmacy and other professional degree programs at UNMC, and to build a workforce for biomedical, biochemical, and agriculture scientists and technicians for the development, testing, and regulatory approval of new drugs.

The 120 credit-hour program would require students to complete 60 credit hours of prerequisites, primarily in the sciences, at a two- or four-year institution. The remaining 60 credit hours would be taken at UNMC on either the Omaha or Kearney campus or in a hybrid format. Eight new courses would be needed (see page 5). After the third year of the program (the first year at UNMC) students would have the option to apply for admission directly into the Doctor of Pharmacy program or continue with the fourth year to earn the BS. Students selecting the PharmD route would be awarded the BS after completing the first year of the PharmD program.

**Consistent with Institutional Role and Mission?**   √   YES        NO

**Consistent with Statewide Comprehensive Plan?**   √   YES        NO

## REVIEW CRITERIA

### A. Need for the Program

High	-----	Low
	√	

UNMC states that over the next ten years, more pharmacists will work in institutional healthcare settings, outpatient clinics, and other non-retail positions. In contrast to the national projections, which estimate a 2.1% decline from 2020 to

2030 in the demand for pharmacists (due to mail order, automation, and online prescription services), there is a projected growth in Nebraska of 1.4%. Even greater increases in demand for pharmacists are predicted for states in the Midwest where UNMC graduates often practice (CO 15.5%, IA 5.5%, KS 2.8%, ND 7.8%, SD 4.0%).

The proposal cites the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the long-term job outlook for medical scientists (a job category that includes pharmaceutical scientists) who contribute to the development of drugs. Positions in the field are projected to grow at 6% from 2019-2029 compared to 4% for all occupations. From 2020-2030, a 12.2% to 50% increase in demand for medical scientists is predicted for Nebraska (12.3%) and surrounding states (CO 27.3%, IA 18.8%, KS 16.7%, MN 12.2%, MO 27.9%, ND 50.0%, SD 21.7%). Graduates of the UNMC program would also be highly competitive applicants for graduate programs in biochemistry. Employment growth in the category of biochemists and biophysicists is projected at 4.9% nationally, and 11.1% in Nebraska.

Program graduates would also qualify for entry-level positions in the H3 fields related to the pharmaceutical and medical industry, including sales and marketing, drug research and development, quality assurance, pharmaceutical manufacturing, chemical manufacturing, food and beverage manufacturing, and testing laboratories. UNMC's search on the Indeed job website for 'pharmaceutical and medical sales' showed 53 job openings in Nebraska in the field of pharmaceutical sales with salaries listed up to \$188,000.

Overall, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the healthcare industry and medical science industry will experience significant growth in the coming years due to an aging population and scientific advances. The Bureau projects the healthcare industry will experience a 13% growth in employment, and medical scientists will experience a 17% growth in employment between 2021 and 2031. In total, these statistics reflect 2 million job openings each year.

The proposal also reports that BS degree programs in pharmaceutical sciences are not widespread, with only 20-25 institutions nationwide offering the program.

Four letters of support were provided by UNMC deans and vice chancellor. Three additional letters came from the Dean of Health and Public Services at Northeast Community College, the Global Program Head at Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, and the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at UNO. Two letters are of particular note.

- The letter from the program head at Novartis who states that there is a need for a program for students to gain comprehensive basics of pharmaceutical sciences early in their education who could then choose a specialization in the primary pharmaceutical sciences or pharmacy practice-oriented graduate programs.
- The statement from UNO that its program, with a strong foundation in chemistry, is growing and while the proposed program might attract students from UNO's program, it is unlikely to draw many since UNO students will have a distinct career path.

Need for pharmacists in Nebraska isn't high, but it is surrounding states. The program would provide an option for students interested in the broad field of pharmacy who may want to pursue professions other than a PharmD. For those who are interested in the PharmD, it optimizes time to degree by allowing students to apply to the program prior to completing a bachelor's degree.

## **B. Demand for the Program**

High-----Low

UNMC expects 10 students to enroll in the first year, 12 new students in the second year, and increasing to 20 new students in year five. These projections are based, in part, on observations of the growth of other new programs along with labor statistics. The first three years are predicted to have low enrollments. Growth is expected to increase once year 1 and year 2 students are visibly advancing in the program and share their experiences with other students.

There is no quantitative evidence of demand, but the design—unique in Nebraska—may attract sufficient students for a viable program.

### C. Avoidance of Unnecessary Duplication

High-----Low
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

UNO offers a BS degree in pharmaceutical sciences with the assistance of UNMC faculty members. The program first enrolled students in January 2022. Since then, according to the proposal, 36 students have declared this as a major. The goals of that program are similar to those of the proposed program: provide undergraduate education for students interested in PharmD or Pharmaceutical Sciences graduate programs or entry-level careers with a BS degree as sales representatives or pharmaceutical research technicians.

UNMC asserts that the proposed program is a complement to the UNO program by offering the opportunity to engage with other partners in the region to create a pathway for students interested in healthcare and medical sciences., especially with the UNMC-UNK health science collaboration. In addition, the coursework meets the prerequisite for all UNMC programs, providing flexibility for a student who is interested in healthcare or medical sciences, but still unsure of their specific career path.

UNMC states that there are accelerated PharmD programs in Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, South Dakota, North Dakota, and Minnesota, and several of these grant BS degrees in pharmaceutical science or health sciences. Those BS degrees, however, are embedded in an accelerated PharmD program and cannot be earned independently.

The proposed program has an unusual design making it different from the BS at UNO. Additionally, UNO provided a letter of support for the proposal.

### D. Resources: Faculty/Staff

High-----Low
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

UNMC would need to hire one additional faculty member to serve as director of the degree program as well as teach in the PharmD program on the Kearney campus. The university would also need to hire a student affairs associate to manage the undergraduate program, including admissions, transfer credits, and partner relations. Both positions would be funded through the College of Pharmacy's Kearney expansion budget.

An Undergraduate Curriculum Committee would be formed to work with the Program Director and oversee the curriculum, including curricular assessment.

### E. Resources: Physical Facilities/Equipment

Acceptable
yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/>

The UNMC campus in Omaha would not require any additional facilities or equipment. Classroom space for the proposed program was included in the Kearney expansion plan.

### F. Resources: Library/Information Access

High-----Low
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

UNMC reports that their library and information resources are adequate to meet the needs of the program. Students outside of the UNMC campus would have electronic access to library materials. As part of the UNMC

Kearney expansion, additional library resources, including librarians, would be accessible to students in Kearney.

**G. Budget****PROJECTED COSTS AND ANTICIPATED REVENUES FOR THE FIRST FIVE YEARS****As reported by UNMC**

<b>PROJECTED COSTS</b>		<b>ANTICIPATED REVENUES</b>	
Faculty and Staff <sup>1</sup>	\$1,537,000	Existing Funds <sup>3</sup>	\$1,460,000
General Operating		New State Funds	
Tuition due to other programs <sup>2</sup>	\$299,552	New Local Funds	
		Tuition and Fees <sup>4</sup>	\$1,542,540
Five-Year TOTAL	\$1,836,552	Five-Year TOTAL	\$2,992,540

<sup>1</sup> One faculty member to serve as director as well as teach in Kearney. One student affairs associate.

<sup>2</sup> Tuition transferred to other UNMC units offering courses to pharmaceutical science students.

<sup>3</sup> College of Pharmacy's Kearney Expansion budget

<sup>4</sup> Based on 10 new students in year one, 12 new students in year two, and increasing to 20 in year five. Calculated using undergraduate resident tuition of \$259 per credit hour (for students enrolled only in the BS in pharmaceutical sciences) and the UNMC PharmD annual tuition of approximately \$25,000.

**Committee Recommendation: That the Commission approve the Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmaceutical Science at the University of Nebraska Medical Center**

First Regular Program Review: Due June 30, 2029

## Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences Curriculum

### **Prerequisites (Approximately 2 years of undergraduate education)      60 credit hours**

General Chemistry I with lab	4
General Chemistry II with lab	4
Organic Chemistry I with lab	5
Organic Chemistry II with lab	5
Biology I with lab	4
Biology II with lab	4
Cell and Molecular Biology	3-4
Physics I with lab	5
Calculus I	5
English Composition I	3
Speech/Public Speaking	3
General Psychology	3
General Electives	11-12

### ***UNMC Courses (Years 3 and 4)***

**60 credit hours**

#### ***Pharmaceutical Sciences/Pharmacy Courses***

36 credits

PHSC Career Pathways in Pharm Sci*	2
PHSC 550 Intro to Pharm Sci	4
PHSC 691 Pharmaceutical Science Applications in Pharmacy	2
PHPR Contemporary Med Use*	2
PHSC Foundations of Molecules to Medicine I*	3
PHSC Applied Molecules to Medicine II*	3
PHPR/SC Research Experience I*	3
PHPR/SC Research Experience II*	3
PHSC Biochemistry I	4
PHSC Analytical Chemistry and Lab	4
Pharmaceutical Sciences/Pharmacy Electives	6

#### ***Other UNMC Courses***

24 credits

CAHP 462 Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4
CAHP 463 Human Anatomy & Physiology II	4
GENC 641 Principles and Applications of Human Genetics	3
CPH 506 Biostatistics	3
UNMC Electives	10

#### **Total**

**120 credit hours**

\*new course



# Annual Report for Institutions Holding a Recurrent Authorization to Operate in Nebraska

Reports Received by June 2024

Recurrent authorization to operate means approval by the Commission to operate a postsecondary institution in Nebraska until a renewal of the authorization is required. Most authorizations were approved for a five-year period with an annual reporting requirement. The following table is a summary of annual reports submitted in spring 2024. Reports received later in 2024 will be summarized at a future Commission meeting. Dates in the left-hand column are the time frame during which enrollment and graduation data was collected. No action is required.

Institution	Program name	Degree/ Award	# Currently Enrolled*	# Graduated/ Completed**	Total Campus Enrollment*	Recent Accreditation Activity
Western Governors University (Original approval 5/20/22)  2023	Business Administration, Accounting	BA	26	1	College of Business: 102	NWCCU: Reaffirmation Process Completed – WGU reaffirmed on March 1, 2024 for 7 years
	Business Administration, Healthcare Management	BS	10	1		
	Business Administration, Human Resource Management	BS	12	1		
	Business Administration, Information Technology Management	BS	6	3		
	Business Administration, Management	BS	44	7		
	Business Administration, Marketing	BS	4	3		
	Business, Healthcare Management	BS	1	0		
	Business, Human Resource Management	BS	0	0		
	Finance	BS	2	0		
	Healthcare Administration	BS	7	0		
	Business Management	BS	3	0		
	Marketing Management	BS	2	0		
	Supply Chain and Operations Mgt	BS	7	0		
	Accounting	MS	0	1		
	Business Administration	MBA	12	3		
	Healthcare Management	MBA	13	2		
	IT Management	MBA	5	0		
	Human Resource Management	MS	1	0		
	Marketing, Digital Mkt Specialization	MS	2	0		
	Marketing, Mkt Analytics Spec	MS	1	0		
	Management and Leadership	MS	9	2		
	Nursing (RN to MSN)	BSN, Certificate	2	2		CAHIM: November 29, 2023 - Reaffirmation of Accreditation – 7 years
	Health Information Management	BS	8	2		

Institution	Program name	Degree/ Award	# Currently Enrolled*	# Graduated/ Completed**	Total Campus Enrollment*	Recent Accreditation Activity
	Health Services Coordination	BS	0	0	Health Professions College: 75	CCNE: Reaffirmation Process (Final report expected May 15, 2024)
	Health and Human Services	BS	10	1		
	Nursing	BSN	25	26		
	Healthcare Administration	Masters	5	1		
	Health Leadership	Masters	1	1		
	Nursing – Education (BSN to MSN)	MSN	8	5		
	Nursing – Education (RN to MSN)	MSN	0	1		
	Nursing – Family Nurse Practitioner (BSN to MSN)	MSN	4	0		
	Nursing – Leadership and Management (BSN to MSN)	MSN	3	10		
	Nursing – Leadership and Management (RN to MSN)	MSN	2	0		
	Nursing – Nursing Informatics	MSN	0	1		
	Nursing – Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner	MSN	2	0		
		Post MS	5	0		
	Cybersecurity and Info Assurance	AS	2	0		
	Cloud Computing	BS	21	1		
	Cloud Computing-Amazon Web Services	BS	5	0	Information Technology College: 261	ABET: August 31, 2023 - The BSCS program accreditation
	Cloud Computing-Microsoft Azure	BS	4	0		
	Computer Science	BS	24	3		
	Cybersecurity and Information Assurance	BS	93	11		
	Data Analytics	BS	9	0		
	Data Management/Data Analysis	BS	2	1		
	Information Technology	BS	21	3		
	Information Technology (BSIT to MSITM)	BS	13	0		
	Network Engineering and Security	BS	14	0		
	Network Engineering and Security- Cisco	BS	6	1		
	Network Operations and Security	BS	3	3		
	Software Development	BS	18	0		
	Cybersecurity and Information Assurance	MS	12	3		
	Data Analytics	MS	4	2		
	Information Technology Management	MS	7	3		

Institution	Program name	Degree/ Award	# Currently Enrolled*	# Graduated/ Completed**	Total Campus Enrollment*	Recent Accreditation Activity
	Educational Studies in Elementary Education	BA	7	2		
	Educational Studies in Secondary Biological Science Education	BA	1	1		
	Educational Studies in Secondary Earth Science Education	BA	0	1		
	Educational Studies in Special and Elementary Education	BA	3	1		
	Interdisciplinary Studies K-8	BA	1	0		
	Elementary Education	BA	49	15		
	Special Education and Elementary Education (dual licensure)	BA	27	2		
	Special Education, Mild to Moderate	BA	8	1		
	Mathematics Education (Middle Grades)	BS	4	0		
	Mathematics Education (Secondary)	BS	2	0		
	Science Education (Secondary Biological Science)	BS	5	2		
	Science Education (Secondary Earth Science)	BS	1	0		
	Science Ed (Secondary Physics)	BS	0	0		
	Science Education (Middle Grades)	MA	2	2		
	Science Education (Secondary Biological Science)	MA	3	0		
	Science Education (Secondary Earth Science)	MA	0	1		
	Mathematics Ed (Middle Grades)	MA	1	0		
	Science Education (Secondary)	MA	4	1		
	Mathematics Education (Secondary)	MAT	1	6		
	Elementary Education	MA	10	1		
	English Education (Secondary)	MAT	1	2		
	Special Education	MAT	3	0		
	Educational Studies	MAT	6	0		
	Educational Technology and Instructional Design	MA	1	0		
	Instructional Design	MA	0	0		
	Learning and Technology	MEd	0	0		
	Curriculum and Instruction	Med	0	1	Teachers	
	Educational Leadership	Med	21	5	College: 166	
	Learning Experience Design and Educational Technology	MS	5	18		
		MS	1	5	<b>TOTAL: 656</b>	

University of South Dakota (Original approval 4-25-13)  Summer 2023 through Summer 2024	Reading Recovery (Summer 2023)	NA	0	0		The Lincoln Public Schools have not participated in Reading Recovery in the past few years as the USD Reading Recovery coordinator retired and there was no one to continue that coordination. It is anticipated that Reading Recovery may continue in the Lincoln Public Schools in the future.
	Reading Recovery (Fall 2023)	NA	0	0		
	Reading Recovery (Spring 2024)	NA	0	0		
Andrews University (Original approval 6/14/18)  AY 2023-24	Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry	MAPM	16	1	16	

\*on date of report in Nebraska

\*\*for most recent year

NWCCU: Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities

CCNE: Commission on Collegiate Nursing

CAHIM: Commission on Accreditation for Health Information and Information Management Education

ABET: Accreditation Board for Engineering Technology, Inc.

## Information Items

### Reasonable and Moderate Extensions

PSC - General Music Subject, BA, BS  
UNO - English Dual Enrollment, Certificate  
UNO - Geographic Education, Certificate  
UNO - Internal Audit, Fraud, and Control, Certificate

### Program Name Changes

UNMC - Center for Patient, Family and Community Engagement in Chronic Care Management (CENTRIC) to *Center for Chronic Illness Self-Management and Prevention (CRISP)*  
UNO - Foreign Language and Literature, BA to *World Languages and Literature*, BA

### Discontinued Programs

NECC - Music Business, AA  
NECC - Music Education, AA  
NECC - Music Performance, AA  
NECC - Criminal Justice, AAS  
NECC - Pre-culinary Arts, AA  
NECC - Library and Information Services, AA  
NECC - Theatre: Musical Theatre Performance, AA  
NECC - Real Estate, Certificate  
NECC - Banking, Certificate  
NECC - Insurance Services, Certificate  
NECC - Office Management, Certificate  
PSC - Music Comprehensive, BA, BS  
UNL - Master of Science for Teachers in Mathematics (MScT), MA  
UNL - Master of Arts in Mathematics, MA  
UNL - US Legal Studies LLM  
UNO - Applied Behavioral Analysis, Certificate

# Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education Capital Construction Project Evaluation Form

**Institution/Campus:** Chadron State College  
**Project Name:** Memorial Hall Renovation and New Music Building  
**Date of Governing Board Approval:** April 18, 2024  
**Date Complete Proposal Received:** July 2, 2024  
**Date of Commission Evaluation:** July 26, 2024

**Committee Draft**  
July 15, 2024

## Chadron State College Fall Semester Enrollment by Campus\*

	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023
On-campus HC	1,334.0	1,341.0	1,276.0	1,270.0	1,165.0	1,086.0
Off-campus HC	90.0	141.0	130.0	82.0	79.0	105.0
Online HC	1,731.0	1,700.0	1,690.0	1,714.0	1,817.0	1,677.0
Campus FTE	1,788.8	1,749.3	1,750.2	1,730.4	1,757.1	1,725.4

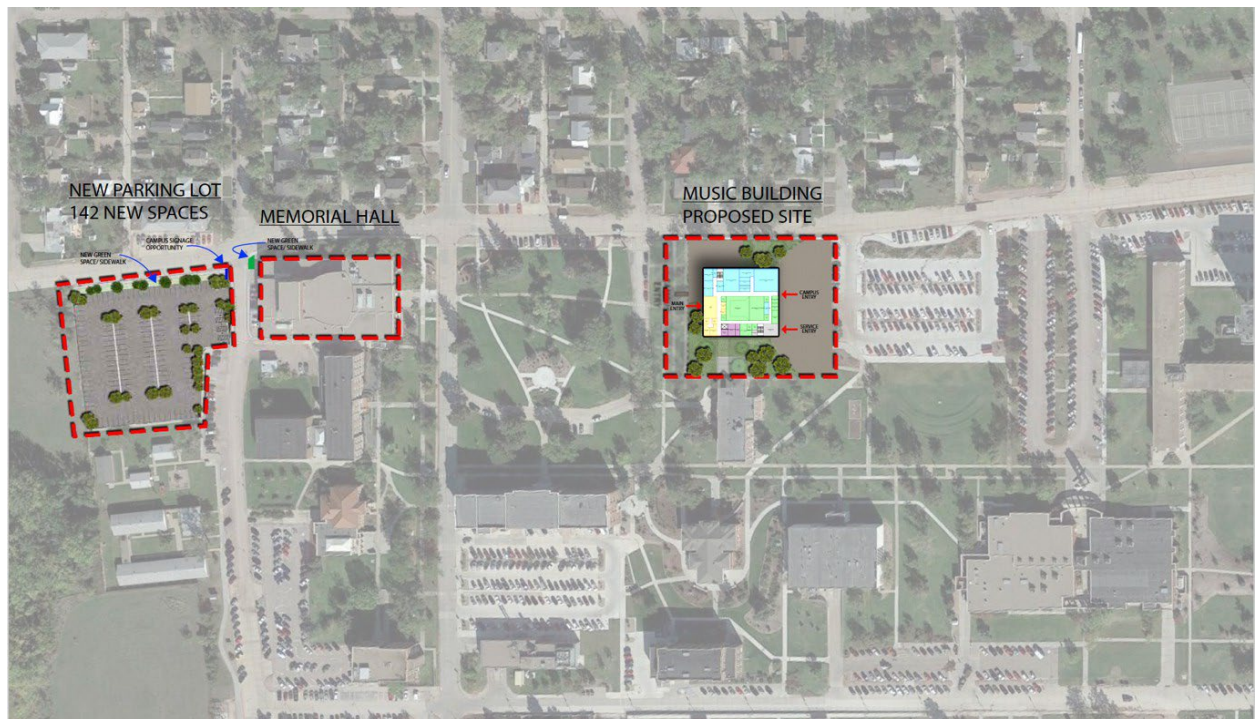
\* Source: Supplemental enrollment by campus forms. Includes full-time and part-time headcount (HC) enrollment (both undergraduate and graduate/professional). Student HC may be duplicated at a campus or center if a student takes more than one type of delivery-site course (on-campus, off-campus, or online). Full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment is based on 15 semester credit hours for undergraduate students and 12 semester credit hours for graduate and first-professional students.

**Project Description:** Chadron State College is proposing a two-phase project. Phase one will be to construct a 24,791 square foot, two-story building to house the Music Department. This building will be constructed on the Brooks Hall site, with a presence on the existing campus green. Bordered by 10th Street and the Chadron community to the north, the new building's formal entry will invigorate the formal quad with a modern main entry on the west while supporting student traffic from the east with a secondary entry. Visitors to the building will utilize the existing parking lot and existing connections to campus utilities.



Phase 2 of the project will see the strategic renovation of Memorial Hall to house the Performing and Visual Arts departments. Exterior improvements will focus on specific repairs of the exterior envelope and openings, improvements to life safety and ADA elements, new mechanical, electrical, and plumbing infrastructure, and a partial reconfiguration of key interior spaces to support the programmatic needs of the Visual Arts and Theatre departments.





1. **The proposed project demonstrates compliance and consistency with the *Comprehensive Statewide Plan*, including the institutional role and mission assignment.**

Yes

☒

No

☐

*Comments:* Page 1-8 of the Commission's *Comprehensive Statewide Plan* states: "Nebraska public institutions are accountable to the State for making wise use of resources for programs, services, and facilities as well as for avoiding unnecessary duplication." An acoustical study of the music spaces in Memorial Hall documented the acoustical deficiencies with respect to National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) Acoustical Guidelines. The changes to the building to address these concerns are not practical within the existing structure and are cost prohibitive, estimated at nearly a third the cost of the new building. A new music building is the most cost-effective solution to meet NASM Guidelines while working with limited State resources.

Page 2-12 of the Plan states: "Most facilities on Nebraska campuses are safe, accessible to the disabled, and fully ADA compliant. Fire safety is a concern on all campuses, but especially those with older residence halls. Accessibility also remains a challenge at some campuses. Institutions continue efforts to provide safe and accessible campuses that are responsive to changing student needs and supportive of a learning environment. Campus facilities are well maintained to assure the safety of students and accessibility to all building and spaces utilized by students." Given the number of deferred maintenance needs and ADA deficiencies noted throughout the building, this project has established a renovation approach that works to identify and reutilize as many of the existing spaces as possible. These identified spaces will only receive Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing (MEP) and ADA upgrades as required to modernize environmental conditions, improve the exterior envelope condition, and maintain code compliance within each identified existing space. A main feature of this remodel will be to create a complete corridor system around the existing auditorium to better support movement of materials and daily student and faculty traffic throughout the first level of the building.



Page 4-7 of the Plan states: “The state will continue to invest monies for the ongoing and deferred repair and maintenance of existing facilities at the public institutions, and for new facilities when warranted.” By constructing and moving the Music Department to a new building, the Visual Arts and Theatre Departments learning studios can better accommodate the current studio space needs specific to the different hands-on learning experiences occurring throughout the existing building. In addition, this project will also bring all departmental learning and support spaces into a singular building. Both Theatre and Visual Arts currently utilize 9,800 NSF of space outside of Memorial Hall. The Music department shift allows existing space to be converted into needed programmatic space within Memorial Hall to fully support the theatre & arts programs.

**2. The proposed project demonstrates compliance and consistency with the *Statewide Facilities Plan*.**

Yes

☒

No

☐

*Comments:* This proposal largely demonstrates compliance and consistency with the Commission's *Statewide Facilities Plan* as outlined in the following criteria as applicable.

**2.A The proposed project includes only new or existing academic programs approved by the Commission.**

Yes

☒

No

☐

*Comments:* Chadron State College offers majors in the Visual and Performing Arts as well as Music. It has a mission of delivering experiences that foster knowledgeable and engaged leaders and citizens to enrich the High Plains region and beyond.

The Art program offers a Bachelor of Arts degree – Comprehensive Major in Art with options for Art Studio, Graphic Design, Gallery/Museum Studies, and Pre-Art Therapy. Students may also gain a Bachelor of Science in Education with an Endorsement in Art (Grades PK-12).

The Theatre program offers a Bachelor of Arts degree – Comprehensive Major in Theatre with options for Musical Theatre, Performance/Directing, and Technical/Design. Students may also gain an Education Supplemental Endorsement in Theatre (Grades 7-12).

The Music program offers two degrees: Bachelor of Arts – Subject Major in Music Studies and Bachelor of Arts – Comprehensive Major in Music with options for Applied Music and the Music Industry. Students may also gain a Bachelor of Science – Education – Field Endorsement in Music (PK-12) or Bachelor of Science – Education – Field Endorsement in Vocal Music (PK-12).

- Art – Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Science (BSE)
- Theatre – Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Science (BSE)
- Music – Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Science (BSE)

**2.B Degree that the project demonstrates compliance with the governing-board-approved institutional comprehensive facilities plan.**

High . . . . . Low  


*Comments:* Within the 2022 Facility Master Plan, the renovation of Memorial Hall is identified as an important component of the overall campus facilities plan. This project will span the end of the previous plan and become an early project identified in the 2022 Facility Master Plan.

This Master Plan contains a recommendation to renovate and expand the Memorial Hall Building. The Campus Facilities Master Plan also presents guidelines and offers recommendations for improvements to land use, landscaping, open space, circulation, utilities, and campus aesthetic issues.

**2.C Degree that the project addresses existing facility rehabilitation needs as represented in a facilities audit report or program statement.**

High . . . . . Low



*Comments:* Memorial Hall was originally designed as a Student Center. Because of its original intent, the structural configuration of several small spaces does not provide the ample size spaces needed to support the physical space required by the curriculum occurring within them. Volumetrically, the Auditorium does not provide the needed acoustic space to best support musical performances. Multiple spaces dedicated to musical programs do not comply with acoustic standards required for NASM accreditation, placing the program in jeopardy of losing this important accreditation.

As the departmental programs have evolved, the current interior configuration does not allow for proper departmental adjacencies creating efficiency issues for faculty & students. Similarly, rooms scheduled for specific classes may not best align with the space needed to support the hands-on learning that occurs within the current environment. While the faculty see the benefit of the coworking environment, there are considerable spatial and engineering shortcomings that keep the facility from best supporting the learning environments of these programs.

Physical Deficiencies:

Code Compliance:

- Corridors in several instance also act as equipment storage spaces, reducing egress width.
- Exiting is complicated by a lack of egress around the auditorium structure.
- Exterior wall, glazing, and roof insulation do not align with current energy codes.
- Most door hardware is not ADA Compliant.
- ADA access to all floors is not possible. The lower level is only served by a non-compliant freight elevator.

- The lower level has several elevation changes (NE exit to grade) making egress and full use of facilities challenging. Restrooms in the lower level are not ADA compliant.
- Most drinking fountains in the facility are not accessible.
- Accessibility into all at grade exits along the south and north faces of the building have improperly oriented grates and approach grades.

#### Building Exterior:

- The exterior of the building has a brick veneer and is in a state of disrepair at many locations. There are multiple cracks on the existing cast stone/ concrete sills at the window openings. The south side conditions being the worst, the sill will have to be replaced. The same condition applies to the header pieces at some of the windows. There is visible chipping and cracking at many locations. Windows appear to not all be original and additional masonry is added at multiple locations to reduce the aperture orientation to allow for smaller replacement windows. Window fenestration does not appear to match buildings of the 1950s era.
- Other exterior issues include major disrepair to the storm drainage along the building perimeter. There are concrete splash blocks along the perimeter that are supposed to direct the water away from the foundation. However, cracks and settlement in the splash blocks are failing to serve this purpose. The walkways and pathways to the multiple entrances of the building are also in need of repair. The existing roof is nearing the end of its current life as interior leaks are noted throughout the interior of the building.

Building Interior:

- The existing interior configuration will require a removal of many non-structural partitions to allow for needed program spaces. The acoustic insulative qualities of these partitions is believed to be minimal and not suitable given the activities occurring within adjacent spaces. The primary structure of the auditorium is concrete with many of the walls exposed throughout the building. There are multiple cracks in the walls that do not provide the acoustic performance required within the auditorium. The cracks are wide enough that mitigation both for structural and acoustical purposes will be necessary.
- There are currently no loading docks to receive large shipments or equipment. Because of the configuration of the learning spaces, equipment not being used is often stored within the corridors, impeding the possible egress width requirements and being a hazard at times. Storage for student projects and materials impedes on student workspace within several arts classrooms while the size and lower-level placement of practice rooms does not provide the ideal acoustic performance needed for spaces of this type. Additionally, the Scene Shop, Costume Storage, Sculpture, Fiber Arts, and Art Education classes are housed in other buildings, despite their adjacency needs with other classes within the departments.
- Existing partition walls appear to lack sound absorption material as part of their existing construction. Given the type of learning and hands on work occurring within each studio space, the lack of acoustic support impacts the learning within these studios and has the potential to also cause distraction in adjacent spaces.
- Family restroom and gender-neutral configurations are non-existent in the current facility, while

upgrades to plumbing fixtures and counts need to be verified to align with current code requirements.

Programmatic Deficiencies:

*Comments:* The demand for this building is derived from two distinctive populations. The first is the general student body of the campus where a key portion of enhancing learning is through creative pursuits to unlock the mind and cultivate greater learning and appreciation beyond their academic pursuits. The second is the Western Nebraska region where music and theatrical performance add to the quality of life. The building's evolution from its origins in the 1950s as a student center to its place as a center for creative and theatrical endeavors has rendered the facility far short in providing students with spaces reflective of the aspirations and the value Chadron State College invests in the success of its students.

- The Theatre program requires a stage, an auditorium, a Black Box Theatre, and practice rooms for movement and activity. The stage needs to have wing spaces that will replicate the stage in dimension to allow for sets to be moved when not in use during performance. This is not available in the current layout. There is not enough space available within the current building configuration to allow for such growth. The Scene Shop and Prop and Costume storage spaces currently occur in other buildings across campus. This is especially problematic when backdrops and scenes are being created for an upcoming show as the already tight stage area also must be used for construction space. Current storage spaces lack proper lighting and humidity control beyond their geographic constraints. The additional looking for and moving of props and costumes back and forth between Memorial Hall and the various storage locations requires additional time from students and faculty beyond allotted academic times. The

overall acoustical challenges are adequate to make this space a poor performance space.

- The Music program also suffers from inadequate acoustics. The lower-level practice rooms are not in compliance with the NASM guidelines of sound isolation and remediation of each of these rooms are cost prohibitive. The Band rehearsal room is unacceptably loud and is a concern for both the students and the faculty. As per the acoustic report, the room is low in height and does not allow for quality rehearsal. The choral rehearsal room is acoustically deficient. The Jazz rehearsal room is not adequately acoustically isolated and needs remediation too. The ambient noise in the space is higher than ideal conditions. Multiple events are also hosted in the Atrium Recital Hall of the Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center building and does not allow for the program to be in the same building.
- The Visual Arts program also has multiple deficiencies. The Kiln room associated with the Ceramics lab is not adequately ventilated. There is not enough storage or display area for student work. Parts of the program are distributed in multiple facilities on campus and should be in the same building to provide the ideal education opportunity to the students. The Painting room is also used as a print making lab, and because of the dual use of the space, both classes cannot be offered during the same semester. The Graphic Design lab is in the lower level and does not have enough room to accommodate all students. The lighting conditions are also inadequate for the type of program.

**2.D Degree that project justification is due to inadequate quality of the existing facility because of functional deficiencies and is supported through externally documented reports (accreditation reports, program statements, etc.).**

High . . . . . Low

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

*Comments:* Memorial Hall's programmatic aspects of this performing arts facility are significantly deficient. Key accreditations for Music, including the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM), are in jeopardy of being renewed given the physical facility guidelines for practice and performance spaces. The band and choral practice rooms are small and substandard while the Visual Arts studios do not appropriately provide space for students to work.

The auditorium in Memorial Hall at Chadron State College is a very heavily used facility. It is serving several purposes that it was not originally intended to fulfill. The auditorium was originally built as a lecture hall, and it is now the main large performance space for very active music and theatre programs. The original systems have been heavily modified and adapted to make the facility usable for the needs of these departments, but it is still a makeshift facility and is not on par with similarly sized programs at other institutions.

The largest failings in the facility are in the size of the stage and the height of the audience chamber. The stage is too small in all dimensions and is creating detrimental compromises in the productions for both the music and theatre departments. The audience chamber is far too wide and is not tall enough, causing low lighting angles and poor sightlines throughout the venue.

**2.E Degree that the amount of space required to meet programmatic needs is justified by application of space/land guidelines and utilization reports.**

High . . . . . Low

☐ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

*Comments:* Currently, the existing Memorial Hall building



serves as the main facility for the delivery of programs for the Visual and Performing Arts and Music departments. The building also houses the entire faculty for these departments. However, due to the current configuration, several other buildings across campus have been utilized to conduct classes within while also storing materials and products for these programs totaling nearly 9,600 square feet. By relocating the Music Department into the new building, the existing Memorial Hall provides the necessary square footage to support the academic needs of both the Visual and Performing arts departments. The Memorial Hall Renovation Project is important to the College's ongoing effort to maintain arts and music programs at Chadron State College while also providing a valuable resource to the Chadron community and regional partners as a needed performance venue.

**2.F Degree that the amount of space required to meet specialized programmatic needs is justified by professional planners and/or externally documented reports.**

High . . . . . Low  


*Comments:* Chadron State College's music program is housed, along with other arts programs, in Memorial Hall. In anticipation of a NASM accreditation visit, acoustic expertise is needed in assessing existing facilities to identify opportunities to bring conditions in alignment with NASM guidelines. There is concern that when NASM returns, accreditation will be deferred should these acoustical challenges with existing facilities not be addressed.

Known challenges include excessive loudness in some of the spaces, poor isolation between spaces, and noise intrusion from music spaces into other spaces in the facility. The acoustic study, conducted in 2019, focused on the 584-seat Memorial Auditorium, three (3) rehearsal spaces (choral, band, jazz), teaching studios, and practice rooms. Observations and recommendations include room acoustics, sound isolation, and noise control

from the building mechanical and electrical systems.

The existing space in Memorial Hall is being reconfigured to support the programmatic needs of the Visual Arts and Theatre programs. However, due to budgetary constraints, there are alternate program shifts that may occur if additional funding is found.

**2.G Ability of the project to fulfill currently established needs and projected enrollment and/or program growth requirements.**

High . . . . . Low  
☐ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

*Comments:* The programs affected by this project have seen lower numbers since the start of the pandemic. Chadron State College's goal is to return to the Fall 2019 majors for the Art program (41) and double the Fall 2019 majors for the Music program and Theatre programs (68). Chadron State College (CSC) is working diligently with international partners to increase enrollments for the Art program. These yields should be seen starting fall 2025. CSC is also working to identify additional partnerships for the Music and Theatre programs.

Chadron was recently notified by the Nebraska Arts Council that the Chadron Open Frontier Creative District is now officially a Certified Creative District eligible for Creative District Development Grants. Creative Districts are designated cultural and economic areas that create purposeful spaces like art galleries, theatres, and music venues. CSC partnered with Chadron to create the Certified Creative District and plans to utilize this distinction to assist in attracting and retaining students and faculty, as well as providing additional opportunities to host events at CSC for the community and region.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Art</b>	41	36	25	28	25
<b>Music</b>	21	26	23	26	21
<b>Theatre</b>	13	12	15	15	5
<b>Total</b>	75	74	63	69	51

In addition to students with an Art, Music, or Theatre major, non-major-specific students also take classes in Memorial Hall to satisfy general education requirements. In Fall of 2023, 220 non-major-specific students took a class in Memorial Hall, further explaining the high utilization and occupancy rates for Memorial Hall space.

As a regional center for Art, Music, and Theatre, Chadron State College welcomes and works with outside groups to use and utilize the facilities and resources available on campus. By cultivating relationships in the community, Chadron State College held 34 events in Memorial Hall in the 2022-23 school year with several events accommodating 300-400 people and one event attended by 640 people. This project has the potential to transform visual and performing arts both on campus and for the region.

**2.H The need for future projects and/or operating and maintenance costs are within the State's ability to fund them, or evidence is presented that the institution has a sound plan to address these needs and/or costs.**

High . . . . . Low



*Comments:* The total overall additional operations and maintenance annual costs will be approximately \$198,911. Chadron State College intends to request state funds totaling \$198,911 annually. Such request would be made to the state in September 2026 for the 2027-29 biennium.

**2.I Evidence is provided that this project is the best of all known and reasonable alternatives.**

High . . . . . Low



*Comments:* During the updating of the 2022 Campus Facilities Master Plan, campus wide facility utilization and needs were reviewed on a comprehensive basis. At that

time, it was determined that the best option was to renovate and expand the existing building to accommodate the programmatic needs and repair the deficiencies of the current building. However, an assessment completed later in 2022 of existing building conditions and programmatic needs of the academic departments required additional investigation and different options beyond the original Master Plan recommendations. The new options considered included:

1. Renovate the existing building, including an invasive and extensive renovation of the Auditorium space, and addition to the West of the Building.
2. Create a new building on a new campus site that would include all the needed program spaces for all three departments, incorporating separate Auditorium and Black Box Theatre spaces.
3. Create a new building on a new campus site that would include all the needed program spaces to accommodate the NASM guidelines for Music, including a medium sized recital hall. Memorial Hall would be renovated to incorporate the combined functions of a large Auditorium and a Black Box Theatre in one space as deemed possible by the current budget.

After multiple programmatic test fits and accompanying estimates, the Steering Committee determined that option #3 best aligned with the Guiding Principles of the Project while not decreasing the need to include existing key programmatic spaces necessary for each department's academic needs.

**2.J Degree that the project would enhance institutional effectiveness/efficiencies with respect to programs and/or costs.**

High . . . . . Low  


*Comments:* This project will provide a significant step in addressing the academic & educational needs of the

campus while also providing a state-of-the-art performance venue for the community and region to utilize. It will also enhance the effectiveness and efficiencies of the campus's programs and services.

**2.K Degree that the amount of requested funds is justified for the project and does not represent an insufficient or extraordinary expenditure of resources.**

High . . . . . Low



**Comments: Construction Costs** - The College estimate to design, construct, and equip Phase One of this project, the new Music Building, is \$23,335,843 (\$908/gsf). Commission staff's estimate of the cost is \$23,362,700 (\$942/gsf) using *R.S. Means Square Foot Costs* modified to account for local conditions and costs from past college construction projects. The College's estimate is \$26,857 (0.12%) less than Commission staff's estimate. The minimal difference between these estimates is within an acceptable threshold.

The College estimate to design, construct, and equip Phase Two of this project, the renovation of Memorial Hall, is \$29,398,437 (\$534/gsf). Commission staff's estimate of the cost is \$29,680,700 (\$539/gsf) using *R.S. Means Square Foot Costs* modified to account for local conditions and costs from past college construction projects. The College's estimate is \$282,263 (0.96%) less than Commission staff's estimate. The minimal difference between these estimates is within an acceptable threshold.

**Operating and Maintenance Costs** - The College has identified a \$198,911 annual increase in operating and maintenance (O&M) costs resulting from this project. The College intends to request state funds for the 2027-29 biennium in 2026. Because this amount is over the threshold for Commission approval, O&M calculations were included in the project cost analysis. The O&M amount estimated is acceptable.

**2.L Source(s) of funds requested are appropriate for the project.**

High . . . . . Low

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*Comments:* Of the approximate \$53 million project cost, \$35,645,256 would come from State Appropriations, \$2,000,000 from Cash Funds, \$2,000,000 from Private Donations, and the remaining \$13,089,024 from the LB309 Task Force. The use of State Appropriations to construct/renovate this academic and performing arts space is appropriate.

**3. The proposed project demonstrates that it is not an unnecessary duplication of facilities.**

Yes

No

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*Comments:* The proposed project is the creation of a new Music Building and renovation of Memorial Hall as the Visual & Performing Arts facility. The renovation of the existing auditorium provides a large performance auditorium space for multiple uses by those within the three departments and for other large non-departmental annual campus events. There is no duplication of spaces due to the specialty nature of the new spaces proposed and repurposing of existing spaces.

**3.A Degree that the project increases access and/or serves valid needs considering the existence of other available and suitable facilities.**

High . . . . . Low

☐ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

*Comments:* As the project's initial phase moves into the construction phase, the overall project budget will be evaluated to determine the outstanding funding available for the Memorial Hall renovation. There is a strong desire by the CSC Administration to fundraise for the project, especially focused on securing private donations to fund Alternate #1 as part of Phase 2 of the project. The alternates are described below:

- Alternate #1: Renovate the existing Auditorium into the High Plains Theatre. The floor would be leveled to align with the existing north and south egress door floor heights. This leveling would

include a combination of geo-foam infill with a concrete topping for the west portion of the area along with a removal of the existing floor toward the east. New walls within the existing space would create acoustic separation and support the light grid structure. As part of this move, other program elements shift including:

- The existing stage becomes the scene shop and lighting lab.
- The proposed scene shop becomes the medium/large movement lab, a defined loading area, and make-up instruction and dressing room space.
- Additional storage spaces to support the events in the High Plains Theatre and key elements of the program would be created adjacent to the new theatre within the remaining auditorium spaces.
- Alternate #2: Replace all existing windows to support better efficiency and functionality.
- Alternate #3: Classroom/Learning labs on the first floor that were identified to only receive the MEP upgrade would receive a complete finish upgrade along with the MEP and code compliant renovations.
- Alternate #4: Classroom/Learning labs on the second floor that were identified to only receive the MEP upgrade would receive a complete finish upgrade along with the MEP and code compliant renovations.
- Alternate #5: Offices throughout the building would receive a complete finish upgrade along with the MEP and code compliant renovations.

#### COMMISSION ACTION AND COMMENTS:

*Action:* Pursuant to the Nebr. Rev. Stat. § 85-1414, the **Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee** of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education recommends approval of Chadron State College's proposal to utilize State appropriations to construct a new Music Building

Approve      Disapprove



and fully renovate the existing Memorial Hall project as outlined in the governing board's program statement approved on April 18, 2024, along with supplemental information provided.

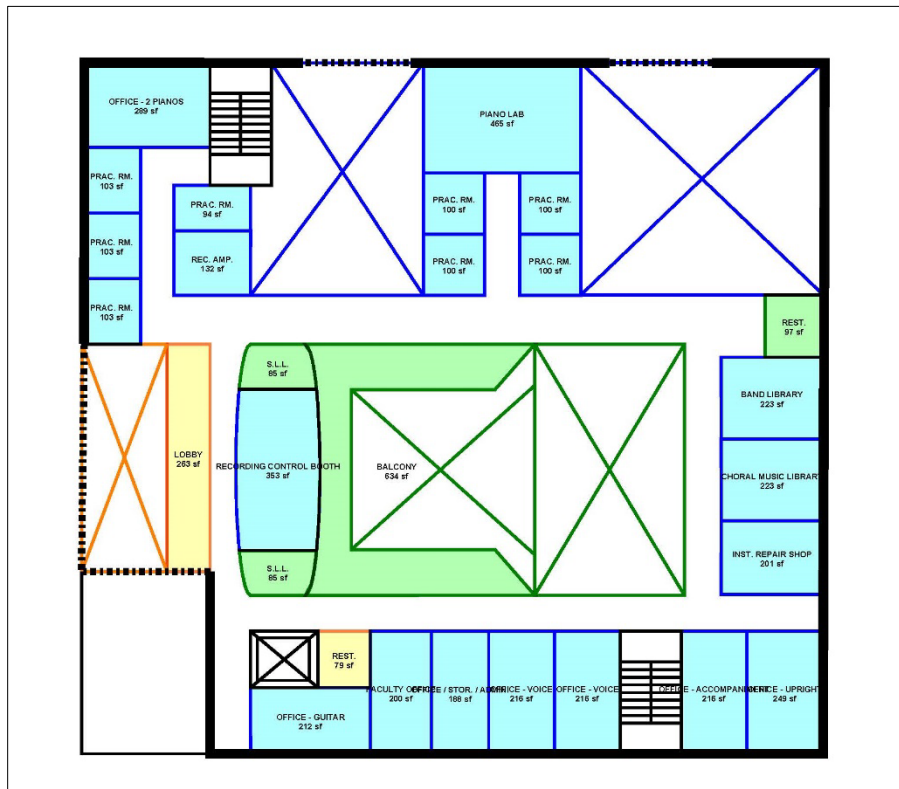
*Comments:* Memorial Hall suffers from various physical and programmatic deficiencies that are impacting the learning environment for both students and faculty. Beyond a need to meet contemporary life safety and accessibility standards, as the departmental programs and education in general have evolved, the building has become a hurdle given its current configuration and infrastructure. Key accreditations for Music, including the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM), are in jeopardy of being renewed given the physical facility guidelines for practice and performance spaces. Similarly, many of the Visual Arts studios are not sized appropriately to support current student enrollment. Beyond its use by students and faculty, the performance spaces within Memorial Hall support regional Music and Theatrical events for Chadron and the surrounding communities because there are no other options of this size nearby.



## Music Building Main Floor



## Music Building Second Floor



# Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education Capital Construction Project Evaluation Form

**Institution/Campus:** Peru State College  
**Project Name:** A.V. Larson Renovation and Addition  
**Date of Governing Board Approval:** April 18, 2024  
**Date Complete Proposal Received:** June 5, 2024  
**Date of Commission Evaluation:** July 26, 2024

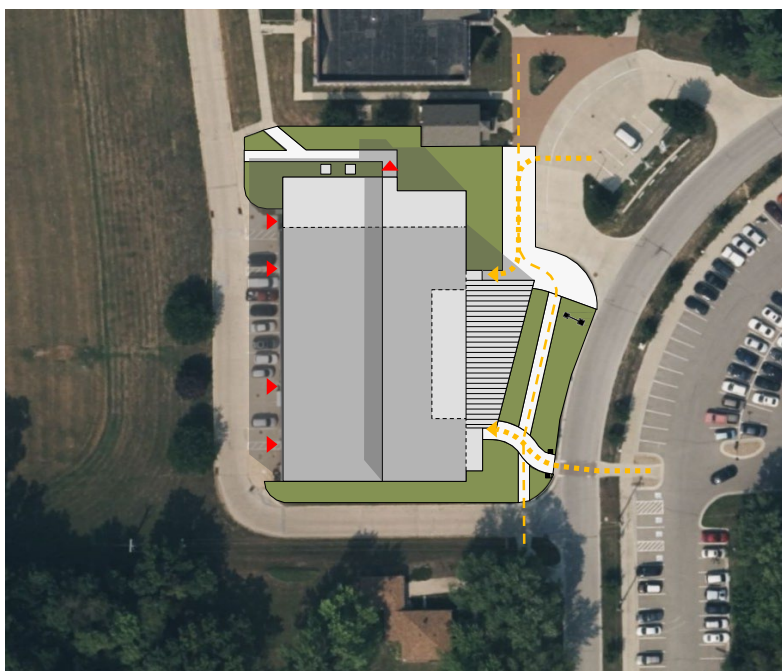
**Committee Draft**  
**July 15, 2024**

## Peru State College Fall Semester Enrollment by Campus\*

	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023
On-campus HC	998.0	995.0	845.0	827.0	844.0	750.0
Off-campus HC	303.0	344.0	247.0	356.0	118.0	309.0
Online HC	1,282.0	1,229.0	1,360.0	1,140.0	1,121.0	1,075.0
Campus FTE	1,391.5	1,411.4	1,345.3	1,333.4	1,204.3	1,195.7

\* Source: Supplemental enrollment by campus forms. Includes full-time and part-time headcount (HC) enrollment (both undergraduate and graduate/professional). Student HC may be duplicated at a campus or center if a student takes more than one type of delivery-site course (on-campus, off-campus, or online). Full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment is based on 15 semester credit hours for undergraduate students and 12 semester credit hours for graduate and first-professional students.

**Project Description:** Peru State College is proposing a 5,128 gross square foot (gsf) addition to and complete renovation of the A.V. Larson Building. The purpose of this project is to transform the upper level of A.V. Larson into a vibrant new Welcome Center, while fully optimizing the building's lower level for Art Program instructional spaces. Peru State is proposing to relocate the Admissions Department from the Administration Building, while consequently proposing relocation of the Foundation Office to the space currently occupied by the Admissions Department in the Administration Building.



Relocation of Peru State Admissions into A.V. Larson will allow the department to host prospective student and family tours from the campus' "front doorstep." The Welcome Center is

intended to create an open, inviting atmosphere for potential students and their families, as well as serve as a resource space for students currently enrolled at the College. The central, multi-purpose foyer space will become the home base for campus tours and will also provide space for study, student advising, gathering and special events through the use of flexible furnishings. The Welcome Center will also provide new restrooms and additional meeting and conference spaces for the campus' use.

Art Program spaces are proposed to be concentrated and optimized within the building's lower level. Art Program renovations include new restrooms, updated interior finishes, new lighting, new windows, HVAC upgrades, food and beverage vending, the creation of a new Student Collaboration and Lounge space, and conversion of previous unprogrammed crawl space into programmable space. The program also proposes an addition to the building to house a new Drawing Lab, currently located on the main level of the building. This will locate all Art Program space on the lower level and allow for increased collaboration in their program. The overall increase in Art Department space is minimal.



1. **The proposed project demonstrates compliance and consistency with the *Comprehensive Statewide Plan*, including the institutional role and mission assignment.**

Yes

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No

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*Comments:* Page 1-8 of the Commission's *Comprehensive Statewide Plan* states: "Nebraska public institutions are accountable to the State for making wise use of resources for programs, services, and facilities as well as for avoiding unnecessary duplication." The proposed project will renovate the existing 31,243 square foot academic building utilized primarily by the College Art Department, upgrading it to modern codes and standards, converting HVAC systems to Geothermal, and greatly improving teaching and learning modalities. An addition, totaling 5,128 square feet, will provide much needed student support and welcome center space to house all Admissions Department functions and services along with adequate meeting space. Utilizing the existing A.V. Larson building for these purposes saves money and is a more sustainable approach in lieu of demolishing the building and constructing an all-new facility.

Page 2-12 of the Plan states: "Most facilities on Nebraska campuses are safe, accessible to the disabled, and fully ADA compliant. Fire safety is a concern on all campuses, but especially those with older residence halls. Accessibility also remains a challenge at some campuses. Institutions continue efforts to provide safe and accessible campuses that are responsive to changing student needs and supportive of a learning environment. Campus facilities are well maintained to assure the safety of students and accessibility to all building and spaces utilized by students." The project is located at the entrance to the campus at the end of Park Avenue, where ADA parking is available both in the visitor parking in the plaza turn-around loop and in the main commuter lot east of Park Avenue. From either location, there are accessible routes to the main A.V. Larson entrance doors. All visitors and potential students and families will have easy and fully compliant accessible routes to the new Student Services and Welcome Center, in response to changing student needs and supportive of the learning environment offered by the Art Department.

Page 6-3 of the Plan states: “The project addresses current and projected needs.” The project does not add classrooms or labs, but both the Art Department and Student Services/Welcome Center spaces are planned to meet current needs while allowing for potential modest enrollment growth for the foreseeable future. Resources that are needed but not currently offered by the Art Department, including a Mat Cutting and Special Equipment room, will be provided to enhance student learning. Overall, the existing spaces will be right sized to make better, more efficient use of the square footage.

2. **The proposed project demonstrates compliance and consistency with the *Statewide Facilities Plan*.**

Yes

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No

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*Comments:* This proposal largely demonstrates compliance and consistency with the Commission's *Statewide Facilities Plan* as outlined in the following criteria as applicable.

2.A **The proposed project includes only new or existing academic programs approved by the Commission.**

Yes

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No

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*Comments:* The Art Program has three options available to students based upon their interest. The Teaching Option is for students seeking certification to teach art in public schools. The Fine Arts Option is for students who intend to continue on to graduate school or find a career in the arts. The Graphic Design Option is for students who would like to be a creative in the design industry. Minors in Art (2D or 3D Emphasis, and Graphic Design) are also available.

- Art – Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Science (BS)

The existing administrative space on the main level of A.V. Larson will be renovated. The existing user, the Foundation, will swap space with the Admissions Department, currently located in the Administration Building on campus.



**2.B Degree that the project demonstrates compliance with the governing-board-approved institutional comprehensive facilities plan.**

High . . . . . Low  
☐ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

*Comments:* In the 2022 master planning process, this building was identified as a high impact, high priority project based on findings from previous assessments, discussions with PSC staff, and onsite analysis. Renovation of the building into a welcome center was incorporated into the master plan budget.

The Facilities Master Plan examined the college's vision moving forward and the implications this vision has on current facilities. With so many options available for post-secondary education, the ability to attract and retain students has become a focus of institutions across the country. A primary factor in attracting students to campus is offering as smooth and enjoyable a student experience as possible. At Peru State, this includes welcoming students to campus with a fully renovated welcome center and Admissions office located on the edge of campus. The ability to incorporate this into an existing building also containing academic programs is a positive re-use of existing facilities and will continue to support the college into the future.

**2.C Degree that the project addresses existing facility rehabilitation needs as represented in a facilities audit report or program statement.**

High . . . . . Low  
☐ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

*Comments:* A.V. Larson is a 2-story, rectangular-shaped building constructed with a steel frame with bar joist roof structure and wood roof deck with uninsulated perimeter masonry walls of modular face brick with concrete masonry unit (CMU) backup. Originally designed as an industrial arts instructional facility, the lower level is built slab-on-grade with high volume spaces, large perimeter windows, exposed structure, and large overhead doors to the west.

These durable industrial spaces with good daylighting have translated reasonably well into the instructional Art Program spaces they contain today; however, a variety of deficiencies need to be addressed for space optimization and safety. A large area of the southeast lower level is an unprogrammed crawl space. The smaller main level is situated above the eastern portion of the lower level on a structural concrete slab and houses office and classroom spaces. The building's roof was replaced in 2020. Please refer to proposed floor plans on page 17.

Physical Deficiencies:

Code Compliance:

- Regularly occupied floor levels are accessible by an elevator, while the mezzanines are not.
- Existing interior stair wells are open and not fire-rated, and existing railing are not code compliant.
- Existing restrooms (including the main level unisex restroom) are handicap accessible, but men's and women's restrooms are divided by floors, and likely insufficient in fixture count.

Building Exterior:

- The low profile of the building's east elevation visible from Park Avenue lacks the sense of openness and welcome that would be desired and anticipated in a welcome center facility. There are exterior steps at the existing southeast entrance which pose an obstacle to disabled visitors, students, staff, prospective students and their families.
- Except for the main level Foundation offices, the typical building exterior wall is uninsulated.

- Areas of painted exposed steel framing show evidence of rusting and are peeling at the east facade.

Building Interior:

- The low volume interior of the main level lacks the openness, volume and character appropriate for a welcome center facility. The narrow corridors constructed of load-bearing CMU partition walls and numerous interior office suite partition walls appear to be in good condition but evoke a very utilitarian character and inflexible functionality. Open stair wells are conveniently located but lack fire safety enclosure, with railings that are not code compliant, and pose safety risks to users.
- Typical walls (lower glazed block and upper painted CMU) and ceilings of the active Art Labs/Studio spaces, supporting storage and office spaces need cleaning, maintenance, and refinishing as appropriate. All surfaces in the space are hard and acoustically reflective, creating a poor acoustical environment that can be distracting within the educational environment.
- It is not clear what systems and equipment are active or abandoned from previous usage, and what items need to be removed for reasons of proper maintenance, operation, and safety. This includes various in-floor systems related to previous industrial arts functionality that have remained in place.
- Mechanical equipment in the lower level has surpassed its useful age and is under performing. The equipment also generates a high level of vibration and noise that adversely affects teaching, learning, and working in the building.



Programmatic Deficiencies:

*Comments:* The renovation and addition of A.V. Larson will yield numerous advantages to Peru State College. The creation of a dynamic and inviting Welcome Center at the College's front door will synergize with the recent campus entry streetscape and parking improvements to create a powerful first impression of the Peru State campus, community, and culture. The project will become an asset for recruiting and retention of students, faculty, and staff. The project will also co-locate all the building's Art Program spaces on one expanded level, with the exception of the Art Gallery, to enhance space utilization, student community, collaboration with faculty and staff, and program recruiting and retention.

Art Program:

- Adequate photo lab space is needed.
- Safe, secure workspace and storage with appropriate ventilation is needed to accommodate new specialty equipment, including 3D printers and laser tables, that will advance student work creativity, productivity, safety and security.
- Students lack a dedicated mat storage and cutting area.
- Equivalent faculty office storage space is needed to support faculty work and engagement with students and colleagues.
- Adjunct office space is needed.
- Current mechanical room noise and vibration creates distraction and hinders instruction and learning.

Foundation Offices:

- The Foundation Offices are currently located prominently at the campus entrance but are currently underutilized and do not often host visitors or meetings. While a vital department of the College, it has been discussed that the offices could be just as accessible and successful located elsewhere on campus, or at an off-campus location that would create a stronger connection with the local community.

Welcome Center:

- The College currently lacks a dedicated Welcome Center to receive campus guests and prospective students with their families. Campus tours are hosted by the Admissions Department, which is currently located in the Administration Building. New "V.I.P." parking adjacent to the Little Red School House creates a successful outdoor rendezvous point for visitors to meet tour guides, but the College lacks a home base facility to maximize recruiting activities. Meeting and conference spaces supporting the proposed Welcome Center will also become additional resources for campus wide access.

**2.D Degree that project justification is due to inadequate quality of the existing facility because of functional deficiencies and is supported through externally documented reports (accreditation reports, program statements, etc.).**

High . . . . . Low  


*Comments:* The existing A.V. Larson Building will be reused and totally renovated as part of this project. On the lower level, renovations of existing space and the capturing and activation of existing crawl space will allow the Art Department's current programs in the building to be more fully utilized and to meet current codes and accreditation program standards. Creation of a modest

addition that seamlessly blends with the existing lower-level Art spaces will further enhance the program's instructional capabilities, enhance student health, safety, and welfare, and will allow space for moderate Art Program growth into the future.

Full renovation on the main level will accommodate a new home for the Admissions Department and allow seamless blending with the proposed new addition to create the Peru State College Welcome Center, a strategic priority function that will enhance the recruiting and retention of Peru State students, faculty, and staff.

New construction will be designed according to The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 101 Life Safety Code, 2012 Edition, and the 2018 International Building Code (IBC), both as adopted by the State of Nebraska.

**2.E Degree that the amount of space required to meet programmatic needs is justified by application of space/land guidelines and utilization reports.**

High . . . . . Low



*Comments:* During the planning process, program needs were identified through user group input and meetings with the Steering Committee. The Art Program faculty provided information on room utilization and verification of the program approach. Peer institutions, market experience, and existing conditions influenced the proposed square footages. Spaces are in accordance with the 2018 International Building Code (IBC) and 2012 National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) 101 Life Safety Code. The Art Program space increase is less than 1,000 square feet.

Main Floor Level:

- Classroom and office spaces are currently fully utilized for classes and ongoing student studio workspace access.

- Foundation offices: two of the five foundation offices are currently unoccupied by full time employees, and the reception, conference room and workroom are not regularly occupied.

Lower Floor Level:

- The Art Program spaces on the lower level are currently fully utilized for classes and ongoing student studio workspace access.
- There are many storage areas that are not efficiently used.

Mezzanine Floor Level:

- Mezzanine level is non-regularly occupied space, although the west end of the south mezzanine is periodically used as a Photo Lab. Note that this space is not accessible and does not meet safety guidelines (stair and rail design, unsecured high volume access doors without fall protection, exposed mechanical systems, open storage, etc.).

**2.F Degree that the amount of space required to meet specialized programmatic needs is justified by professional planners and/or externally documented reports.**

High . . . . . Low  


*Comments:* The 2022 Peru State College Facility Master Plan addresses the A.V. Larson Renovation and Addition for a Student Services and Welcome Center. The project is identified as a high-impact project with extensive renovations that transform all building systems to modern standards, and is a high priority that the College should pursue and construct by the year 2030.

In addition, the A.V. Larson Student Services and Welcome Center project is consistent with the NSCS

capital construction initiatives approved by the Board:

- “To enhance educational and health & wellness opportunities for students, and to increase the potential for enrollment and retention, the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State College System will focus its attention during the 2025-2027 biennium on capital projects that primarily renovate existing instructional, recreational, and athletic facilities to the most efficient and productive condition possible.”

**2.G Ability of the project to fulfill currently established needs and projected enrollment and/or program growth requirements.**

High . . . . . Low



*Comments:* The programs affected by this project have seen lower numbers since the start of the pandemic. College leadership is optimistic that some of these losses will rebound. Creative Marketing is a new major which will be utilizing the newly remodeled space. The enrollment projection is as follows, “It is estimated that the College will be able to recruit five (5) new students to the College annually as well as two (2) current students who will add this subject major to their primary subject major selection annually, totaling thirty-five (35) students who will enroll in this subject major over the course of five years.”

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Fine Arts</b>	12	12	15	12	9
<b>Graphic Design</b>	26	26	18	16	11
<b>Art Education</b>	10	11	7	7	7
<b>Total</b>	48	49	40	35	27

- 2.H The need for future projects and/or operating and maintenance costs are within the State's ability to fund them, or evidence is presented that the institution has a sound plan to address these needs and/or costs.**

High . . . . . Low



*Comments:* There is an overall increase in Operations and Maintenance of \$38,211. This is due to an operations increase of \$2,518 in operations and the addition of a 0.75 FTE for facilities staff at \$35,693. The breakdown of this is for an additional 0.5 FTE for custodial and 0.25 FTE for maintenance. Peru State College intends to request state funds totaling \$38,211 annually. Such request would be made to the state in September of 2026 for the 2027-29 biennium.

- 2.I Evidence is provided that this project is the best of all known and reasonable alternatives.**

High . . . . . Low



*Comments:* During the Facility Master Planning process that started in 2021 and concluded in 2022, there was a concept for student services and welcome center offered by the consulting team. The concept was to demolish A.V. Larson and to build a new Student Center building at that location at the entrance to campus. Not only would the new Student Center provide the traditional dining services and recreation opportunities for students, but also include a Welcome Center for prospective students and their families. The Art Department in A.V. Larson would need to find a new home in a renovated existing building on campus, or in an entirely new building.

A list of program spaces was created for the concept and the total gross square footage of the potential new Student Center added up to 68,000 GSF. When applying historical costs per GSF for new student center facilities, the price tag came to well over \$40 million dollars, and this did not include the costs for renovating an existing building (or building new) for the Art Department. Based

upon this information, the College and the consulting team decided to instead propose renovating the A.V. Larson building along with an addition for the Welcome Center.

**2.J Degree that the project would enhance institutional effectiveness/efficiencies with respect to programs and/or costs.**

High . . . . . Low



*Comments:* The effectiveness and efficiency of the Art Department will be improved with renovated and new spaces designed to function better, as well as increased collaboration opportunities for students and faculty. Locating and consolidating the Admissions Department at the “front door” of campus in the new Student Services/Welcome Center will create more efficient processes and a more effective experience for potential students and families, since it will be the first facility they encounter as opposed to the necessity of walking past five buildings to get to the current Admissions location in the Administration building. Also, the planned reuse of many existing walls in the lower-level studio areas of A.V. Larson and utilizing unused mezzanine/ storage spaces for new mechanical equipment will help save on construction costs.

**2.K Degree that the amount of requested funds is justified for the project and does not represent an insufficient or extraordinary expenditure of resources.**

High . . . . . Low



*Comments: Construction Costs* - The College estimate to design, construct, and equip a renovated A.V. Larson building to include a new Welcome Center is \$18,968,968 (\$522/gsf). Commission staff’s estimate of the total project cost is \$19,051,200 (\$524/gsf) using *R.S. Means Square Foot Costs* modified to account for local conditions and costs from past college construction projects. The College’s estimate is \$82,232 (0.43%) less than Commission staff’s estimate. The minimal difference

between these estimates is within an acceptable threshold.

**Operating and Maintenance Costs** - The College has identified a \$38,211 annual increase in operating and maintenance (O&M) costs resulting from this project. The College intends to request state funds for the 2027-29 biennium in 2026. Because this amount is less than the threshold for Commission approval, a full analysis was not completed for O&M costs.

**2.L Source(s) of funds requested are appropriate for the project.**

*Comments:* Of the approximate \$19 million project cost, \$16,243,968 would come from State Appropriations, \$1,000,000 from Private Donations, and the remaining \$1,725,000 from the LB309 Task Force. The use of State Appropriations to construct/renovate this administration and academic space is appropriate.

High . . . . . Low  
☐ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

**3. The proposed project demonstrates that it is not an unnecessary duplication of facilities.**

*Comments:* The proposed project, which includes a rejuvenated Art Department on the lower level of A.V. Larson and a new Student Services and Welcome Center on the upper level, does not duplicate spaces and functions of any other program, service, or building on campus, apart from added meeting spaces.

Yes No  
☒ ☐

**3.A Degree that the project increases access and/or serves valid needs considering the existence of other available and suitable facilities.**

*Comments:* Initially, the College intended to relocate the Art Department permanently to a different location on campus and have a larger Student Services and Welcome Center in A.V. Larson. However, once the

High . . . . . Low  
☐ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐



space and functional needs of the Art Department came into focus, along with the lack of suitable space on campus, the impracticality of moving the Art Department became clear. It was more efficient to renovate one building with modest additional new space instead of renovating two buildings and completely relocating the Art Department in the process.

In addition, reusing the A.V. Larson building and renovating it for the project will save millions in tax dollars rather than demolishing it and constructing an all-new facility.

#### COMMISSION ACTION AND COMMENTS:

*Action:* Pursuant to the Nebr. Rev. Stat. § 85-1414, the **Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee** of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education recommends approval of Peru State College's proposal to utilize State appropriations to construct and equip the A.V. Larson Renovation and Addition project as outlined in the governing board's program statement approved on April 18, 2024, along with supplemental information provided.

*Comments:* The primary purpose of this project is to aid in recruiting, retaining, and engaging students and staff by renovating A.V. Larson to serve the needs of campus as a Welcome Center and Student Life facility. While accomplishing this, a fully renovated building will also serve the needs of the Art program now and into the future. Overall, this project will allow Peru State to optimize scarce resources to make a positive impact across campus for existing students and enhance the recruitment of new students.

Approve



Disapprove





Interior Rendering of Welcome Center Lobby



## Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education

**Subject:** Approval of amendments to Chapter 8 – Rules and Regulations Concerning the Guarantee Recovery Cash Fund

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**Committee Recommendation:** That the Commission approve the amendments to Chapter 8 – Rules and Regulations Concerning the Guaranty Recovery Cash Fund.

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LB 512, passed in 2017, established a requirement that new for-profit postsecondary institutions seeking to operate in Nebraska file surety bonds or other acceptable surety agreements with the Commission and contribute a portion of their annual gross tuition revenue to the Guaranty Recovery Cash Fund. The intent of the requirements is to ensure that students can recover a portion or all of their tuition and fees in the event of a sudden institutional closure.

When the Commission adopted Rule 8, it based the rule's surety provisions on a similar statute that the Nebraska Department of Education applies to the private postsecondary career schools it regulates. That statute, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1639, requires a \$20,000 bond or other amount deemed satisfactory by NDE. With experience, the Commission has determined that the current \$20,000 surety requirement is insufficient to protect student interests in the event of a qualifying closure. The proposed amendment raises the requirement to the highest amount of annual tuition that an institution seeking recurrent authorization to operate projects in the five years subsequent to its initial recurrent authorization to operate.

The Office of the Attorney General has conducted a courtesy review of the proposed rules and regulations, and the suggestions of the Assistant Attorney General have been incorporated.

The process of adopting rules includes multiple steps and opportunities for public input. Approval by the Commission at its July 26, 2024, meeting will be the first step. The complete process is described in the timeline below. While rules and regulations are chapters in the Nebraska Administrative Code, they are commonly referred to as Rules, and Chapter 8 is referred to synonymously with Rule 8.

### Proposed Timeline

7/15/24	Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee consideration of Rule 8 -- Rules and Regulations Concerning the Guarantee Recovery Cash Fund
7/26/24	Commission to vote on proposed Rule 8 amendments
On or about 8/13/24	Publish notice of public hearing in newspaper for Rules 1, 5, and 8 (30 days required)

On or about 9/18/24	Hold public hearing on Rule 8 (in conjunction with Rules 1 and 5)
10/3/24	Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee to consider final adoption of amendments to Rule 8 -- Rules and Regulations Concerning the Guarantee Recovery Cash Fund
10/11/24	Commission to vote on final rules
On or about 10/25/24	Submit documents to Attorney General, Governor's Office, and Secretary of State for approval

NEBRASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

TITLE 281 – COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

CHAPTER 8 – GUARANTY RECOVERY CASH FUND

TITLE 281      COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION  
CHAPTER 8      GUARANTY RECOVERY CASH FUND

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Definitions	§§ 85-2403, 85-2422, 85-2423, 85-2426	002
Procedures for Administration of the Fund	§§ 85-2423, 85-2424, 85-2425	003
Filing of Claims	§ 85-2426	004
Disbursement of Fund	§ 85-2426	005
Excess Fund over Maximum	§ 85-2423(1)	006
Penalty	§ 85-2423(4)	007
Reference to Guaranty Recovery Cash Fund	§ 85-2427	008

TITLE 281      COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION  
CHAPTER 8      GUARANTY RECOVERY CASH FUND

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<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>STATUTORY AUTHORITY</u>	<u>CODE SECTION</u>
Definitions	<u>§§</u> 85-2403, 85-2422, 85-2423, 85-2426	002
Disbursement of Fund	<u>§</u> 85-2426	005
Excess Fund over Maximum	<u>§</u> 85-2423(1)	006
Filing of Claims	<u>§</u> 85-2426	004
General Information	<u>§</u> 85-2422	001
Penalty	<u>§</u> 85-2423(4)	007
Procedures for Administration of the Fund	<u>§§</u> 85-2423, 85-2424, 85-2425	003
Reference to Guaranty Recovery Cash Fund	<u>§</u> 85-2427	008



TITLE 281 COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

CHAPTER 8 GUARANTY RECOVERY CASH FUND

001. GENERAL INFORMATION.

001.01 Statutory Authority. This chapter is adopted pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-2422 et seq.

001.02 Scope of this Chapter. This chapter provides the procedures for the administration of the Guaranty Recovery Cash Fund.

001.03 Related Chapter. Chapter 7 of Title 281 of the Nebraska Administrative Code provides the procedures for the authorization of for-profit postsecondary institutions to operate in Nebraska. Copies of these related regulations are available from the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education or can be found on the Commission's website.

002. DEFINITIONS. As used in this chapter:

002.01 Act means the Postsecondary Institution Act.

002.02 Assessment means the amount a *for-profit postsecondary institution* is required to pay into the *Guaranty Recovery Cash Fund* based on one-tenth of one percent (.001) of the *assessment year's gross tuition revenue*.

002.03 Assessment year means the institution's most recently completed fiscal year.

002.04 Authorization to operate means either an authorization to operate on a continuing basis or a recurrent authorization to operate as approved by the *Commission*.

002.05 Branch facility means a facility in Nebraska (a) which is separate from a *principal facility*, (b) which offers a full program and full student services, (c) which is under the supervision of an onsite director or administrator, and (d)(i) the ownership, management, and control of which are the same as the *principal facility*, which *principal facility* is responsible for the delivery of all services, or (ii) at which education is offered by a franchisee of a franchisor authorized to operate as a postsecondary institution by the *act*.

002.06 Claim means a written request for refund or reimbursement filed with the *Commission* by (a) a student who alleges to be injured by the *termination of operations* of a *for-profit postsecondary institution*, or (b) by the University of Nebraska to recover expenses incurred in the course of complying with its duties under 85-173 and 85-174 in the event of the termination of operations of a *for-profit postsecondary institution*, or (c) by the *Commission*, on behalf of the State of Nebraska, for reimbursement of distributed but unreturned Nebraska Opportunity Grant awards in the event of the termination of operations of a *for-profit postsecondary institution*.

002.07 Claimant means (a) a student who files a claim for reimbursement as a result of alleged injury by the *termination of operations of a for-profit postsecondary institution*, or (b) the University of Nebraska if filing a claim for reimbursement of expenses incurred in the course of complying with its duties under 85-173 and 85-174 in the event of the termination of operations of a *for-profit postsecondary institution*, or (c) by the *Commission*, on behalf of the State of Nebraska, for reimbursement of distributed but unreturned Nebraska Opportunity Grant awards in the event of the termination of operations of a *for-profit postsecondary institution*.

002.08 Class means a course that, if successfully completed, can be applied toward the number of courses required for achieving a postsecondary degree, diploma, certificate, or other formal award.

002.09 Commission means the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education.

002.10 Executive Director means the *Executive Director* of the *Commission* or his or her designee.

002.11 Fee means a fixed charge for, but not limited to, registration fee, lab fees and the cost of materials, or equipment, if they are designated as fees by the institution.

002.12 For-profit postsecondary institution means any private *postsecondary institution* that is not exempt for federal tax purposes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 49-801.01.

002.13 Fund means the Guaranty Recovery Cash Fund.

002.14 Gross tuition revenue means the total *tuition* and *fees* received during the *assessment year*, less *tuition* and *fees* refunds, received by a *principal facility* or *branch facility* located in this state.

002.15 Guaranty Recovery Cash Fund means a fund established from the *assessments* of *for-profit postsecondary institutions* for use in settling *claims* due to *termination of operations* of a *for-profit postsecondary institution*.

002.16 Maximum fund level means the amount specified in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-2423(1).

002.17 Minimum fund level means the amount specified in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-2423(1).

002.18 Postsecondary institution means any institution with a physical presence in Nebraska that provides postsecondary education and is exempt from the Private Postsecondary Career School Act.

002.19 Principal facility means the primary physical presence in Nebraska of a postsecondary institution.

002.20 Recurrent authorization to operate means approval by the *Commission* to operate a postsecondary institution in this state, including establishing a new campus or an administrative office, until a renewal of such authorization is required.

002.21 Student injured by the termination of operations by a for-profit postsecondary institution means (i) a student who has paid *tuition* and *fees* to the institution for which classes were offered but not finished due to termination of operations, (ii) a student who has paid *tuition* and *fees* to the institution for which classes were not offered and no refunds were made, or (iii) a student who ceased to be enrolled in classes at an institution while the institution was in operation and to whom a refund of *unearned tuition and fees* became due from the institution after the institution terminated operations and no refunds were made within the institution's required time period following the student's withdrawal from the institution.

002.22 Termination of operations means the act of a for-profit postsecondary institution ceasing to offer all of its educational classes to the public.

002.23 Tuition means money charged for instruction.

002.24 Unearned tuition and fees means money paid by an individual to an institution for classes which will be held in a future attendance period and for classes which are no longer available due to *termination of operation* of the institution.

### 003. PROCEDURES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FUND.

003.01 Except as provided under section 003.04, each *for-profit postsecondary institution* authorized to operate in the state ~~shall~~ must pay into the *fund* in each *assessment year*, an amount equal to one-tenth of one percent (.001) of the institution's *gross tuition revenue* for the *assessment year* until the *fund* reaches the *minimum fund level*.

003.02 All payments made into the *fund* ~~shall~~ must be maintained by the State Treasurer and deposited into the *Guaranty Recovery Cash Fund*.

003.02(A) The assets of the *fund* may not be expended for any purpose except as provided under section 005 of this rule.

003.02(B) The *fund* ~~shall~~ must be administered by the Commission.

003.02(C) The fund ~~shall~~ must be maintained between the *minimal fund level* and *maximum fund level*.

003.02(D) At any time when the fund drops below the *minimum fund level*, the Commission may resume the *assessment*.

003.02(E) Funds in excess of the *maximum fund level* ~~shall~~ must be used as directed by the Commission to provide grants or scholarships for students attending *for-profit postsecondary institutions* in Nebraska as provided under section 006.

003.03 Payment into the *fund* ~~shall~~ must be made in the form of a company or cashier's check or money order made payable to the "Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education" and received no later than 30 days after the *assessment year*.

003.03(A) The *for-profit postsecondary institution* ~~shall~~ must certify on forms provided by the *Commission* that the institution maintains for five years a verifiable set of records which document the reported *gross tuition revenue* collected and shall make such records available to the *Commission* on request. Any such records made available to the *Commission* may be withheld from the public to the extent allowed by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-712.05. A copy of the form to be used may be found on the Commission website.

003.03(B) At the time of payment of the *assessment*, the *for-profit postsecondary institution* ~~shall~~ must submit to the *Commission* documentation supporting the *gross tuition revenue* used in calculating the *assessment* under section 003.01.

003.04 A *for-profit postsecondary institution* applying for an initial *recurrent authorization to operate* from the *Commission* after September 1, 2017, ~~shall~~ must not be assessed in its first fiscal year but ~~shall~~ must be assessed each year thereafter for four years or until the fund reaches the *minimum fund level*, whichever occurs last.

003.05 A *for-profit postsecondary institution* applying for an initial *recurrent authorization to operate* from the *Commission* after September 1, 2017, may be required to file with the *Commission* a security bond or other surety agreement equivalent to the projected highest annual tuition revenue collected by the institution over the five years subsequent to the approval granted by the Commission to operate in Nebraska. This requirement may be met by:

003.05(A) A good and sufficient surety bond ~~in the penal sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000).~~

003.05(B) Other surety agreements acceptable to the *Commission* include only the following:

003.05(B)(i) ~~Twenty thousand dollar (\$20,000)-An e~~Escrow account ~~that which~~ provides the *Commission* with a recourse against the assets in the account as it would have against an insurance company on a bond. The terms on such an account would be the same as the terms on a bond.

003.05(B)(ii) ~~Twenty thousand dollar (\$20,000)-An f~~Irrevocable Letter of Credit from a bank, made payable to the State of Nebraska and deposited with the Commission. The Irrevocable Letter of Credit will be released to the institution a year after the institution has ceased to be in operation, or immediately when replaced by another instrument with a similar amount.

003.05(C) The bond or agreement ~~shall~~ must be executed by the applicant as principal and by a surety company qualified and authorized to do business in the state. The bond or agreement ~~shall~~ must be conditioned to provide indemnification to any student or enrollee or his or her parent or guardian determined to have suffered loss or damage by the termination of operations by the *for-profit postsecondary institution*. The surety ~~shall~~ must pay any final judgment rendered by any court of this state having jurisdiction upon receipt of written notification of the judgment. Regardless of the number of years that such bond or agreement is in force, the aggregate liability of the surety thereon ~~shall~~ must in no event exceed the penal sum of the bond or agreement. The bond or agreement may be continuous.

003.05(D) Until the Guaranty Recovery Cash Fund initially reaches the *minimum fund level*, the bond or other security agreement of an institution ~~shall~~ must cover the period of the *recurrent authorization to operate* except when a surety is released as provided under section 003.05(E).

003.05(E) A bond or other security agreement may be released after such surety serves written notice on the *Commission* thirty days prior to the release. Such release ~~shall~~ must not discharge or otherwise affect any *claim* previously or subsequently filed by a student or enrollee or his or her parent or guardian provided for under section 004 for the termination of operations by the *for-profit postsecondary institution* during the term for which *tuition* has been paid while the bond or agreement was in force.

003.05(F) During the term of the bond or agreement and upon forfeiture of the bond or agreement, the *Commission* retains a property interest in the surety's guarantee of payment under the bond or agreement which is not affected by the bankruptcy, insolvency, or other financial incapacity of the operator or principal on the bond or agreement.

004. FILING OF CLAIMS. A *claim* may be filed only if it arises out of the *termination of operation* by a *for-profit postsecondary institution* on or after September 1, 2017. Claims by students who ceased to be enrolled in classes which continued to be offered by an institution after the student ceased enrollment are not eligible claims.

004.01 Claims ~~shall~~ must be filed with the *Commission* within one (1) year after *termination of operation* of an institution. Claims filed after one (1) year ~~shall~~ must not be considered.

004.02 Claims ~~shall~~ must be in writing on forms provided by the *Commission* and must be forwarded to the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education. Claim forms to be used may be found on the *Commission* website.

004.03 Claims ~~shall~~ must be accompanied by documents such as receipts, canceled checks, or executed enrollment agreements which verify payment of *tuition* and *fees*.

004.04 Where appropriate documentation is not provided and the availability of documentation is beyond the control of the claimant, the validity of the *claim* may be determined based on the available evidence.

004.05 Following receipt of the *claim* by the *Commission*, the *Executive Director* or his or her designee(s) may investigate and ~~shall~~ must review the *claim* and the *Executive Director* ~~shall~~ must make written recommendations regarding the *claim* to the *Commission*. In arriving at the recommendations, the *Executive Director* or his or her designee(s) may request that a *claimant* submit additional documentation, explanation, and/or meet with the *Executive Director* or his or her designee(s). A copy of the *Executive Director's* written recommendations to the *Commission* ~~shall~~ must be mailed to the *claimant* by certified mail with return receipt requested.

004.06 If the *claimant* disagrees with the *Executive Director's* written recommendations, he or she ~~shall~~ must have an opportunity to submit written comments and/or documentation with the *Commission* within fifteen (15) days following receipt of the written recommendations. The *Commission* ~~shall~~ must consider both the *Executive Director's* written recommendations and the *claimant's* submission in rendering its decision on the disputed claim. The *Commission's* decision ~~shall~~ must be final.

004.07 If the claimant declines to seek review of the *Executive Director's* recommendations within the timeframe set out in section 004.06, the *Commission* may act on the recommendations of the *Executive Director* without further notice to the claimant.

005. DISBURSEMENT OF FUND. The purpose of the *fund* is to pay *claims* authorized pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-2426.

005.01 Money in the Guaranty Recovery fund ~~shall~~ **must** be used in the following order of priority:

005.01(A) To reimburse any *student injured by the termination of operations by a for-profit postsecondary institution* on or after September 1, 2017, for the cost of *tuition and fees*;

005.01(B) To reimburse any former student of a *for-profit postsecondary institution* that has terminated operations on or after September 1, 2017, for the cost of obtaining such student's student records;

005.01(C) To reimburse the University of Nebraska for reasonable expenses directly associated with the storage and maintenance of academic records pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 85-173 and 85-174 of those students adversely affected by termination of operations by a *for-profit postsecondary institution*; and

005.01(D) To reimburse the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Fund for any funds distributed to a *for-profit postsecondary institution* for an academic term that was not completed by students receiving awards under the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act due to the *termination of operations* by a *for-profit postsecondary institution on or after September 1, 2017*, to the extent such funds are not returned to the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Fund by the *for-profit postsecondary institution*.

005.02 Claims against the *fund* may be paid in whole or in part, based upon the extent to which the *class* objectives were met for each *claimant*, and taking into account considerations including but not limited to:

005.02(A) Amounts available and likely to become available to the *fund* for payment of claims;

005.02(B) Total amount and number of *claims* presented or reasonably likely to be presented in the future;

005.02(C) Total amount and number of *claims* caused by the termination of operation of an institution;

005.02(D) Amounts paid out from the *fund* on *claims* in the past;

005.02(E) Total amount of monies paid to the institution by identified or prospective claimants.

005.02(F) When the institution holds a surety bond, the *claimant* first ~~shall~~ **must** file a claim against the surety bond holder or against the holder of such other security agreement which the institution has filed with the *Commission*.

006. FUND BALANCE IN EXCESS OF MAXIMUM FUND LEVEL. When the *fund* exceeds the *maximum fund level*, funds in excess of the *maximum fund level* ~~shall~~ must be used as directed by the *Commission* to provide grants or scholarships for students attending *for-profit postsecondary institutions* in Nebraska.

007. PENALTY. The *authorization to operate* of any *for-profit postsecondary institution* which fails to comply with the provisions of this rule ~~shall~~ must be subject to revocation pursuant to Chapter 7 of Title 281 of the Nebraska Administrative Code.

008. ADVERTISING. A *for-profit postsecondary institution* may include references to the Guaranty Recovery Cash Fund in advertising or information provided to students or prospective students. Any such reference ~~shall~~ must clearly describe the protection and limitations prescribed in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-2426 and sections 004 and 005 of this chapter.

## Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education

**Subject:** Approval of Nebraska Career Scholarship Guidelines for Community Colleges and Nebraska Career Scholarship Guidelines for Private Colleges

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**Committee Recommendation:** That the Commission approve the Nebraska Career Scholarship Guidelines for Community Colleges and Nebraska Career Scholarship Guidelines for Private Colleges as presented in the attached documents and authorize Commission staff to make updates and adjustments to the Guidelines as necessary.

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LB 1329, passed in 2024, transferred administration of the Nebraska Career Scholarship Program for community colleges and private, nonprofit postsecondary institutions from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development to the Coordinating Commission beginning in July 2024.

Commission staff have worked with Department of Economic Development staff to move the program as seamlessly as possible. As the Department of Economic Development had developed comprehensive program guidelines, the Commission has adopted the guidelines nearly intact except where changes were required by statute – e.g., adding eligible programs of study and changing reporting requirements. The most significant change in administration will be a shift in the disbursement method. Rather than entering a contract with each eligible institution and disbursing funds per the terms of the contract prior to receiving a list of eligible students, the Commission will administer the program as it does the Nebraska Opportunity Grant program, with funds disbursed after the Commission receives a list of eligible students that includes information about their eligibility.

The community colleges and private, nonprofit postsecondary institutions were given the opportunity to comment on draft guidelines, and Commission staff made clarifications and adjustments based on the comments.

LB 1329 did not grant the Commission the authority to adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the Nebraska Career Scholarship Program, and Commission staff believe that guidelines are sufficient to administer the program. Because the program is new to the Commission, Commission staff request authorization to update the Guidelines as necessary based on continuing feedback received from the institutions and the Department of Economic Development, which is in the process of closing out its 2023-24 contracts with the institutions, during implementation.





# **Nebraska Career Scholarship Guidelines for Private Colleges**

**Program Guidelines 2024-25 Grant Year**

**Draft for Comment 6/20/24**

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*This guidance document is advisory in nature but is binding on an agency until amended by such agency. A guidance document does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal operations of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules and regulations made in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that this guidance document imposes additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may request a review of the document.*

## I. PURPOSE

Nebraska Career Scholarships Program is a collaboration between the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education (Commission) and Nebraska private colleges. The program provides scholarships to students pursuing degrees in programs of study leading to high wage, high skill, and high demand careers.

## II. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

Statutory authority for the Nebraska Career Scholarship Act is found in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 85-3001 to 85-3006. Specific authorization for private college scholarships is found in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-3006. Responsibility for the private college scholarships was transferred from the Department of Economic Development to the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education in LB1329 (2024).

A. Under the NCS Act, the responsibilities of the Commission are:

1. Allocate the amount appropriated to the Commission to eligible private colleges that elect to participate.
2. Periodically review and designate which programs of study are needed to meet the workforce needs of Nebraska.
3. Report information on the NCS program to the Clerk of the Legislature and the Governor each year on or before December 1.

B. Under the NCS Act, the responsibilities of the participating private colleges are to:

1. Determine the eligibility of scholarship recipients.
2. Receive and process applications for awards to individual scholarship recipients.
3. Disburse awards directly to eligible scholarship recipients during the fiscal year.
4. Collect information on each scholarship recipient and report to the Commission.

## III. DEFINITIONS

1. Award year means the period beginning August 1 through the following July 31.
2. Eligible program of study means a program of study in education or engineering and a program of study in shortage areas designated by the CCPE in consultation with the State Department of Education, the Department of Labor, the Department of Economic Development, and any advisory committee established by the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education for such purpose, based on periodic reviews of workforce needs in the state.
3. First-time freshman means a student who enrolled in an eligible program of study, who has not previously been enrolled in a postsecondary institution within three years immediately

preceding the application for a scholarship pursuant to the act, and who has not previously earned a postsecondary credential except as a dual credit or early-college high school student;

4. Institution means a private college as defined below.

5. Nebraska Career Scholarship means a scholarship awarded under the Nebraska Career Scholarship Act or a scholarship awarded as a Nebraska Career Scholarship pursuant to LB380 (2021), or Laws 2020, LB1008 (2020);

6. Non-scholarship student means a student who has never been awarded a Nebraska Career Scholarship for the applicable eligible program of study;

7. Private college means an accredited private, nonprofit institution of postsecondary education located within the State of Nebraska;

8. Scholarship recipient means a student who has been awarded a Nebraska Career Scholarship;

9. Standard college admission test means the national assessment instrument that is also used as the standard college admission test selected by the State Board of Education and administered to students in the eleventh grade pursuant to subsection (9) of section 79-760.03; and

10. Transfer student means a student who has not previously earned a postsecondary credential and who has transferred into an eligible program of study (a) from another postsecondary institution or (b) from another program of study within the same postsecondary institution. A student that previously earned a postsecondary credential, but only as a dual-credit or early-college high school student, shall be considered a transfer student if such student transferred into an eligible program of study from another postsecondary institution or a program within the same postsecondary institution directly following such student's early-college high school enrollment.

## **IV. AID CALCULATION AND DISBURSEMENT**

### **A. Aid Calculation:**

1. Each participating institution will receive a base allocation of \$100,000 annually. The remaining amount of aid to be allocated to each institution will be determined annually based on a three-year average of Nebraska-located undergraduate students enrolled (majoring) in eligible programs of study. Students exclusively enrolled in courses while living outside of Nebraska may not be included in allocation calculations. Eligible programs of study are listed in Appendix A and are subject to change per the process laid out in statute and these guidelines. For the 2024-25 award year, allocations will be based on the following information:

Academic Program	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	Average
Computer Information Systems Related				
Education Related				
Engineering Related				
Health Care Related				
Mathematics Related				

2. An institution must supply the required enrollment information by the deadline set by the Commission to receive an allocation. For award year 2024-25, the deadline is June 21, 2024.

3. Allocations may differ year to year based on appropriations, changes in eligible programs of study, and changes in enrollment. The Commission may also adjust aid allocations based on historical college utilization of aid, institutionally initiated requests for a reduced allocation, or additional factors such as retention rates, completion rates, and adequacy of required reports.

4. *Except for the award year beginning August 1, 2024*, the Commission will provide a preliminary amount of aid to be allocated to each institution by May 1 prior to the beginning of each award year (e.g., by May 1, 2025, for the award year beginning August 1, 2025). Final allocations are subject to appropriation.

#### B. Disbursement Process:

1. Institutions may submit lists of recommended awards to the Commission at any time after July 1, except that no list may be submitted after June 1 in an award year (e.g., a final list of recommended awards must be submitted no later than June 1, 2025, for the award year beginning August 1, 2024, and ending July 31, 2025). Each list of recommended awards must include Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial, SSN, CIP Code, Program of Study Category, Amount of Scholarship, and other information required for the Commission to determine compliance with the Act.

2. Within thirty days after receiving recommendations, the Commission will review the recommended awards for compliance with the NCS Act and these guidelines and notify each institution of the approval or disapproval of recommended awards.

3. If awards are disapproved, the institution may resubmit the recommended list of awards to eligible students after modifying the recommendation to address the disapproved awards, provided the submitted recommendation meets the guideline in B(1). The Commission will review the modified list of recommendations in a timely manner.

4. Upon receipt of the list of eligible students, and determination that all information is complete, the Commission will distribute funds appropriated to the Nebraska Career Scholarship to each institution for direct disbursement to scholarship recipients.

5. Any award recipient who discontinues attendance before the end of the award year or becomes ineligible due to a change in major or inability to enroll in a selective-admission program or limited-enrollment program shall remit any award balance allowable to the institution pursuant to the college's withdrawal policy.

6. Awards funds not awarded within the award year in which the funds were allocated shall be returned to the Commission by the institution at a time specified by the Commission.

## **V. SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT, DISTRIBUTION, AND ELIGIBLE USES**

1. A Career Scholarship award shall not exceed a maximum of \$10,000 per year. Financial need, as determined by the institution's financial aid officer based on a student's FAFSA, may be considered.
2. The Career Scholarship may be combined with other financial aid awards.
3. Each institution will use its existing financial aid processes and policies to award the Career Scholarship.
4. Eligible uses of scholarship funds are tuition, fees, required tools and equipment (including books), room, and board.

## **VI. ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS OF STUDY**

Beginning with academic year 2024-25, eligible programs of study are degree-providing programs of study in education or engineering and in shortage areas designated by the Commission in consultation with the Department of Education, the Department of Labor, and the Department of Economic Development (see Neb. Rev. Stat. 85-3006(1)(c)(ii)).

- For academic year 2024-25, the Commission has designated degree-providing programs of study in mathematics, health care, and computer information systems as eligible programs of study in addition to education and engineering.
- Approval *may* be granted by the Commission for scholarships to be awarded to eligible scholarship recipients enrolled in certificate-providing programs of study.
- The Commission, in consultation with the aforementioned departments, will periodically review and revise eligible programs of study based on periodic reviews of workforce needs in the state. Institutions may suggest changes to eligible shortage areas on an annual basis or seek statutory changes to the list of shortage areas.
- The Commission may convene an advisory group to assist in the identification of shortage areas.
- Institutions may initiate requests for additions to the list of eligible programs of study, by CIP code and within approved shortage areas, at any time. The Commission will notify all participating institutions of approved additions and post a current list with program titles and CIP codes on the Commission's website.

Please refer to Appendix A for a list of CIP codes and program titles of eligible programs of study. More information on the 2020 Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) can be found on the National Center for Education Statistics website at <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/default.aspx?y=56>.

## VII. STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

### A. Eligible Scholarship Recipients Generally

1. Scholarship recipients must live in Nebraska while receiving a scholarship but may be recruited from outside of Nebraska.
2. Scholarship recipients are awarded Career Scholarships based on their enrollment in a degree-providing eligible program of study (or certificate program if pre-approved by the Commission)..
3. Scholarship recipients may select another major and retain the scholarship award if the new program of study is an eligible program of study as defined in these guidelines.
4. Participation in the NCS program is capped at a maximum of four years.
5. Institutions may identify additional criteria for eligible scholarship recipients.

### B. Eligibility for an Initial Award

1. To be eligible for an initial award, a scholarship recipient must be a first-time freshman or a transfer student as defined in the NCS Act (see Part III Definitions in these *Guidelines*) who achieved a score on the ACT of 18 or higher or who had a high school grade-point average of 3.0 or greater on a four-point scale.
  - Prior participation in high school dual credit courses does not count as previous enrollment in a postsecondary institution.
  - Students who enroll in a fall term and enrolled in college for the first time in the prior summer term are eligible.
2. Additional eligibility for first-time students:
  - Students who enroll in a preprogram for a selective-admission eligible program are eligible for a scholarship in their first year; subsequent scholarships should only be awarded if the student is accepted into the eligible program of study.
  - Students who have a future matriculation record for a limited-enrollment eligible program are eligible for a scholarship in their first year; subsequent scholarships should only be awarded if the student is accepted into the eligible program of study.

### C. Ongoing Scholarship Recipient Eligibility

1. Renewals
  - The Career Scholarship is automatically renewable if the scholarship recipient continues to meet eligibility requirements of the scholarship and remains eligible to enroll. To maintain ongoing eligibility in the program, scholarship recipients must maintain

satisfactory academic standing, as defined in the institution's published Standards of Progress.

- To maintain eligibility, scholarship recipients must maintain an adequate enrollment pace that will enable completion of the program of study within four years, in accordance with their educational plan.
- Students who received a scholarship by enrolling in a preprogram for a selective admission eligible program may only receive a subsequent scholarship if the student is accepted into the eligible program of study.
- Students who received a scholarship by enrolling with a future matriculation record for a limited enrollment eligible program may only receive a subsequent scholarship if the student is accepted into the eligible program of study.
- Students previously awarded a scholarship for an eligible program of study will continue to be eligible should that program of study be eliminated from the list of eligible programs.
- Institutions may identify additional criteria for the ongoing eligibility of scholarship recipients.

## 2. Career-Related Work Experience

- Every scholarship recipient must register with the appropriate Career or Employment Services office at their institution and participate in a Nebraska-based internship, apprenticeship, clinical position, or employment in the field of study prior to their final term of the program of study.
- In order to receive disbursement of the scholarship for the final term, the scholarship recipient must have participated a career-related work experience. Institutions will document career-related work experiences for each scholarship recipient.

## 3. Major Changes

- Scholarship recipients who change their major to one not included as an eligible program of study will no longer receive the scholarship beginning the following term.

## 4. Dropouts and Stopouts

- Scholarship recipients who withdraw their enrollment in the institution and/or an eligible program of study will no longer receive the scholarship beginning the following term. While not required by the Commission, as deemed appropriate by the institution, the institution may require scholarship recipients who dropout or stopout to return a portion of their scholarship to the institution.

## 5. Transfer Students

- Scholarship recipients are awarded Career Scholarships by the Commission based on application to and recommendation by an individual institution. Transfer students between Nebraska institutions who were awarded a scholarship at the sending institution may



receive a scholarship from the receiving institution at the discretion of the receiving institution and must follow the incoming institution's scholarship application process.

## VIII. REPORTING

### A. Use and Tracking of Cohorts

Reporting requires institutions to distinguish between each cohort's scholarship recipients (students who received a first scholarship during the grant period) and non-scholarship recipients. Institutions will also need to be able to distinguish between the cohort's first-time students and transfer students (even for non-scholarship recipients). Additionally, institutions will need to be able to distinguish the term within the grant period in which the student first enrolled. Reporting for each grant period will include information on the current cohort of scholarship recipients and non-scholarship recipients as well as information on every prior cohort of scholarship recipients and non-scholarship recipients.

### B. Scholarship Recipient Data Requirements

A report by the institution on each cohort's scholarship recipients is due to the Commission by November 1 each year using the **#YEAR Career Scholarships – Private Institutions Cohort Report.xls** spreadsheets provided by the Commission. This report will include the following information on each scholarship recipient: name; address; email address; social security number; program of study; program of study category; name of degree awarded; how the student met initial eligibility; date of graduation; whether they graduated within 100% of normal time; a short description of their career-related work experience (including the name of businesses engaged with); their enrollment status and scholarship amounts per term; and year 2, year 3, and year 4 enrollment and scholarship status. The institution must also retain this information for a minimum of five years after the scholarship recipient completes the program.

The Commission may collaborate with the Nebraska Department of Labor to track scholarship recipient employment in Nebraska. In all cases, the Commission will not share sensitive personally identifiable information and reporting will be provided in aggregate form.

### C. Legislative Reporting

The NCS Act requires that the following information be reported to the Commission, which will in turn submit a report on the NCS Act to the Clerk of the Legislature and Governor by December 1 of each year. The report will include information on each cohort, using the **#YEAR Career Scholarships – Private Institutions Legislative Report.xls** spreadsheets provided by the Commission, and is due to the Commission by November 1 each year.

For the reports due November 1, 2024, the Commission will require submission of historical cohort data to establish trends. The report includes metrics tracked by program and in aggregate. When reported by program, data should be reported within the categories of education, engineering, math, healthcare and computer information systems. Total columns should sum only these programs of study, not all programs of study offered by the institution.

The report includes metrics tracked by programs of study:

1. Education related
2. Engineering related

3. Mathematics related
4. Healthcare related
5. Computer Information Sciences related

Unless otherwise specified, scholarship recipients refers to first-time students and transfer students.

**Legislative Requirement 1: Total number of students enrolled in each eligible program of study in the prior school year and such program's enrollment as of September 30 each year thereafter.**

Reporting notes:

- Enrollment reflects total program enrollment; that is, all program enrollment of NCS recipients and non-scholarship recipients.
- Enrollment could be duplicated headcount if a student is enrolled in more than one program category.

To establish trends, specific data required for reports due November 1, 2024, includes:

- The number of students enrolled on September 30, 2020
- The number of students enrolled on September 30, 2021
- The number of students enrolled on September 30, 2022
- The number of students enrolled on September 30, 2023
- The number of students enrolled on September 30, 2024

**Legislative Requirement 2: The total number of scholarship recipients enrolled in each eligible program as of September 30 for the current academic year and the total number of such scholarship recipients who are newly enrolled in each eligible academic program for each academic year.**

Reporting notes:

- Count of scholarship recipients should be deduplicated across terms and programs of study (if a scholarship recipient is enrolled in more than one program of study a primary program of study should be identified).

To establish trends, specific data required for reports due November 1, 2024, includes:

- The number of NCS recipients enrolled on September 30, 2020
- The number of NCS recipients enrolled on September 30, 2021
- The number of NCS recipients enrolled on September 30, 2022
- The number of NCS recipients enrolled on September 30, 2023
- The number of NCS recipients enrolled on September 30, 2024
- The number of NCS recipients newly enrolled on September 30, 2020
- The number of NCS recipients newly enrolled on September 30, 2021
- The number of NCS recipients newly enrolled on September 30, 2022
- The number of NCS recipients newly enrolled on September 30, 2023
- The number of NCS recipients newly enrolled on September 30, 2024

**Legislative Requirement 3: The total number of students retained year-over-year in each program of study.**

Reporting notes:

- Count of students includes NCS recipients and non-scholarship recipients.
- A student who changes their program of study, even if it is to another eligible program of study, is not considered retained.
- Count should be determined as of the census date of the first term of the following grant period.

To establish trends, specific data required for the reports due November 1, 2024, includes:

- The number of 2020-21 program majors (NCS recipients and nonrecipients) retained in the eligible program of study as of census data fall 2021
- The number of 2021-22 program majors (NCS recipients and nonrecipients) retained in the eligible program of study as of census date fall 2022
- The number of 2022-23 program majors (NCS recipients and nonrecipients) retained in the eligible program of study as of census date fall 2023
- The number of 2023-24 program majors (NCS recipients and nonrecipients) retained in the eligible program of study as of census date 2024
- 

**Legislative Requirement 4: A comparison of the retention rate of NCS recipients and non-scholarship recipients.**

Reporting notes:

- An NCS recipient who is enrolled in an eligible program, even if the student changed their program of study, as of the census date of the first term of the following grant period is considered retained.

Specific data required includes:

- The number of NCS recipients retained from the previous year
- The retention rate of NCS recipients
- The retention rate of non-scholarship recipients
- The difference in the retention rate of NCS recipients and the retention rate of non-scholarship recipients

To establish trends, specific data required for the reports due November 1, 2024, includes:

- The number of 2020-21 NCS recipients retained in the eligible program of study as of census date fall 2021
- The number of 2021-22 NCS recipients retained in the eligible program of study as of census date fall 2022
- The number of 2022-23 NCS recipients retained in the eligible program of study as of census date fall 2023
- The number of 2023-24 NCS recipients retained in the eligible program of study as of census date fall 2024
- The retention rate of 2020-21 NCS recipients to census date fall 2021
- The retention rate of 2021-22 NCS recipients to census date fall 2022
- The retention rate of 2022-23 NCS recipients to census date fall 2023
- The retention rate of 2023-24 NCS recipients to census date fall 2024

- The retention rate of 2020-21 non-scholarship recipients to census date fall 2021
- The retention rate of 2021-22 non- scholarship recipients to census date fall 2022
- The retention rate of 2022-23 non- scholarship recipients to census date fall 2023
- The retention rate of 2023-24 non- scholarship recipients to census date fall 2024
- The difference in retention rates of fall 2021 NCS and non-scholarship recipients
- The difference in retention rates of fall 2022 NCS and non-scholarship recipients
- The difference in retention rates of fall 2023 NCS and non-scholarship recipients
- The difference in retention rates of fall 2023 NCS and non-scholarship recipients

**Legislative Requirement 5 : The number of students in each program of study participating in an internship, apprenticeship, clinical position, or major-related field of employment during enrollment and comparing participation rates for scholarship and non-scholarship recipients.**

Reporting notes:

- Data should include both NCS recipients and non-scholarship recipients.

Specific data required includes:

- The number of NCS recipients who participated in a career-related work experience
- The rate of NCS recipients who participated in a career-related work experience
- The rate of non-scholarship recipients who participated in a career-related work experience
- The difference in the career-related work experience participation rate of NCS recipients and of non-scholarship recipients

To establish trends, specific data required for the reports due November 1, 2024, includes:

- The number of NCS recipients who participated in a career-related work experience in 2020-21
- The number of NCS recipients who participated in a career-related work experience in 2021-22
- The number of NCS recipients who participated in a career-related work experience in 2022-23
- The number of NCS recipients who participated in a career-related work experience in 2023-24
- The rate of NCS recipients who participated in a career-related work experience in 2020-21
- The rate of NCS recipients who participated in a career-related work experience in 2021-22
- The rate of NCS recipients who participated in a career-related work experience in 2022-23
- The rate of NCS recipients who participated in a career-related work experience in 2023-24
- The rate of non-NCS recipients who participated in a career-related work experience in 2020-21
- The rate of non-NCS recipients who participated in a career-related work experience in 2021-22
- The rate of non-NCS recipients who participated in a career-related work experience in 2022-23
- The rate of non-NCS recipients who participated in a career-related work experience in 2023-24
- The difference in the career-related work experience participation rate of NCS recipients and non-scholarship recipients in 2020-21
- The difference in the career-related work experience participation rate of NCS recipients and non-scholarship recipients in 2021-22
- The difference in the career-related work experience participation rate of NCS recipients and non-scholarship recipients in 2022-23

- The difference in the career-related work experience participation rate of NCS recipients and non-scholarship recipients in 2023-24

**Legislative Requirement 6: The total number of graduates in each program of study, stating the number of scholarship recipients and comparing the graduation rate versus non-scholarship students.**

Reporting notes:

- Graduation rates means the percentage of students completing their program of study within 100% of normal time.
- When calculating graduation rates, only include students who are, or were, enrolled in programs that have reached the graduation rate definition above. For example, if 100% of normal time completion for students seeking a degree is 4 years, only include the students/programs where enough time has elapsed for 4 years to have completed.
- The graduation rate should be calculated as the cohort's number of graduated students divided by all students in the cohort (including students who drop out or stop out).

Specific data required includes:

- The number of graduates (including both NCS recipients and non-scholarship recipients) that have graduated from their program of study
- The number of NCS recipients who have graduated from their program of study
- The graduation rate of scholarship recipients
- The graduation rate of non-scholarship recipients
- The difference in the graduation rate of NCS recipients and non-scholarship recipients

To establish trends, specific data required for the reports due November 1, 2024, includes:

- The number of 2020-2021 graduates (NCS and non-NCS students) who completed their program of study
- The number of 2021-2022 graduates (NCS and non-NCS students) who completed their program of study
- The number of 2022-2023 graduates (NCS and non-NCS students) who completed their program of study
- The number of 2023-2024 graduates (NCS and non-NCS students) who completed their program of study
- The number of 2020-2021 NCS-recipient graduates who completed their program of study
- The number of 2021-2022 NCS-recipient graduates who completed their program of study
- The number of 2022-2023 NCS-recipient graduates who completed their program of study
- The number of 2023-2024 NCS-recipient graduates who completed their program of study
- The graduation rate of 2020-21 NCS recipients who completed their program of study
- The graduation rate of 2021-22 NCS recipients who completed their program of study
- The graduation rate of 2022-23 NCS recipients who completed their program of study
- The graduation rate of 2023-24 NCS recipients who completed their program of study
- The graduation rate of 2020-21 non-NCS recipients who completed their program of study
- The graduation rate of 2021-22 non-NCS recipients who completed their program of study
- The graduation rate of 2022-23 non-NCS recipients who completed their program of study

- The graduation rate of 2023-24 non-NCS recipients who completed their program of study
- The difference in graduation rates between 2020-21 NCS recipients and non-NCS recipients
- The difference in graduation rates between 2021-22 NCS recipients and non-NCS recipients
- The difference in graduation rates between 2022-23 NCS recipients and non-NCS recipients
- The difference in graduation rates between 2023-24 NCS recipients and non-NCS recipients

**Legislative Requirement 7: The number of students in each program of study obtaining jobs in Nebraska within four months of graduation.**

Reporting notes:

- Data should include scholarship recipients and non-scholarship recipients.
- Data should include students who obtained a job in Nebraska within four months after the quarter in which they graduated or as of September 30 each year, whichever is sooner.
- Due to the timing of the report, this may not include all students who have graduated where 4 months after graduation have not passed.

Specific data required includes:

- The number of all students who graduated and obtained a job in Nebraska within 4 months of graduation

To establish trends, specific data required for the reports due November 1, 2024, includes:

- The number of all students who graduated and obtained a job in Nebraska within 4 months of graduation in 2020-21
- The number of all students who graduated and obtained a job in Nebraska within 4 months of graduation in 2021-22
- The number of all students who graduated and obtained a job in Nebraska within 4 months of graduation in 2022-23
- The number of all students who graduated and obtained a job in Nebraska within 4 months of graduation in 2023-24

**Legislative Requirement 8: Average starting salary of students in each program of study obtaining jobs in Nebraska within four months of graduation.**

Reporting notes:

- Data should include scholarship recipients and non-scholarship recipients.
- Data should include students who obtained a job in Nebraska within four months after the quarter in which they graduated or as of September 30 each year, whichever is sooner.
- Due to the timing of the report, this may not include the salaries of all students who have graduated where 4 months after graduation have not passed.

Specific data required includes:

- The average starting salary for all students who graduated and obtained a job in Nebraska within 4 months of graduation

To establish trends, specific data required for the reports due November 1, 2024, includes:

- The average starting salary for all students who graduated and obtained a job in Nebraska within 4 months of graduation in 2020-21
- The average starting salary for all students who graduated and obtained a job in Nebraska within 4 months of graduation in 2021-22
- The average starting salary for all students who graduated and obtained a job in Nebraska within 4 months of graduation in 2022-23
- The average starting salary for all students who graduated and obtained a job in Nebraska within 4 months of graduation in 2023-24

## Appendix A. Eligible Program of Study CIP Codes and Titles

<u>CIP Code</u>	<u>CIP Titles</u>
11.0101	Computer and Information Sciences, General.
11.0102	Artificial Intelligence.
11.0103	Information Technology.
11.0104	Informatics.
11.0199	Computer and Information Sciences, Other.
11.0201	Computer Programming/Programmer, General.
11.0202	Computer Programming, Specific Applications.
11.0203	Computer Programming, Vendor/Product Certification.
11.0299	Computer Programming, Other.
11.0301	Data Processing and Data Processing Technology/Technician.
11.0401	Information Science/Studies.
11.0501	Computer Systems Analysis/Analyst.
11.0601	Data Entry/Microcomputer Applications, General.
11.0602	Word Processing.
11.0699	Data Entry/Microcomputer Applications, Other.
11.0701	Computer Science.
11.0801	Web Page, Digital/Multimedia and Information Resources Design.
11.0802	Data Modeling/Warehousing and Database Administration.
11.0803	Computer Graphics.
11.0804	Modeling, Virtual Environments and Simulation.
11.0899	Computer Software and Media Applications, Other.
11.0901	Computer Systems Networking and Telecommunications.
11.1001	Network and System Administration/Administrator.
11.1002	System, Networking, and LAN/WAN Management/Manager.
11.1003	Computer and Information Systems Security/Information Assurance.
11.1004	Web/Multimedia Management and Webmaster.
11.1005	Information Technology Project Management.
11.1006	Computer Support Specialist.
11.1099	Computer/Information Technology Services Administration and Management, Other.
11.9999	Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services, Other.
13.0101	Education, General.
13.0201	Bilingual and Multilingual Education.
13.0202	Multicultural Education.
13.0203	Indian/Native American Education.
13.0299	Bilingual, Multilingual, and Multicultural Education, Other.
13.0301	Curriculum and Instruction.
13.0501	Educational/Instructional Media Design.
13.0601	Educational Evaluation and Research.
13.0603	Educational Statistics and Research Methods.
13.0604	Educational Assessment, Testing, and Measurement.
13.0607	Learning Sciences.
13.0699	Educational Assessment, Evaluation, and Research, Other.
13.0701	International and Comparative Education.
13.0901	Social and Philosophical Foundations of Education.
13.1001	Special Education and Teaching, General.
13.1003	Education/Teaching of Individuals with Hearing Impairments Including Deafness.
13.1004	Education/Teaching of the Gifted and Talented.
13.1005	Education/Teaching of Individuals with Emotional Disturbances.



13.1006	Education/Teaching of Individuals with Mental Retardation.
13.1007	Education/Teaching of Individuals with Multiple Disabilities.
13.1008	Education/Teaching of Individuals with Orthopedic and Other Physical Health Impairments.
13.1009	Education/Teaching of Individuals with Vision Impairments Including Blindness.
13.1011	Education/Teaching of Individuals with Specific Learning Disabilities.
13.1012	Education/Teaching of Individuals with Speech or Language Impairments.
13.1013	Education/Teaching of Individuals with Autism.
13.1014	Education/Teaching of Individuals Who are Developmentally Delayed.
13.1015	Education/Teaching of Individuals in Early Childhood Special Education Programs.
13.1016	Education/Teaching of Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injuries.
13.1017	Education/Teaching of Individuals in Elementary Special Education Programs.
13.1018	Education/Teaching of Individuals in Junior High/Middle School Special Education Programs.
13.1019	Education/Teaching of Individuals in Secondary Special Education Programs.
13.1099	Special Education and Teaching, Other.
13.1201	Adult and Continuing Education and Teaching.
13.1202	Elementary Education and Teaching.
13.1203	Junior High/Intermediate/Middle School Education and Teaching.
13.1205	Secondary Education and Teaching.
13.1206	Teacher Education, Multiple Levels.
13.1207	Montessori Teacher Education.
13.1208	Waldorf/Steiner Teacher Education.
13.1209	Kindergarten/Preschool Education and Teaching.
13.1210	Early Childhood Education and Teaching.
13.1299	Teacher Education and Professional Development, Specific Levels and Methods, Other.
13.1301	Agricultural Teacher Education.
13.1302	Art Teacher Education.
13.1303	Business Teacher Education.
13.1304	Driver and Safety Teacher Education.
13.1305	English/Language Arts Teacher Education.
13.1306	Foreign Language Teacher Education.
13.1307	Health Teacher Education.
13.1308	Family and Consumer Sciences/Home Economics Teacher Education.
13.1309	Technology Teacher Education/Industrial Arts Teacher Education.
13.1310	Sales and Marketing Operations/Marketing and Distribution Teacher Education.
13.1311	Mathematics Teacher Education.
13.1312	Music Teacher Education.
13.1314	Physical Education Teaching and Coaching.
13.1315	Reading Teacher Education.
13.1316	Science Teacher Education/General Science Teacher Education.
13.1317	Social Science Teacher Education.
13.1318	Social Studies Teacher Education.
13.1319	Technical Teacher Education.
13.1320	Trade and Industrial Teacher Education.
13.1321	Computer Teacher Education.
13.1322	Biology Teacher Education.
13.1323	Chemistry Teacher Education.
13.1324	Drama and Dance Teacher Education.
13.1325	French Language Teacher Education.
13.1326	German Language Teacher Education.
13.1327	Health Occupations Teacher Education.
13.1328	History Teacher Education.
13.1329	Physics Teacher Education.
13.1330	Spanish Language Teacher Education.
13.1331	Speech Teacher Education.

13.1332	Geography Teacher Education.
13.1333	Latin Teacher Education.
13.1334	School Librarian/School Library Media Specialist.
13.1335	Psychology Teacher Education.
13.1337	Earth Science Teacher Education.
13.1338	Environmental Education.
13.1399	Teacher Education and Professional Development, Specific Subject Areas, Other.
13.1401	Teaching English as a Second or Foreign Language/ESL Language Instructor.
13.1402	Teaching French as a Second or Foreign Language.
13.1499	Teaching English or French as a Second or Foreign Language, Other.
13.9999	Education, Other.
14.0101	Engineering, General.
14.0102	Pre-Engineering.
14.0301	Agricultural/Biological Engineering and Bioengineering.
14.0501	Biomedical/Medical Engineering.
14.0701	Chemical Engineering.
14.0799	Chemical Engineering, Other.
14.0802	Geotechnical Engineering.
14.0804	Transportation and Highway Engineering.
14.0805	Water Resources Engineering.
14.0899	Civil Engineering, Other.
14.0902	Computer Hardware Engineering.
14.0903	Computer Software Engineering.
14.0999	Computer Engineering, Other.
14.1001	Electrical, Electronics and Communications Engineering.
14.1003	Laser and Optical Engineering.
14.1004	Telecommunications Engineering.
14.1101	Engineering Mechanics.
14.1201	Engineering Physics.
14.1301	Engineering Science.
14.1401	Environmental/Environmental Health Engineering.
14.1801	Materials Engineering.
14.1901	Mechanical Engineering.
14.2001	Metallurgical Engineering.
14.2101	Mining and Mineral Engineering.
14.2201	Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering.
14.2301	Nuclear Engineering.
14.2401	Ocean Engineering.
14.2501	Petroleum Engineering.
14.2701	Systems Engineering.
14.2801	Textile Sciences and Engineering.
14.3201	Polymer/Plastics Engineering.
14.3301	Construction Engineering.
14.3401	Forest Engineering.
14.3501	Industrial Engineering.
14.3601	Manufacturing Engineering.
14.3701	Operations Research.
14.3801	Surveying Engineering.
14.3901	Geological/Geophysical Engineering.
14.4001	Paper Science and Engineering.
14.4101	Electromechanical Engineering.
14.4201	Mechatronics, Robotics, and Automation Engineering.
14.4301	Biochemical Engineering.
14.4401	Engineering Chemistry.
14.4501	Biological/Biosystems Engineering.

14.9999	Engineering, Other.
27.0101	Mathematics, General.
27.0102	Algebra and Number Theory.
27.0103	Analysis and Functional Analysis.
27.0104	Geometry/Geometric Analysis.
27.0105	Topology and Foundations.
27.0199	Mathematics, Other.
27.0301	Applied Mathematics, General.
27.0303	Computational Mathematics.
27.0304	Computational and Applied Mathematics.
27.0305	Financial Mathematics.
27.0306	Mathematical Biology.
27.0399	Applied Mathematics, Other.
27.0501	Statistics, General.
27.0502	Mathematical Statistics and Probability.
27.0503	Mathematics and Statistics.
27.0599	Statistics, Other.
27.9999	Mathematics and Statistics, Other.
51.0001	Health and Wellness, General.
51.0101	Chiropractic.
51.0201	Communication Sciences and Disorders, General.
51.0202	Audiology/Audiologist.
51.0203	Speech-Language Pathology/Pathologist.
51.0204	Audiology/Audiologist and Speech-Language Pathology/Pathologist.
51.0299	Communication Disorders Sciences and Services, Other.
51.0401	Dentistry.
51.0501	Dental Clinical Sciences, General.
51.0502	Advanced General Dentistry.
51.0503	Oral Biology and Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology.
51.0504	Dental Public Health and Education.
51.0505	Dental Materials.
51.0506	Endodontics/Endodontology.
51.0507	Oral/Maxillofacial Surgery.
51.0508	Orthodontics/Orthodontology.
51.0509	Pediatric Dentistry/Pedodontics.
51.0510	Periodontics/Periodontology.
51.0511	Prosthodontics/Prosthodontology.
51.0599	Advanced/Graduate Dentistry and Oral Sciences, Other.
51.0601	Dental Assisting/Assistant.
51.0602	Dental Hygiene/Hygienist.
51.0603	Dental Laboratory Technology/Technician.
51.0699	Dental Services and Allied Professions, Other.
51.0701	Health/Health Care Administration/Management.
51.0702	Hospital and Health Care Facilities Administration/Management.
51.0703	Health Unit Coordinator/Ward Clerk.
51.0704	Health Unit Manager/Ward Supervisor.
51.0705	Medical Office Management/Administration.
51.0706	Health Information/Medical Records Administration/Administrator.
51.0707	Health Information/Medical Records Technology/Technician.
51.0708	Medical Transcription/Transcriptionist.
51.0709	Medical Office Computer Specialist/Assistant.
51.0710	Medical Office Assistant/Specialist.
51.0711	Medical/Health Management and Clinical Assistant/Specialist.
51.0712	Medical Reception/Receptionist.

51.0713	Medical Insurance Coding Specialist/Coder.
51.0714	Medical Insurance Specialist/Medical Biller.
51.0715	Health/Medical Claims Examiner.
51.0716	Medical Administrative/Executive Assistant and Medical Secretary.
51.0717	Medical Staff Services Technology/Technician.
51.0718	Long Term Care Administration/Management.
51.0719	Clinical Research Coordinator.
51.0799	Health and Medical Administrative Services, Other.
51.0801	Medical/Clinical Assistant.
51.0802	Clinical/Medical Laboratory Assistant.
51.0803	Occupational Therapist Assistant.
51.0805	Pharmacy Technician/Assistant.
51.0806	Physical Therapy Technician/Assistant.
51.0808	Veterinary/Animal Health Technology/Technician and Veterinary Assistant.
51.0809	Anesthesiologist Assistant.
51.0810	Emergency Care Attendant (EMT Ambulance).
51.0811	Pathology/Pathologist Assistant.
51.0812	Respiratory Therapy Technician/Assistant.
51.0813	Chiropractic Assistant/Technician.
51.0814	Radiologist Assistant.
51.0815	Lactation Consultant.
51.0816	Speech-Language Pathology Assistant.
51.0899	Allied Health and Medical Assisting Services, Other.
51.0901	Cardiovascular Technology/Technologist.
51.0902	Electrocardiograph Technology/Technician.
51.0903	Electroneurodiagnostic/Electroencephalographic Technology/Technologist.
51.0904	Emergency Medical Technology/Technician (EMT Paramedic).
51.0905	Nuclear Medical Technology/Technologist.
51.0906	Perfusion Technology/Perfusionist.
51.0907	Medical Radiologic Technology/Science - Radiation Therapist.
51.0908	Respiratory Care Therapy/Therapist.
51.0909	Surgical Technology/Technologist.
51.0910	Diagnostic Medical Sonography/Sonographer and Ultrasound Technician.
51.0911	Radiologic Technology/Science - Radiographer.
51.0912	Physician Assistant.
51.0913	Athletic Training/Trainer.
51.0914	Gene/Genetic Therapy.
51.0915	Cardiopulmonary Technology/Technologist.
51.0916	Radiation Protection/Health Physics Technician.
51.0917	Polysomnography.
51.0918	Hearing Instrument Specialist.
51.0919	Mammography Technician/Technology.
51.0920	Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Technology/Technician.
51.0999	Allied Health Diagnostic, Intervention, and Treatment Professions, Other.
51.1001	Blood Bank Technology Specialist.
51.1002	Cytotechnology/Cytotechnologist.
51.1003	Hematology Technology/Technician.
51.1004	Clinical/Medical Laboratory Technician.
51.1005	Clinical Laboratory Science/Medical Technology/Technologist.
51.1006	Ophthalmic Laboratory Technology/Technician.
51.1007	Histologic Technology/Histotechnologist.
51.1008	Histologic Technician.
51.1009	Phlebotomy Technician/Phlebotomist.
51.1010	Cytogenetics/Genetics/Clinical Genetics Technology/Technologist.
51.1011	Renal/Dialysis Technologist/Technician.
51.1012	Sterile Processing Technology/Technician.

51.1099	Clinical/Medical Laboratory Science and Allied Professions, Other.
51.1101	Pre-Dentistry Studies.
51.1102	Pre-Medicine/Pre-Medical Studies.
51.1103	Pre-Pharmacy Studies.
51.1104	Pre-Veterinary Studies.
51.1105	Pre-Nursing Studies.
51.1106	Pre-Chiropractic Studies.
51.1107	Pre-Occupational Therapy Studies.
51.1108	Pre-Optometry Studies.
51.1109	Pre-Physical Therapy Studies.
51.1199	Health/Medical Preparatory Programs, Other.
51.1201	Medicine.
51.1401	Medical Scientist.
51.1501	Substance Abuse/Addiction Counseling.
51.1502	Psychiatric/Mental Health Services Technician.
51.1503	Clinical/Medical Social Work.
51.1504	Community Health Services/Liaison/Counseling.
51.1505	Marriage and Family Therapy/Counseling.
51.1506	Clinical Pastoral Counseling/Patient Counseling.
51.1507	Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy.
51.1508	Mental Health Counseling/Counselor.
51.1509	Genetic Counseling/Counselor.
51.1599	Mental and Social Health Services and Allied Professions, Other.
51.1601	Nursing/Registered Nurse (RN, ASN, BSN, MSN).
51.1602	Nursing Administration (MSN, MS, PhD).
51.1603	Adult Health Nurse/Nursing.
51.1604	Nurse Anesthetist.
51.1605	Family Practice Nurse/Nurse Practitioner.
51.1606	Maternal/Child Health and Neonatal Nurse/Nursing.
51.1607	Nurse Midwife/Nursing Midwifery.
51.1608	Nursing Science (MS, PhD).
51.1609	Pediatric Nurse/Nursing.
51.1610	Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse/Nursing.
51.1611	Public Health/Community Nurse/Nursing.
51.1612	Perioperative/Operating Room and Surgical Nurse/Nursing.
51.1613	Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurse Training (LPN, LVN, Cert., Dipl, AAS)
51.1614	Nurse/Nursing Assistant/Aide and Patient Care Assistant.
51.1616	Clinical Nurse Specialist.
51.1617	Critical Care Nursing.
51.1618	Occupational and Environmental Health Nursing.
51.1699	Nursing, Other.
51.1701	Optometry.
51.1801	Opticianry/Ophthalmic Dispensing Optician.
51.1802	Optometric Technician/Assistant.
51.1803	Ophthalmic Technician/Technologist.
51.1804	Orthoptics/Orthoptist.
51.1899	Ophthalmic and Optometric Support Services and Allied Professions, Other.
51.1901	Osteopathic Medicine/Osteopathy.
51.2001	Pharmacy.
51.2002	Pharmacy Administration and Pharmacy Policy and Regulatory Affairs.
51.2003	Pharmaceutics and Drug Design.
51.2004	Medicinal and Pharmaceutical Chemistry.
51.2005	Natural Products Chemistry and Pharmacognosy.
51.2006	Clinical and Industrial Drug Development.
51.2007	Pharmacoeconomics/Pharmaceutical Economics.
51.2008	Clinical, Hospital, and Managed Care Pharmacy.

51.2009	Industrial and Physical Pharmacy and Cosmetic Sciences.
51.2010	Pharmaceutical Sciences.
51.2011	Pharmaceutical Marketing and Management.
51.2099	Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Administration, Other.
51.2101	Podiatric Medicine/Podiatry.
51.2201	Public Health, General.
51.2202	Environmental Health.
51.2205	Health/Medical Physics.
51.2206	Occupational Health and Industrial Hygiene.
51.2207	Public Health Education and Promotion.
51.2208	Community Health and Preventive Medicine.
51.2209	Maternal and Child Health.
51.2210	International Public Health/International Health.
51.2211	Health Services Administration.
51.2212	Behavioral Aspects of Health.
51.2299	Public Health, Other.
51.2301	Art Therapy/Therapist.
51.2302	Dance Therapy/Therapist.
51.2305	Music Therapy/Therapist.
51.2306	Occupational Therapy/Therapist.
51.2307	Orthotist/Prosthetist.
51.2308	Physical Therapy/Therapist.
51.2309	Therapeutic Recreation/Recreational Therapy.
51.2310	Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling/Counselor.
51.2311	Kinesiotherapy/Kinesiotherapist.
51.2312	Assistive/Augmentative Technology and Rehabilitation Engineering.
51.2313	Animal-Assisted Therapy.
51.2314	Rehabilitation Science.
51.2399	Rehabilitation and Therapeutic Professions, Other.
51.2401	Veterinary Medicine.
51.2501	Veterinary Sciences/Veterinary Clinical Sciences, General.
51.2502	Veterinary Anatomy.
51.2503	Veterinary Physiology.
51.2504	Veterinary Microbiology and Immunobiology.
51.2505	Veterinary Pathology and Pathobiology.
51.2506	Veterinary Toxicology and Pharmacology.
51.2507	Large Animal/Food Animal and Equine Surgery and Medicine.
51.2508	Small/Companion Animal Surgery and Medicine.
51.2509	Comparative and Laboratory Animal Medicine.
51.2510	Veterinary Preventive Medicine, Epidemiology, and Public Health.
51.2511	Veterinary Infectious Diseases.
51.2599	Veterinary Biomedical and Clinical Sciences, Other.
51.2601	Health Aide.
51.2602	Home Health Aide/Home Attendant.
51.2603	Medication Aide.
51.2604	Rehabilitation Aide.
51.2699	Health Aides/Attendants/Orderlies, Other.
51.2703	Medical Illustration/Medical Illustrator.
51.2706	Medical Informatics.
51.2799	Medical Illustration and Informatics, Other.
51.3101	Dietetics/Dietitian.
51.3102	Clinical Nutrition/Nutritionist.
51.3103	Dietetic Technician.
51.3104	Dietitian Assistant.
51.3199	Dietetics and Clinical Nutrition Services, Other.
51.3201	Bioethics/Medical Ethics.

51.3300	Alternative and Complementary Medicine and Medical Systems, General.
51.3301	Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.
51.3302	Traditional Chinese Medicine and Chinese Herbology.
51.3303	Naturopathic Medicine/Naturopathy.
51.3304	Homeopathic Medicine/Homeopathy.
51.3305	Ayurvedic Medicine/Ayurveda.
51.3306	Holistic Health.
51.3399	Alternative and Complementary Medicine and Medical Systems, Other.
51.3401	Direct Entry Midwifery.
51.3499	Alternative and Complementary Medical Support Services, Other.
51.3501	Massage Therapy/Therapeutic Massage.
51.3502	Asian Bodywork Therapy.
51.3503	Somatic Bodywork.
51.3599	Somatic Bodywork and Related Therapeutic Services, Other.
51.3601	Movement Therapy and Movement Education.
51.3602	Yoga Teacher Training/Yoga Therapy.
51.3603	Hypnotherapy/Hypnotherapist.
51.3699	Movement and Mind-Body Therapies and Education, Other.
51.3701	Aromatherapy.
51.3702	Herbalism/Herbalist.
51.3703	Polarity Therapy.
51.3704	Reiki.
51.3799	Energy and Biologically Based Therapies, Other.
51.3801	Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse.
51.3802	Nursing Administration.
51.3803	Adult Health Nurse/Nursing.
51.3804	Nurse Anesthetist.
51.3805	Family Practice Nurse/Nursing.
51.3806	Maternal/Child Health and Neonatal Nurse/Nursing.
51.3807	Nurse Midwife/Nursing Midwifery.
51.3808	Nursing Science.
51.3809	Pediatric Nurse/Nursing.
51.3810	Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse/Nursing.
51.3811	Public Health/Community Nurse/Nursing.
51.3812	Perioperative/Operating Room and Surgical Nurse/Nursing.
51.3813	Clinical Nurse Specialist.
51.3814	Critical Care Nursing.
51.3815	Occupational and Environmental Health Nursing.
51.3816	Emergency Room/Trauma Nursing.
51.3817	Nursing Education.
51.3818	Nursing Practice.
51.3819	Palliative Care Nursing.
51.3820	Clinical Nurse Leader.
51.3821	Geriatric Nurse/Nursing.
51.3822	Women's Health Nurse/Nursing.
51.3899	Registered Nursing, Nursing Administration, Nursing Research and Clinical Nursing, Other.
51.3901	Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurse Training.
51.3902	Nursing Assistant/Aide and Patient Care Assistant/Aide.
51.3999	Practical Nursing, Vocational Nursing and Nursing Assistants, Other.
51.9999	Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences, Other.



# **Nebraska Career Scholarship Guidelines for Community College**

**Program Guidelines 2024-25 Grant Year**

**6/25/24**



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*This guidance document is advisory in nature but is binding on an agency until amended by such agency. A guidance document does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal operations of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules and regulations made in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that this guidance document imposes additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may request a review of the document.*

## **I. PURPOSE**

The Nebraska Career Scholarship (NCS) Program is a collaboration between the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education (Commission) and Nebraska community colleges. The program provides scholarships to students pursuing degrees in programs of study leading to high-wage, high-skill, and high-demand careers.

## **II. STATUTORY AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Nebraska Career Scholarship Act (NCS Act) is contained in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 85-3001 to 85-3006. Specific authorization for community college scholarships is found in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-3005. Responsibility for the community college scholarships was transferred from the Department of Economic Development to the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education in LB1329 (2024).

A. Under the NCS Act, the responsibilities of the Commission are:

1. In collaboration with the community colleges, award Nebraska Career Scholarships to eligible community college students based on recommendations from the colleges.
2. Identify shortage areas and skilled trades that meet workforce needs and determine which programs of study address the shortage areas.
3. Periodically review and revise the identification of shortage areas and skilled trades that meet workforce needs.
4. Allocate funds appropriated for the program among the community colleges.
5. Report information on the NCS program to the Clerk of the Legislature and the Governor each year on or before December 1.

B. Under the NCS Act, the responsibilities of the community colleges are:

1. Determine the eligibility of scholarship recipients.
2. Receive and process applications for awards to individual scholarship recipients.
3. Disburse awards directly to eligible scholarship recipients during the fiscal year.
4. Collect information on each scholarship recipient and report to the CCPE.

## **III. DEFINITIONS**

1. Award year means the period beginning on August 1 through the following July 31.
2. Community college means a public postsecondary educational institution which is part of the community college system and includes all branches and campuses of such institution located within the State of Nebraska. It also includes a tribally controlled community college, as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1503(23), that chooses to participate.

3. Eligible program of study means a program of study offered by a community college in a shortage area or skilled trade that meet workforce needs identified by the Commission in consultation with the State Department of Education, the Department of Labor, the Department of Economic Development, and any advisory committee established by the Commission for such purpose.

4. First-time freshman means a student who enrolled in an eligible program of study, who has not previously been enrolled in a postsecondary institution within three years immediately preceding the application for a scholarship pursuant to the act, and who has not previously earned a postsecondary credential except as a dual credit or early-college high school student;

5. Nebraska Career Scholarship means a scholarship awarded under the Nebraska Career Scholarship Act or a scholarship awarded as a Nebraska Career Scholarship pursuant to LB380 (2021), or LB1008 (2020);

6. Reimbursable education unit (REU) has the meaning set forth in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1503(19). REUs are certified annually by the Commission per Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1543(2) and Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-2233(2);

7. Scholarship recipient means a student who has been awarded a Nebraska Career Scholarship; and

8. Transfer student means a student who has not previously earned a postsecondary credential and who has transferred into an eligible program of study (a) from another postsecondary institution or (b) from another program of study within the same postsecondary institution. A student that previously earned a postsecondary credential, but only as a dual-credit or early-college high school student, shall be considered a transfer student if such student transferred into an eligible program of study from another postsecondary institution or a program within the same postsecondary institution directly following such student's early-college high school enrollment.

## **IV. AID CALCULATION AND DISBURSEMENT**

### **A. Aid Calculation:**

The amount of aid to be allocated to each community college will be determined annually based on the following formula:

1. Base amount: Each community college will be allocated a base amount of \$100,000, except that each participating tribally controlled community college will be allocated a base amount of \$40,000. The base amount may be adjusted based on changes in appropriations.

2. Proportionate REU amount: In addition to the base amount, each community college will be allocated an amount of funding proportionate to its share of the total three-year average of certified reimbursable education units (REUs) for the three most recently concluded fiscal years concluding June 30 prior to the award year (e.g., for the award year beginning July 1, 2024, the three-year average REUs from fiscal years 2021, 2022, and 2023).

3. The Commission may adjust aid amounts based on historical college utilization of aid or additional factors such as retention rates, completion rates, and adequacy of required reports.
4. *Except for the award year beginning August 1, 2024*, the Commission will provide a preliminary amount of aid to be allocated to each community college by March 1 prior to the beginning of each award year (e.g., by March 1, 2025, for the award year beginning August 1, 2025). Final allocations are subject to appropriation.

#### B. Disbursement Process:

1. Community colleges may submit lists of recommended awards to the Commission at any time after July 1, except that no list may be submitted after June 1 in an award year (e.g., a final list of recommended awards must be submitted no later than June 1, 2025, for the award year beginning August 1, 2024, and ending July 31, 2025). Each list of recommended awards must include Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial, SSN, CIP Code, Program of Study Category, Amount of Scholarship, and other information required for the Commission to determine compliance with the Act.
2. Within thirty days after receiving recommendations, the Commission will review the recommended awards for compliance with the NCS Act and these guidelines and notify each community college of the approval or disapproval of recommended awards.
3. If awards are disapproved, the community college may resubmit the recommended list of awards to eligible students after modifying the recommendation to address the disapproved awards. The Commission will review the modified list of recommendations in a timely manner.
4. Upon receipt of the list of eligible students, and determination that all information is complete, the Commission will distribute funds appropriated to the Nebraska Career Scholarship to each eligible community college for direct disbursement to scholarship recipients.
5. Any award recipient who discontinues attendance before the end of the award year or becomes ineligible due to a change in major or inability to enroll in a selective-admission program or limited-enrollment program shall remit any award balance allowable to the community college pursuant to the college's withdrawal policy.
6. Award funds not awarded within the award year in which the funds were allocated shall be returned to the Commission by the community college at a time specified by the Commission.

#### **V. SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT, DISTRIBUTION, AND ELIGIBLE USES**

1. A Career Scholarship award shall not exceed a maximum of \$15,000 per year. Financial need, as determined by the community college's financial aid officer based on a student's FAFSA, may be considered.
2. The Career Scholarship may be combined with other financial aid awards.
3. Each college will use its existing financial aid processes and policies to award the Career Scholarship.

4. Eligible uses of scholarship funds are tuition, fees, required tools and equipment (including books), room, and board.

## **VI. ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS OF STUDY**

### **A. Identification Process for Shortage Areas and Skilled Trades**

The Commission will consult with the Department of Education, the Department of Labor, and the Department of Economic Development to identify shortage areas and skilled trades that meet workforce shortages for the purpose of determining eligible programs of study.

- The Commission, in consultation with the aforementioned departments, will periodically review and revise the identification of shortage areas, skilled trades, and eligible programs of study.
- The Commission may convene an advisory group to assist in the identification of shortage areas, skilled trades, and eligible programs of study.
- Colleges may initiate requests for additions to lists of identified shortage areas, skilled trades, and eligible programs of study. The Commission will notify all community colleges of approved additions and post a current list on the Commission's website.

### **B. Identified Occupations (Shortage Areas and Skilled Trades)**

Identified occupations include those determined to be a shortage area or in-demand skilled trade related to the shortage areas. Shortage areas are defined within the Labor Availability Studies and Skills Gap Reports produced by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Bureau of Business Research and the Nebraska Department of Labor. The reports identify misalignment between the area labor supply and demand and the future impact of those misalignments (or skills gaps) by using the number of recent graduates and occupational forecasts. Essentially, the reports identify jobs (occupations) for which there is more demand from employers than available workers. Related in-demand skilled trades were also identified and included in the list of occupations.

Identified occupations fall within the following categories:

1. Business, Financial & Administrative Operations
2. Computer & Technology Assistance
3. Architecture & Engineering
4. Healthcare Practitioners & Technical
5. Farming, Fishing, & Forestry
6. Construction & Extraction
7. Installation, Maintenance, & Repair
8. Production
9. Transportation & Material Moving

Please refer to Appendix A for a list of the specific occupations within these categories. More information on the 2018 Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) occupations can be found on the Bureau of Labor Statistics website at [https://www.bls.gov/soc/2018/major\\_groups.htm](https://www.bls.gov/soc/2018/major_groups.htm).

### C. Eligible Programs of Study

Eligible programs of study must provide a recognizable credential and regularly lead to a job within the identified occupations. Please refer to Appendix B for a list of programs titles that correspond to the identified occupations. Noncredit programs of study should be submitted to the Commission for approval with the following information: the recognized credential awarded, the occupational category the program falls under, and a reasonably related program title from Appendix B. The Commission will post a list eligible noncredit programs on its website as the list develops.

More information on the 2020 Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) and the crosswalk from 2018 SOC to 2020 CIP can be found on the National Center for Education Statistics website at <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/default.aspx?y=56>.

## **VII. STUDENT ELIGIBILITY**

### A. Eligible Scholarship Recipients Generally

1. Scholarship recipients must live in Nebraska while receiving a scholarship but may be recruited from outside of Nebraska.
2. Scholarship recipients are awarded Career Scholarships based on their enrollment in an eligible program of study.
3. Scholarship recipients may select another major and retain the scholarship award if the new program of study is an eligible program of study as defined in these guidelines.
4. Participation in the NSC program is capped at a maximum of three years.
5. Colleges may identify additional criteria for eligible scholarship recipients.

### B. Eligibility for an Initial Award

1. To be eligible for an initial award, a scholarship recipient must be a first-time freshman or a transfer student as defined in the NSC Act (see Part III Definitions in these *Guidelines*).
  - Prior participation in high school dual credit courses does not count as previous enrollment in a postsecondary institution.
  - Students who enroll in a fall term and enrolled in college for the first time in the prior summer term are eligible.
2. Additional eligibility for first-time students:
  - Students who enroll in a preprogram for a selective-admission eligible program are eligible for a scholarship in their first year; subsequent scholarships should only be awarded if the student is accepted into the eligible program of study.

- Students who have a future matriculation record for a limited-enrollment eligible program are eligible for a scholarship in their first year; subsequent scholarships should only be awarded if the student is accepted into the eligible program of study.

### C. Ongoing Scholarship Recipient Eligibility

#### 1. Renewals

- The Career Scholarship is automatically renewable if the scholarship recipient continues to meet eligibility requirements of the scholarship and remains eligible to enroll. To maintain ongoing eligibility in the program, scholarship recipients must maintain satisfactory academic standing, as defined in the college's published Standards of Progress.
- To maintain eligibility, scholarship recipients must maintain an adequate enrollment pace that will enable completion of the program of study within three years, in accordance with their educational plan.
- Students who received a scholarship by enrolling in a preprogram for a selective admission eligible program may only receive a subsequent scholarship if the student is accepted into the eligible program of study.
- Students who received a scholarship by enrolling with a future matriculation record for a limited enrollment eligible program may only receive a subsequent scholarship if the student is accepted into the eligible program of study.
- Colleges may identify additional criteria for the ongoing eligibility of scholarship recipients.
- Colleges are responsible for managing their annual allocations to ensure that they can cover the cost of automatic renewals and new scholarships.

#### 2. Career-Related Work Experience

- Each scholarship recipient enrolled in more than a one-semester or sixteen-credit-hour program of study must register with the appropriate Career or Employment Services office at their college and participate in a Nebraska-based internship, apprenticeship, clinical position, or employment in the field of study prior to their final term of the program of study.
- In order to receive disbursement of the scholarship for the final term, the scholarship recipient must have participated a career-related work experience. Colleges will document career-related work experiences for each scholarship recipient.

#### 3. Major Changes

- Scholarship recipients who change their major to one not included as an eligible program of study will no longer receive the scholarship beginning the following term.

#### 4. Dropouts and Stopouts

- Scholarship recipients who withdraw their enrollment in the college and/or an eligible program of study will no longer receive the scholarship beginning the following term. While not required by the Commission, as deemed appropriate by the college, the college may require scholarship recipients who dropout or stopout to return a portion of their scholarship to the college.

#### 5. Transfer Students

- Scholarship recipients are awarded Career Scholarships by the Commission based on application to and recommendation by an individual community college. Transfer students between Nebraska colleges who were awarded a scholarship at the sending college may receive a scholarship from the receiving college at the discretion of the receiving college and must follow the incoming college's scholarship application process.

### VIII. REPORTING

#### A. Use and Tracking of Cohorts

Reporting requires colleges to distinguish between scholarship recipient cohorts (students who received a first scholarship during the grant period) and the first-time, full-time cohort of students who entered the institution during the same fall term. Colleges will also need to be able to distinguish between the cohort's first-time students and transfer students. Additionally, colleges will need to be able to distinguish the term within the grant period in which the student first enrolled. Reporting for each grant period will include information on the current cohort of scholarship recipients and all first-time, full-time students in an entering fall cohort reported to IPEDS as well as information on every prior cohort of scholarship recipients and all first-time, full-time students in an entering fall cohort reported to IPEDS.

#### B. Scholarship Recipient Data Requirements

A report by the colleges on each cohort's scholarship recipients is due to the Commission by November 1 each year using the **#YEAR Career Scholarships – Community College Cohort Report.xls** spreadsheets provided by the Commission. This report will include the following information on each scholarship recipient: name; address; email address; social security number; program of study; program of study category; program of study credit status; the certificate/diploma/degree awarded; how the student met initial eligibility; date of program completion; whether they completed the program on time; a short description of their career-related work experience; their enrollment status and scholarship amounts per term; and year 2 and year 3 enrollment and scholarship status. The college must also retain this information for a minimum of five years after the scholarship recipient completes the program.

The Commission may collaborate with the Nebraska Department of Labor to track scholarship recipient employment in Nebraska or assign the responsibility to the colleges. In all cases, the Commission will not share sensitive personally identifiable information and reporting will be provided in aggregate form.



### C. Legislative Reporting

The NCS Act requires that the following information be reported to the Commission, which will in turn submit a report on the NCS Act to the Clerk of the Legislature and Governor by December 1 of each year. The report will include information on each cohort, using the **#YEAR Career Scholarships -- Community Colleges Legislative Report.xls** spreadsheets provided by the Commission, and is due to the Commission by November 1 each year. For the reports due November 1, 2024, the Commission will require submission of historical cohort data to establish trends. Future data submissions will not require duplicate submission of historical cohort data unless corrections or updates have been made.

The report includes metrics tracked by programs of study *aggregated into the corresponding approved occupation categories*:

1. Business, Financial & Administrative Operations
2. Computer & Technology Assistance
3. Architecture & Engineering
4. Healthcare Practitioners & Technical
5. Farming, Fishing, & Forestry
6. Construction & Extraction
7. Installation, Maintenance, & Repair
8. Production
9. Transportation & Material Moving

Additionally, the report requires data reported by credential type, including certificate programs, diploma programs, and degree programs.

**Legislative Requirement 1: The total number of students enrolled in the program in the immediately prior academic year and the total number of students enrolled in the program as of the most recent census date for the community college area (85-3005(6)(a)(i)).**

Reporting notes:

- Enrollment reflects total program enrollment, regardless of individual student scholarship eligibility.
- Enrollment could be duplicated headcount if a student is enrolled in more than one program category.
- Enrollment in for-credit programs includes number of students enrolled on October 15; enrollment in non-credit programs includes total students enrolled in programs that began within the fall term's beginning and end dates.
- This data will be reported by program category and credential type in Career Scholarships Community Colleges Legislative Report.xlsx.

To establish trends, specific data required for reports due November 1, 2024, includes:

- The number of students enrolled on October 15, 2020
- The number of students enrolled on October 15, 2021
- The number of students enrolled on October 15, 2022
- The number of students enrolled on October 15, 2023
- The number of students enrolled on October 15, 2024

**Legislative Requirement 2: The total number of scholarship recipients in the program as of the most recent census date for the community college area (85-3005(6)(a)(ii)).**

Reporting notes:

- Count of scholarship recipients should be deduplicated across terms and programs of study (if a scholarship recipient is enrolled in more than one program of study a primary program of study should be identified).
- This data will be reported by program category and credential type for each Cohort in Career Scholarships Community Colleges Legislative Report.xlsx.

To establish trends, specific data required for reports due November 1, 2024, includes:

- The number of NCS recipients enrolled on October 15, 2020
- The number of NCS recipients enrolled on October 15, 2021
- The number of NCS recipients enrolled on October 15, 2022
- The number of NCS recipients enrolled on October 15, 2023
- The number of NCS recipients enrolled on October 15, 2024

**Legislative Requirement 3: The first-to-second-year retention rate of new scholarship recipients for all eligible programs of study from the immediately prior academic year as compared to the community college's overall first-to-second-year retention rate as reported to IPEDS for the same year (85-3005(6)(b)).**

Reporting notes:

- Count and rates do not include transfer students.
- A scholarship recipient who is enrolled in an eligible program, even if the student changed their program of study, as of the census date of the first term of the following their cohort's grant period is considered retained.
- This data will be reported by credential type for each Cohort in Career Scholarships Community Colleges Legislative Report.xlsx.

To establish trends, specific data required for the reports due November 1, 2024, includes:

- The retention rate of 2021-22 first-time NCS recipients
- The retention rate of 2022-23 first-time NCS recipients
- The retention rate of 2023-24 first-time NCS recipients
- The retention rate of fall 2021 first-time students reported to IPEDS
- The retention rate of fall 2022 first-time students reported to IPEDS
- The retention rate of fall 2023 first-time students reported to IPEDS
- The difference in retention rates of fall 2021 NSC and all first-time students
- The difference in retention rates of fall 2022 NSC and all first-time students
- The difference in retention rates of fall 2023 NSC and all first-time students

**Legislative Requirement 4: The total number of first-time freshman scholarship recipients who complete the program of study by earning the certificate, diploma, or degree that signifies completion and a comparison of the on-time completion rate for scholarship recipients to the overall on-time completion rate for all first-time freshman students (85-3005(6)(c)).**

Reporting notes:

- On-time completion for this report means full-time and part-time students completing a for-credit program of study within 150% of normal time and/or completion of a non-credit certification.
- Only include students who are, or were, enrolled in programs that have reached the on-time completion definition above. For example, on-time completion for students seeking a degree is 6 semesters; those students/programs should not be included in the first or second report for that cohort as not enough time has elapsed for 6 semesters to have completed.
- The on-time completion rate should be calculated as the cohort's on-time completers divided by all students in the cohort (including students who drop out or stop out).
- Data includes only first-time students; it does not include transfer student.
- This data will be reported by credential type for each Cohort in Cohort in Career Scholarships Community Colleges Legislative Report.xlsx.

To establish trends, specific data required for the reports due November 1, 2024, includes:

- The number of 2021-22 first-time freshman NCS scholarship recipients who have completed their eligible program of study
- The number of 2022-23 first-time freshman NCS scholarship recipients who have completed their eligible program of study
- The number of 2023-24 first-time freshman NCS scholarship recipients who have completed their eligible program of study
- The on-time completion rate of 2021-22 first-time freshman NCS recipients who completed their eligible program of study
- The on-time completion rate of 2022-23 first-time freshman NCS recipients who completed their eligible program of study
- The on-time completion rate of 2023-24 first-time freshman NCS recipients who completed their eligible program of study
- The on-time completion rate of all 2021-22 first-time freshman who completed their eligible program of study
- The on-time completion rate of all 2022-23 first-time freshman who completed their eligible program of study
- The on-time completion rate of all 2023-24 first-time freshman who completed their eligible program of study
- The difference in on-time completion rates between 2021-22 first-time freshman NSC recipients and all first-time freshman who completed their eligible program of study
- The difference in on-time completion rates between 2022-23 first-time freshman NSC recipients and all first-time freshman who completed their eligible program of study
- The difference in on-time completion rates between 2023-24 first-time freshman NSC recipients and all first-time freshman who completed their eligible program of study

**Legislative Requirement 5: The number of scholarship recipients obtaining employment in the state within five fiscal quarters of completion of an eligible program of student using Department of Labor data (85-3005(6)(d)).**

Reporting notes:

- Data should include scholarship recipients who obtained a job in Nebraska within five quarters after the quarter in which they completed their program of study or as of September 30 each year, whichever is sooner.
- Due to the timing of the report, this may not include all program completers where five quarters after the quarter in which they completed the program of study have not passed.
- This data will be reported by credential type for each Cohort in Career Scholarships – Cohort # YEAR Report.xlsx, Report B tab.

Specific data required includes:

- The number of all scholarship recipients who completed an eligible program of study and obtained a job in Nebraska within five quarters after the quarter in which they completed their program of study.

## APPENDIX A. Identified Shortage Area and Skilled Trade Occupations

### Business, Financial & Administrative Operations Occupations

<u>SOC code</u>	<u>Description</u>
13-1031	Claims Adjusters, Examiners, and Investigators
13-1051	Cost Estimators
13-1111	Management Analysts
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors
13-2072	Loan Officers
43-3011	Bill and Account Collectors
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks

### Computer & Technology Assistance Occupations

<u>SOC code</u>	<u>Description</u>
15-1221	Computer and Information Research Scientists
15-1231	Computer Network Support Specialists
15-1232	Computer User Support Specialists
15-1251	Computer Programmers
15-1252	Software Developers
15-1253	Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers
15-1254	Web Developers
15-1255	Web and Digital Interface Designers
15-1299	Computer Occupations, All Other

### Architecture & Engineering Occupations

<u>SOC code</u>	<u>Description</u>
17-3011	Architectural and Civil Drafters
17-3012	Electrical and Electronics Drafters
17-3013	Mechanical Drafters
17-3019	Drafters, All Other
17-3021	Aerospace Engineering and Operations Technologists and Technicians
17-3022	Civil Engineering Technologists and Technicians
17-3023	Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technologists and Technicians
17-3024	Electro-Mechanical and Mechatronics Technologists and Technicians
17-3025	Environmental Engineering Technologists and Technicians
17-3026	Industrial Engineering Technologists and Technicians
17-3027	Mechanical Engineering Technologists and Technicians
17-3028	Calibration Technologists and Technicians
17-3029	Engineering Technologists and Technicians, Except Drafters, All Other
17-3031	Surveying and Mapping Technicians

### Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations

<u>SOC code</u>	<u>Description</u>
29-1124	Radiation Therapists
29-1126	Respiratory Therapists
29-1141	Registered Nurses
29-2011	Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists
29-2012	Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians
29-2031	Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians
29-2032	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers
29-2033	Nuclear Medicine Technologists

29-2034	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians
29-2035	Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologists
29-2036	Medical Dosimetrists
29-2042	Emergency Medical Technicians
29-2043	Paramedics
29-2051	Dietetic Technicians
29-2052	Pharmacy Technicians
29-2053	Psychiatric Technicians
29-2055	Surgical Technologists
29-2056	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians
29-2057	Ophthalmic Medical Technicians
29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
29-2072	Medical Records Specialists
29-2081	Opticians, Dispensing
29-2091	Orthotists and Prosthetists
29-2092	Hearing Aid Specialists
29-2099	Health Technologists and Technicians, All Other

### **Farming, Fishing, & Forestry Occupations**

<u>SOC code</u>	<u>Description</u>
45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals

### **Construction & Extraction Occupations**

<u>SOC code</u>	<u>Description</u>
47-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers
47-2011	Boilermakers
47-2021	Brickmasons and Blockmasons
47-2022	Stonemasons
47-2031	Carpenters
47-2061	Construction Laborers
47-2073	Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators
47-2111	Electricians
47-2152	Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters
47-4011	Construction and Building Inspectors
47-4021	Elevator and Escalator Installers and Repairers

### **Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Occupations**

<u>SOC code</u>	<u>Description</u>
49-2011	Computer, Automated Teller, and Office Machine Repairers
49-2021	Radio, Cellular, and Tower Equipment Installers and Repairers
49-2022	Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers, Except Line Installers
49-2091	Avionics Technicians
49-2092	Electric Motor, Power Tool, and Related Repairers
49-2093	Electrical and Electronics Installers and Repairers, Transportation Equipment
49-2094	Electrical and Electronics Repairers, Commercial and Industrial Equipment
49-2095	Electrical and Electronics Repairers, Powerhouse, Substation, and Relay
49-2096	Electronic Equipment Installers and Repairers, Motor Vehicles
49-2097	Audiovisual Equipment Installers and Repairers
49-2098	Security and Fire Alarm Systems Installers
49-3011	Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians
49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics

49-3031	Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists
49-3041	Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians
49-3042	Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics, Except Engines
49-3043	Rail Car Repairers
49-9021	Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics
49-9051	Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers
49-9052	Telecommunications Line Installers and Repairers
49-9071	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General

### **Production Occupations**

<u>SOC code</u>	<u>Description</u>
51-4041	Machinists
51-4081	Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic
51-4111	Tool and Die Makers
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers

### **Transportation & Material Moving Occupations**

<u>SOC code</u>	<u>Description</u>
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers

## APPENDIX B. Program of Study 2020 CIP Codes and Titles Corresponding with Identified Shortage Areas and Skilled Trade Occupations

<u>CIP Code</u>	<u>Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Title</u>
01.0000	Agriculture, General.
01.0101	Agricultural Business and Management, General.
01.0106	Agricultural Business Technology/Technician.
01.0201	Agricultural Mechanization, General.
01.0204	Agricultural Power Machinery Operation.
01.0205	Agricultural Mechanics and Equipment/Machine Technology/Technician.
01.0207	Irrigation Management Technology/Technician.
01.0299	Agricultural Mechanization, Other.
01.0310	Apiculture.
01.8301	Veterinary/Animal Health Technology/Technician and Veterinary Assistant.
01.8399	Veterinary/Animal Health Technologies/Technicians, Other.
04.0901	Architectural Technology/Technician.
04.0902	Architectural and Building Sciences/Technology.
04.0999	Architectural Sciences and Technology, Other.
09.0702	Digital Communication and Media/Multimedia.
11.0101	Computer and Information Sciences, General.
11.0102	Artificial Intelligence.
11.0103	Information Technology.
11.0104	Informatics.
11.0105	Human-Centered Technology Design.
11.0199	Computer and Information Sciences, Other.
11.0201	Computer Programming/Programmer, General.
11.0202	Computer Programming, Specific Applications.
11.0203	Computer Programming, Vendor/Product Certification.
11.0204	Computer Game Programming.
11.0205	Computer Programming, Specific Platforms.
11.0299	Computer Programming, Other.
11.0301	Data Processing and Data Processing Technology/Technician.
11.0401	Information Science/Studies.
11.0501	Computer Systems Analysis/Analyst.
11.0701	Computer Science.
11.0801	Web Page, Digital/Multimedia and Information Resources Design.
11.0803	Computer Graphics.
11.0804	Modeling, Virtual Environments and Simulation.
11.0901	Computer Systems Networking and Telecommunications.
11.0902	Cloud Computing.
11.1001	Network and System Administration/Administrator.
11.1002	System, Networking, and LAN/WAN Management/Manager.
11.1003	Computer and Information Systems Security/Auditing/Information Assurance.
11.1004	Web/Multimedia Management and Webmaster.
11.1005	Information Technology Project Management.



11.1006	Computer Support Specialist.
13.0601	Educational Evaluation and Research.
13.0603	Educational Statistics and Research Methods.
13.0604	Educational Assessment, Testing, and Measurement.
13.0608	Institutional Research.
13.0699	Educational Assessment, Evaluation, and Research, Other.
14.0202	Astronautical Engineering.
14.0299	Aerospace, Aeronautical, and Astronautical/Space Engineering, Other.
14.0901	Computer Engineering, General.
14.0903	Computer Software Engineering.
14.1801	Materials Engineering.
14.1901	Mechanical Engineering.
14.3301	Construction Engineering.
14.3601	Manufacturing Engineering.
15.0000	Engineering Technologies/Technicians, General.
15.0001	Applied Engineering Technologies/Technicians.
15.0101	Architectural Engineering Technologies/Technicians.
15.0201	Civil Engineering Technologies/Technicians.
15.0303	Electrical, Electronic, and Communications Engineering Technology/Technician.
15.0304	Laser and Optical Technology/Technician.
15.0305	Telecommunications Technology/Technician.
15.0306	Integrated Circuit Design Technology/Technician.
15.0307	Audio Engineering Technology/Technician.
15.0399	Electrical/Electronic Engineering Technologies/Technicians, Other.
15.0401	Biomedical Technology/Technician.
15.0403	Electromechanical/Electromechanical Engineering Technology/Technician.
15.0404	Instrumentation Technology/Technician.
15.0405	Robotics Technology/Technician.
15.0406	Automation Engineer Technology/Technician.
15.0407	Mechatronics, Robotics, and Automation Engineering Technology/Technician.
15.0499	Electromechanical Technologies/Technicians, Other.
15.0501	Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Engineering Technology/Technician.
15.0506	Water Quality and Wastewater Treatment Management and Recycling Technology/Technician.
15.0507	Environmental/Environmental Engineering Technology/Technician.
15.0508	Hazardous Materials Management and Waste Technology/Technician.
15.0599	Environmental Control Technologies/Technicians, Other.
15.0607	Plastics and Polymer Engineering Technology/Technician.
15.0611	Metallurgical Technology/Technician.
15.0612	Industrial Technology/Technician.
15.0613	Manufacturing Engineering Technology/Technician.
15.0614	Welding Engineering Technology/Technician.
15.0615	Chemical Engineering Technology/Technician.
15.0616	Semiconductor Manufacturing Technology/Technician.
15.0617	Composite Materials Technology/Technician.
15.0699	Industrial Production Technologies/Technicians, Other.

15.0701	Occupational Safety and Health Technology/Technician.
15.0702	Quality Control Technology/Technician.
15.0703	Industrial Safety Technology/Technician.
15.0704	Hazardous Materials Information Systems Technology/Technician.
15.0705	Process Safety Technology/Technician.
15.0801	Aeronautical/Aerospace Engineering Technology/Technician.
15.0803	Automotive Engineering Technology/Technician.
15.0805	Mechanical/Mechanical Engineering Technology/Technician.
15.0806	Marine Engineering Technology/Technician.
15.0807	Motorsports Engineering Technology/Technician.
15.0899	Mechanical Engineering Related Technologies/Technicians, Other.
15.0901	Mining Technology/Technician.
15.1001	Construction Engineering Technology/Technician.
15.1102	Surveying Technology/Surveying.
15.1103	Hydraulics and Fluid Power Technology/Technician.
15.1201	Computer Engineering Technology/Technician.
15.1202	Computer/Computer Systems Technology/Technician.
15.1203	Computer Hardware Technology/Technician.
15.1204	Computer Software Technology/Technician.
15.1299	Computer Engineering Technologies/Technicians, Other.
15.1301	Drafting and Design Technology/Technician, General.
15.1302	CAD/CADD Drafting and/or Design Technology/Technician.
15.1303	Architectural Drafting and Architectural CAD/CADD.
15.1304	Civil Drafting and Civil Engineering CAD/CADD.
15.1305	Electrical/Electronics Drafting and Electrical/Electronics CAD/CADD.
15.1306	Mechanical Drafting and Mechanical Drafting CAD/CADD.
15.1307	3-D Modeling and Design Technology/Technician.
15.1399	Drafting/Design Engineering Technologies/Technicians, Other.
15.1401	Nuclear Engineering Technology/Technician.
15.1501	Engineering/Industrial Management.
15.1503	Packaging Science.
15.1701	Energy Systems Technology/Technician.
15.1702	Power Plant Technology/Technician.
15.1703	Solar Energy Technology/Technician.
15.1704	Wind Energy Technology/Technician.
15.1705	Hydroelectric Energy Technology/Technician.
15.1706	Geothermal Energy Technology/Technician.
15.1799	Energy Systems Technologies/Technicians, Other.
19.0501	Foods, Nutrition, and Wellness Studies, General.
26.0401	Cell/Cellular Biology and Histology.
26.1006	Environmental Toxicology.
26.1103	Bioinformatics.
26.1104	Computational Biology.
27.0601	Applied Statistics, General.
29.0303	Engineering Acoustics.

29.0306	Operational Oceanography.
29.0307	Undersea Warfare.
29.0401	Aerospace Ground Equipment Technology.
29.0402	Air and Space Operations Technology.
29.0409	Radar Communications and Systems Technology.
30.0801	Mathematics and Computer Science.
30.1601	Accounting and Computer Science.
30.1901	Nutrition Sciences.
30.3001	Computational Science.
30.3101	Human Computer Interaction.
30.3901	Economics and Computer Science.
30.4801	Linguistics and Computer Science.
30.7001	Data Science, General.
30.7099	Data Science, Other.
30.7101	Data Analytics, General.
30.7102	Business Analytics.
30.7103	Data Visualization.
30.7104	Financial Analytics.
30.7199	Data Analytics, Other.
40.0512	Cheminformatics/Chemistry Informatics.
42.2804	Industrial and Organizational Psychology.
43.0403	Cyber/Computer Forensics and Counterterrorism.
43.0405	Financial Forensics and Fraud Investigation.
45.0701	Geography.
45.0702	Geographic Information Science and Cartography.
46.0000	Construction Trades, General.
46.0101	Mason/Masonry.
46.0201	Carpentry/Carpenter.
46.0301	Electrical and Power Transmission Installation/Installer, General.
46.0302	Electrician.
46.0303	Lineworker.
46.0399	Electrical and Power Transmission Installers, Other.
46.0401	Building/Property Maintenance.
46.0402	Concrete Finishing/Concrete Finisher.
46.0403	Building/Home/Construction Inspection/Inspector.
46.0404	Drywall Installation/Drywaller.
46.0406	Glazier.
46.0408	Painting/Painter and Wall Coverer.
46.0410	Roofer.
46.0412	Building/Construction Site Management/Manager.
46.0413	Carpet, Floor, and Tile Worker.
46.0414	Insulator.
46.0415	Building Construction Technology/Technician.
46.0415	Building Construction Technology.
46.0499	Building/Construction Finishing, Management, and Inspection, Other.
46.0502	Pipefitting/Pipefitter and Sprinkler Fitter.

46.0503	Plumbing Technology/Plumber.
46.0504	Well Drilling/Driller.
46.0505	Blasting/Blaster.
46.0599	Plumbing and Related Water Supply Services, Other.
47.0101	Electrical/Electronics Equipment Installation and Repair Technology/Technician, General.
47.0102	Business Machine Repair.
47.0103	Communications Systems Installation and Repair Technology/Technician.
47.0104	Computer Installation and Repair Technology/Technician.
47.0105	Industrial Electronics Technology/Technician.
47.0110	Security System Installation, Repair, and Inspection Technology/Technician.
47.0199	Electrical/Electronics Maintenance and Repair Technologies/Technicians, Other.
47.0201	Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation and Refrigeration Maintenance Technology/Technician.
47.0302	Heavy Equipment Maintenance Technology/Technician.
47.0303	Industrial Mechanics and Maintenance Technology/Technician.
47.0600	Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Technology/Technician, General.
47.0603	Autobody/Collision and Repair Technology/Technician.
47.0604	Automobile/Automotive Mechanics Technology/Technician.
47.0605	Diesel Mechanics Technology/Technician.
47.0607	Airframe Mechanics and Aircraft Maintenance Technology/Technician.
47.0608	Aircraft Powerplant Technology/Technician.
47.0609	Avionics Maintenance Technology/Technician.
47.0612	Vehicle Emissions Inspection and Maintenance Technology/Technician.
47.0613	Medium/Heavy Vehicle and Truck Technology/Technician.
47.0614	Alternative Fuel Vehicle Technology/Technician.
47.0617	High Performance and Custom Engine Technician/Mechanic.
47.0701	Energy Systems Installation and Repair Technology/Technician.
47.0705	Hydroelectric Energy System Installation and Repair Technology/Technician.
47.0706	Geothermal Energy System Installation and Repair Technology/Technician.
48.0501	Machine Tool Technology/Machinist.
48.0503	Machine Shop Technology/Assistant.
48.0507	Tool and Die Technology/Technician.
48.0508	Welding Technology/Welder.
48.0801	Boilermaking/Boilermaker.
49.0202	Construction/Heavy Equipment/Earthmoving Equipment Operation.
49.0205	Truck and Bus Driver/Commercial Vehicle Operator and Instructor.
49.0206	Mobil Crane Operator/Operation.
50.0401	Design and Visual Communications, General.
50.0409	Graphic Design.
51.0602	Dental Hygiene/Hygienist.
51.0706	Health Information/Medical Records Administration/Administrator.
51.0707	Health Information/Medical Records Technology/Technician.
51.0709	Medical Office Computer Specialist/Assistant.
51.0713	Medical Insurance Coding Specialist/Coder.
51.0715	Health/Medical Claims Examiner.

51.0721	Disease Registry Data Management.
51.0802	Clinical/Medical Laboratory Assistant.
51.0803	Occupational Therapist Assistant.
51.0805	Pharmacy Technician/Assistant.
51.0811	Pathology/Pathologist Assistant.
51.0812	Respiratory Therapy Technician/Assistant.
51.0814	Radiologist Assistant.
51.0901	Cardiovascular Technology/Technologist.
51.0902	Electrocardiograph Technology/Technician.
51.0903	Electroneurodiagnostic/Electroencephalographic Technology/Technologist.
51.0904	Emergency Medical Technology/Technician (EMT Paramedic).
51.0905	Nuclear Medical Technology/Technologist.
51.0906	Perfusion Technology/Perfusionist.
51.0907	Medical Radiologic Technology/Science - Radiation Therapist.
51.0908	Respiratory Care Therapy/Therapist.
51.0909	Surgical Technology/Technologist.
51.0910	Diagnostic Medical Sonography/Sonographer and Ultrasound Technician.
51.0911	Radiologic Technology/Science - Radiographer.
51.0914	Gene/Genetic Therapy.
51.0915	Cardiopulmonary Technology/Technologist.
51.0916	Radiation Protection/Health Physics Technician.
51.0917	Polysomnography.
51.0918	Hearing Instrument Specialist.
51.0919	Mammography Technology/Technician.
51.0920	Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Technology/Technician.
51.0921	Hyperbaric Medicine Technology/Technician.
51.0922	Intraoperative Neuromonitoring Technology/Technician.
51.0923	Orthopedic Technology/Technician.
51.0999	Allied Health Diagnostic, Intervention, and Treatment Professions, Other.
51.1001	Blood Bank Technology Specialist.
51.1002	Cytotechnology/Cytotechnologist.
51.1003	Hematology Technology/Technician.
51.1004	Clinical/Medical Laboratory Technician.
51.1005	Clinical Laboratory Science/Medical Technology/Technologist.
51.1007	Histologic Technology/Histotechnologist.
51.1008	Histologic Technician.
51.1010	Cytogenetics/Genetics/Clinical Genetics Technology/Technologist.
51.1011	Renal/Dialysis Technologist/Technician.
51.1012	Sterile Processing Technology/Technician.
51.1099	Clinical/Medical Laboratory Science and Allied Professions, Other.
51.1502	Psychiatric/Mental Health Services Technician.
51.1801	Opticianry/Ophthalmic Dispensing Optician.
51.1802	Optometric Technician/Assistant.
51.1803	Ophthalmic Technician/Technologist.
51.1804	Orthoptics/Orthoptist.
51.2307	Orthotist/Prosthetist.
51.2312	Assistive/Augmentative Technology and Rehabilitation Engineering.
51.2706	Medical Informatics.

51.3101	Dietetics/Dietitian.
51.3103	Dietetic Technician.
51.3104	Dietitian Assistant.
51.3801	Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse.
51.3802	Nursing Administration.
51.3803	Adult Health Nurse/Nursing.
51.3805	Family Practice Nurse/Nursing.
51.3806	Maternal/Child Health and Neonatal Nurse/Nursing.
51.3808	Nursing Science.
51.3809	Pediatric Nurse/Nursing.
51.3810	Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse/Nursing.
51.3811	Public Health/Community Nurse/Nursing.
51.3812	Perioperative/Operating Room and Surgical Nurse/Nursing.
51.3813	Clinical Nurse Specialist.
51.3814	Critical Care Nursing.
51.3815	Occupational and Environmental Health Nursing.
51.3816	Emergency Room/Trauma Nursing.
51.3818	Nursing Practice.
51.3819	Palliative Care Nursing.
51.3820	Clinical Nurse Leader.
51.3821	Geriatric Nurse/Nursing.
51.3822	Women's Health Nurse/Nursing.
51.3824	Forensic Nursing.
51.3899	Registered Nursing, Nursing Administration, Nursing Research and Clinical Nursing, Other.
51.3901	Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurse Training.
51.3999	Practical Nursing, Vocational Nursing and Nursing Assistants, Other.
52.0101	Business/Commerce, General.
52.0201	Business Administration and Management, General.
52.0213	Organizational Leadership.
52.0301	Accounting.
52.0302	Accounting Technology/Technician and Bookkeeping.
52.0303	Auditing.
52.0304	Accounting and Finance.
52.0305	Accounting and Business/Management.
52.0601	Business/Managerial Economics.
52.0801	Finance, General.
52.0803	Banking and Financial Support Services.
52.0809	Credit Management.
52.1201	Management Information Systems, General.
52.1301	Management Science.
52.1404	Digital Marketing.
52.1601	Taxation.
52.1701	Insurance.

## Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education

**Subject:** Approval of amendments to Chapter 5 – Rules and Regulations Concerning the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act

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**Committee Recommendation:** That the Commission approve amendments to Chapter 5 – Rules and Regulations Concerning the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act.

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LB 705, passed in 2023, amended the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act to 1.) elaborate the definition of “located in Nebraska” to include specific criteria for physical locations, and 2.) change terms from “expected family contribution” to “student aid index” pursuant to changes in federal law. The Office of the Attorney General has conducted a courtesy review of the proposed rules and regulations, and the suggestions of the Assistant Attorney General have been incorporated.

The process of adopting rules includes multiple steps and opportunities for public input. Approval by the Commission at its July 26, 2024, meeting will be the first step. The complete process is described in the timeline below. While rules and regulations are chapters in the Nebraska Administrative Code, they are commonly referred to as Rules, and Chapter 5 is referred to synonymously with Rule 5.

### Proposed Timeline

7/15/24	Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee consideration of Rule 5 -- Rules and Regulations Concerning the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act
7/26/24	Commission to vote on proposed Rule 5 amendments
On or about 8/13/24	Publish notice of public hearing in newspaper for Rules 1, 5, and 8 (30 days required)
On or about 9/18/24	Hold public hearing on Rule 5 (in conjunction with Rules 1 and 8)
10/3/24	Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee to consider final adoption of amendments to Rule 5 -- Rules and Regulations Concerning the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act
10/11/24	Commission to vote on final rules
On or about 10/25/24	Submit documents to Attorney General, Governor’s Office, and Secretary of State for approval

TITLE 281, NEBRASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, CHAPTER 5  
COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION  
RULES AND REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE  
NEBRASKA OPPORTUNITY GRANT ACT



TITLE 281 - COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

CHAPTER 5 – RULES AND REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE NEBRASKA OPPORTUNITY  
GRANT ACT

**NUMERICAL TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>STATUTORY AUTHORITY</b>	<b>CODE SECTION</b>
Purpose and Objectives	Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1911	001
Statutory Authority	Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1901 to 85-1919	002
Definitions	Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1903 to 85-1910	003
Commission Responsibilities	Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1912, 85-1914 and 85-1917	004
Institutional Responsibilities	Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1913, 85-1916, and 85-1918	005
Student Responsibilities	Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1915, 85-1916	006
Appeal Process	Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1917	007

TITLE 281 - COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

CHAPTER 5 – RULES AND REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE NEBRASKA OPPORTUNITY  
GRANT ACT

**ALPHABETICAL TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>STATUTORY AUTHORITY</b>	<b>CODE SECTION</b>
Appeal Process	Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1917	007
Commission Responsibilities	Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 85-1912, 85-1914 and 85-1917	004
Definitions	Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 85-1903 to 85-1910	003
Institutional Responsibilities	Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 85-1913, 85-1916, and 85-1918	005
Purpose and Objectives	Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1911	001
Statutory Authority	Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 85-1901 to 85-1919	002
Student Responsibilities	Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 85-1915, 85-1916	006

## TITLE 281 - COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

### CHAPTER 5 – RULES AND REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE NEBRASKA OPPORTUNITY GRANT ACT

#### 001. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES.

001.01 The purpose of the Nebraska Opportunity Grant ~~Act~~ is to enhance the educational opportunities of Nebraska resident students by providing direct financial assistance to eligible students, based on financial need, attending eligible postsecondary institutions.

002. STATUTORY AUTHORITY. This rule is adopted pursuant to authority granted to the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 85-1901 through 85-19~~20~~19.

002.01 Chapter 85, Sections 1903 through 1910 relating to definitions of eligible students, eligible postsecondary institutions, and tuition and mandatory fees.

002.02 Chapter 85, Sections 1911 through 1914 relating to the process and procedures for distribution of grants to students based on financial need.

002.03 Chapter 85, Section 1915 relating to criteria for granting an award to an eligible student.

002.04 Chapter 85, Sections 1912, 1914, 1917 and 1919 relating to the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education's responsibilities.

002.05 Chapter 85, Sections 1913, 1916 and 1918 relating to eligible postsecondary educational institutions responsibilities.

#### 003. DEFINITIONS.

003.01 Commission ~~shall mean~~ the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education.

003.02 Postsecondary Education ~~shall mean~~ the provision of a formal instructional program whose curriculum is designed primarily for students who are beyond the compulsory age for high school. This includes programs whose purpose is academic, vocational, and continuing professional education.

003.03 Eligible Postsecondary Educational Institution ~~shall mean~~ a public or private educational institution located in Nebraska which: (1) is primarily engaged in the instruction of students; (2) is satisfying the provisions of Nebraska law relating to the approval and licensure of schools, colleges, and universities; (3) is maintaining accreditation by an accrediting organization recognized by the U.S. Department of Education; (4) is offering courses of instruction in regularly scheduled classes to regularly enrolled undergraduate students who reside in Nebraska and who have received high school diplomas or the equivalent; and (5) shall have adopted award refund and repayment policies and must make the policies available for inspection by all who request such information.

003.04 ~~Expected Family Contribution Student Aid Index~~ shall means a measure of how much the student and his or her family can be expected to contribute to the cost of the student's education for the applicable academic year and is calculated according to a formula specified in federal law.

003.05 ~~Yearly Maximum Expected Family Contribution Student Aid Index~~ shall means 110% of the maximum ~~Expected Family Contribution Student Aid Index~~ to qualify for a Federal Pell Grant for the applicable award year.

003.06 Eligible Student shall means an individual who (1) is domiciled in Nebraska as provided in Neb. Rev. State. § 85-502; (2) is enrolled as a full- or part-time undergraduate student in an eligible program at an eligible postsecondary institution; and (3) has applied for federal financial aid through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid for the applicable award year and has ~~an Expected Family Contribution Student Aid Index which is~~ equal to or less than the Yearly Maximum ~~Expected Family Contribution Student Aid Index~~.

003.07 Full-time Equivalency shall means the total number of credit or clock hours taken by eligible students divided by 24 semester, 36 quarter, or 900 clock hours as appropriate. The determination of full-time students shall be based upon the directives in Section 003.08 of these rules and regulations and an award year shall be as defined in Section 003.14.

003.08 Full-time Student shall means:

003.08(A) For enrollment calculations of full-time equivalent students, an individual who is enrolled in at least 24 semester credit hours, 36 quarter credit hours, or 900 clock hours per award year; or

003.08(B) For tuition and mandatory fee determination, an individual who is enrolled in at least 30 semester credit hours, 45 quarter credit hours, or 900 clock hours per award year.

003.09 Enrollment shall means the establishment and maintenance of an individual's status as a student in a postsecondary institution, regardless of the definition used at that institution.

003.10 Undergraduate Student shall means an individual who has not earned a first baccalaureate or professional degree and is enrolled in a postsecondary educational program which leads to, or is creditable toward, a first baccalaureate degree, associate degree, certificate, diploma, or equivalent.

003.11 Financial Need shall means the financial need determined by an eligible postsecondary educational institution for each student in accordance with the federal needs analysis prescribed in Part F of Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended.

003.12 Substantial Financial Need shall means the need demonstrated by a student who meets the Yearly Maximum ~~Expected Family Contribution Student Aid Index~~, as defined in Section 003.05.

003.13 Award shall means a grant of money to an eligible student for educational expenses. Awards shall not exceed fifty percent of the tuition and mandatory fees for a full-time, resident, undergraduate student for the last completed award year at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

003.14 Award Year shall means that period from July 1<sup>st</sup> of one year through June 30<sup>th</sup> of the succeeding year.

003.15 Award Period shall means that period of time, as defined by the institution, for which an award is given (example: semester, quarter, 450 contact hours, etc.)

003.16 Tuition and Mandatory Fees ~~shall~~ **means** the lesser of the student costs for tuition and mandatory fees for a full-time resident undergraduate student for the last completed award year at the eligible postsecondary educational institution or the student costs for tuition and mandatory fees for a full-time resident undergraduate student for the last completed award year at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

003.17 Educational Expenses ~~shall~~ **means** student costs for tuition, mandatory fees, other education related fees, room and board, books, and other costs related to students' education.

003.18 Eligible Program ~~shall~~ **means** a program of study that is eligible to be funded with federal Title IV funds, as defined by federal regulations.

003.19 Target Level of Funds shall represent the maximum amount of dollars that may be awarded pursuant to the Act to eligible students enrolled in eligible postsecondary educational institutions.

003.20 Located in Nebraska **means that a postsecondary educational institution (1) has established a physical location in Nebraska where students may receive instruction, and (2) maintains an administrative office in Nebraska for the purposes of enrolling students, providing information to students about the institution, and providing student support services.**

#### 004. COMMISSION RESPONSIBILITIES.

004.01 The Commission shall determine a target level of funds to be distributed to students at each eligible postsecondary educational institution. The target is the maximum total amount that may be awarded to eligible students enrolled at eligible postsecondary education institutions, which will be determined as follows:

004.01(A) Determine the number of eligible full-time-equivalent students enrolled at the eligible postsecondary educational institution for the last completed award year;

004.01(B) Multiply the number determined in subdivision (1) of this section by the tuition and mandatory fees as limited pursuant to Section 003.16 of this rule;

004.01(C) Divide the product derived pursuant to subdivision (2) of this section for each eligible postsecondary educational institution by the sum of the products derived pursuant to subdivision (2) of this section for all eligible postsecondary educational institutions; and

004.01 (D) Multiply the total dollars appropriated for purposes of distribution pursuant to the Act by the ratio derived pursuant to subdivision (3) of this section.

004.02 Prior to June 1 of each award year, the Commission shall receive a recommendation from each eligible postsecondary educational institution listing proposed awards to eligible students, including name, social security number of each eligible student, and amount of proposed award for each eligible student and other information necessary for the Commission to determine compliance with the Act.

004.03 Within thirty days after receiving recommendations pursuant to 004.02 of this rule, the Commission shall review the recommended awards for compliance with the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act, its rules and regulations, and notify each eligible postsecondary educational institution of the approval or disapproval of recommended awards.

004.04 If awards are disapproved, the eligible postsecondary institution may resubmit the recommended list of awards to eligible students after modifying the recommendation to address the disapproved awards. The Commission will review the modified list of recommendations in a timely manner.

004.05 Upon approval of awards, the Commission shall distribute funds appropriated to the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act to each eligible institution, based on the level of approved awards, for direct disbursement to eligible students as determined by the Commission according to the provisions of the Act.

004.06 Each eligible institution shall submit annually to the Commission a year-end report pertaining to the dollars distributed to students within the last completed award year. Only those institutions providing this information are eligible for participation in the program.

004.07 The Commission shall supervise the issuance of public information concerning the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act.

004.08 The Commission shall assure through regular audits and reports that institutions, as agents of the Commission, maintain fiscal control and fund accounting procedures as are necessary to assure proper disbursement of funds and compliance with the Act.

#### 005. INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES. (as agents of the Commission)

005.01 The eligible postsecondary educational institution shall act as an agent of the Commission to disburse the awards directly to eligible students during the award year.

005.02 As agents of the Commission, the eligible postsecondary educational institutions shall:

005.02(A) Receive and process applications for awards from enrolled students as determined by the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act.

005.02(B) Determine eligibility of students based on criteria established in Commission rules and regulations as set forth in the definitions of the Act.

005.02(C) Determine awards without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, or handicap.

005.02(D) Submit, prior to June 1 of each award year, recommendations as often as necessary to the Commission for awards to eligible students, including the name of each eligible student, social security number of each eligible student, the recommended amount for each eligible student, and other information necessary for the Commission to determine compliance with the Act.

005.02(E) After notification of approval of awards to eligible students and distribution of total award amounts approved for eligible students by the Commission, disburse the awards directly to the eligible students during the award year.

005.02(F) Require all award recipients to certify that the award will be used only for educational expenses.

005.03 Maintenance of all recipient records of awards shall be the responsibility of the eligible postsecondary educational institution.

005.04 Disbursement of awards made by an institution shall cover at least one award period but no more than one award year. This does not prevent an institution from making awards to the same students in successive years.

005.05 To participate in the Act, all eligible postsecondary educational institutions shall complete an annual application and statement of assurance provided by the Commission for such purpose. Postsecondary educational institutions failing to complete these documents, in their entirety within the time period allowed, may be deemed ineligible to participate in the Act for the application award year. (See Appendices A and B)

005.06 An audit trail shall be established by each participating institution. Institutional and student records are subject to normal auditing procedures by the State of Nebraska and the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education pursuant to the requirement that institutions maintain fiscal and fund accounting procedures necessary to assure proper disbursement of funds and compliance with the Act.

005.07 Any award recipient that discontinues attendance before the end of the award year shall remit any award balance allowable to the eligible postsecondary institution pursuant to the institution's withdrawal policy.

005.08 Award funds not awarded within the award year in which the funds were allocated shall be returned to the Commission by the institution at a time specified by the Commission.

005.09 Eligible institution reporting requirements:

005.09(A) The eligible postsecondary educational institution shall submit yearly reports as requested by the Commission. The reports shall include, but not be limited to: recipient's name, recipient's social security number, amount disbursed to recipient, each recipient's ~~Expected Family Contribution (EFC)~~ Student Aid Index (SAI) amount, recipient's ~~income level and~~ enrollment status, whether the recipient is a dependent student or independent student, and the institution's unmet need data as defined by the Commission.

005.09(B) The eligible postsecondary educational institution shall comply with the Commission's request for reports to verify award amounts and eligibility of individual student recipients. Any eligible postsecondary educational institution not providing the requested reports as outlined by the Commission within the time period allowed shall be deemed in non-compliance with the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act and may be ineligible to participate in the Act and receive grant funding for eligible students.

005.10 Aid may not be awarded or disbursed from this Act if that aid, when combined with all other resources, would exceed the student's financial need or is not in compliance with federal award guidelines.

## 006. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES.

006.01 A student shall apply for federal financial aid through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid for the applicable award year.

006.02 A student shall have an ~~Expected Family Contribution~~ Student Aid Index of no more than the Yearly Maximum ~~Expected Family Contribution~~ Student Aid Index for the current award year.

006.03 The student shall complete a financial aid application at the eligible postsecondary education institution to be eligible to be considered for an award.

006.04 A student shall be an undergraduate and a resident who is domiciled in Nebraska as provided by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-502.

006.05 A student receiving an award under the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act shall certify that the award will be used for educational expenses only.

006.06 The student shall maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined by the institution.

006.07 If the student award recipient discontinues attendance before the end of an award period, the student shall remit to the institution any award balances in accordance with the institution's withdrawal or refund policy addressing that issue.

## 007. STUDENT APPEAL PROCESS.

007.01 Students who are adversely affected by the actions of the Commission or an eligible postsecondary educational institution in the distribution of funds or granting of awards may appeal the decision.

007.01(A) Students shall first make an appeal directly through the eligible postsecondary educational institution's financial aid appeal procedure.

007.01(B) Students who desire further consideration of an institutional decision may appeal, in writing, to the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education within 21 calendar days of the institutional decision. The decision of the Commission shall be binding.



## Nebraska Opportunity Grant Application XXXX-XX Academic Year

Institution \_\_\_\_\_

**Please read the instructions carefully.** Complete and return via mail to J. Ritchie Morrow, Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, P.O. Box 95005, Lincoln, NE 68509-5005, via fax at 402.471.2886, or via e-mail at [Ritchie.Morrow@nebraska.gov](mailto:Ritchie.Morrow@nebraska.gov) by **[Date]**. Please make sure that the application **and** the Statement of Assurance are signed and dated.

\_\_\_\_\_A. Is the teaching calendar at your institution based on semester credit hours (SCH), quarter credit hours (QCH), or clock hours (CH)?

\_\_\_\_\_B. **Number of eligible students** - for the award year July 1, YYYY to June 30, YYYY, the total number of Nebraska resident students who have not earned a bachelor's degree and whose ~~EFC~~ SAI was equal to or less than [the yearly maximum ~~EFC~~ SAI for the current award year].

\_\_\_\_\_1. Of those students listed in "B" above, the total number of enrolled credit/clock hours.

C. **Tuition and mandatory fees**

\_\_\_\_\_ For institutions that charge by the semester or quarter hour, provide the resident, full-time tuition and mandatory fees for your institution's YYYY-YY academic year.

– *Full-time is defined as 30 semester credit hours or 45 quarter credit hours.*

--*For independent colleges and universities and private career colleges the resident distinction does not apply.*

For institutions that charge by the program, in the space below provide the name of the program, the cost for the program, and the length of the program for July 1, YYYY, through June 30, YYYY, (e.g., cosmetology, \$10,000, 14 months; computer technology, \$25,000, 18 months). **If the institution offers more than one program, you must provide the weighted average program cost and the weighted average program length of all programs.**

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Appendix A: Sample Application for Institutions Participating in the Nebraska Opportunity  
Grant Program: Page 2 of 2

I assure the information contained in this document is, to the best of my knowledge, an accurate portrayal of the records maintained by the institution I represent. I understand that all institutional information obtained to complete this application will be maintained for review during an on-site audit. I have included the signed Statement of Assurance. **I understand that any intentional misrepresentation of the facts will void this institution's participation in the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act.**

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Name of Authorized Institutional Representative (Printed or Typed)

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Signature of Authorized Institutional Representative

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Date

## Statement of Assurance

### YYYY-YY Nebraska Opportunity Grant

I assure the below-named institution will work with the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education (CCPE) in identifying students who are eligible for the Nebraska Opportunity Grant (NOG) and will act as the Commission's agent to disburse such grant funds directly to the eligible student, pursuant to the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act (Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 85-1901 to 85-1920).

I assure the CCPE may review the financial aid recipients' files, including but not limited to those files associated with enrollment and financial aid for the award year specified.

I assure compliance with the rules and regulations regarding the NOG.

I assure all recipients of the NOG will:

1. have applied for financial assistance;
2. be undergraduate students that have not earned a bachelor's, graduate or professional degree;
3. not have an **EFC SAI** in excess of the yearly maximum;
4. be Nebraska residents;
5. meet all requirements listed in the rules and regulations governing the program;
6. be awarded a grant that does not exceed 50% of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's previous year's tuition and mandatory fees charged a Nebraska resident undergraduate student;
7. be selected for awards without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, or handicap.

I further assure the information provided on the NOG application is accurate. The CCPE staff can verify these numbers during an on-site audit. Failure to report accurate numbers will result in a review of the institution's participation in the state grant program. Intentional misrepresentation will result in the institution's suspension from the program.

**I understand I am required to provide the CCPE a copy of my institution's fiscal year audit. If my institution is required to complete an A-133 audit, I understand it is the institution's responsibility to provide a copy of the A-133 audit to the CCPE. All audit information must be provided to the CCPE within 30 days of completion of the audit or within 9 months of the close of the award year, whichever is earlier. Failure to submit the audit, and when required the A-133 audit, can result in suspension of state grant funding. I further understand that the fiscal year audit and the A-133 audit files may be examined by the CCPE during its regular financial aid audit.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Please print or type)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Institution

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education

**Subject:** Approval Chapter 1 – Rules and Regulations Governing the Excellence in Teaching Act

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**Committee Recommendation:** That the Commission approve Chapter 1 – Rules and Regulations Governing the Excellence in Teaching Act.

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LB 705, passed in 2023, transferred administration of the Excellence in Teaching Act (ETA), a forgivable loan program for teachers and college students preparing to be teachers, from the Nebraska Department of Education to the Commission effective July 1, 2024. LB 1284, passed in April 2024, amended the ETA to correct ambiguous language related to loans for student teachers.

The ETA, codified as Neb. Rev. Stat. sections 85-3101 to 85-3115, permits the Commission to adopt and promulgate rules and regulations. Because of the contractual nature of the ETA, including repayment of loans if conditions for loan forgiveness are not met, staff recommends that the Commission adopt rules. While rules and regulations are chapters in the Nebraska Administrative Code, they are commonly referred to as Rules, and Chapter 1 will be referred to as Rule 1 synonymously with Chapter 1.

As the Nebraska Department of Education previously operated the program with rules (NDE Rule 25), Commission staff has relied on Rule 25 extensively to develop Rule 1, making changes as necessary to incorporate new provisions from LB 705 and LB 1284. The Office of the Attorney General has conducted a courtesy review of the proposed rules and regulations, and the suggestions of the Assistant Attorney General have been incorporated.

The process of adopting rules includes multiple steps and opportunities for public input. Approval by the Commission at its July 26, 2024, meeting will be the first step. The complete process is described in the timeline below.

### Proposed Timeline

7/15/24	Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee consideration of new Rule 1, Rules and Regulations Governing the Excellence in Teaching Act
7/26/24	Commission to vote on proposed Rule 1
On or about 8/13/24	Publish notice of public hearing in newspaper for Rules 1, 5, and 8 (30 days required)
On or about 9/18/24	Hold public hearing on Rule 1 (in conjunction with Rules 5 and 8)

10/3/24	Budget, Construction, and Financial Aid Committee to consider final adoption of new Rule 1, Rules and Regulations Governing the Excellence in Teaching Act
10/11/24	Commission to vote on final rules
On or about 10/25/24	Submit documents to Attorney General, Governor's Office, and Secretary of State for approval

# **TITLE 281 NEBRASKA COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION**

## **CHAPTER 1 - RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING ACT**

### 001. SCOPE AND AUTHORITY.

001.01 Statutory Authority. This chapter is adopted pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 85-3101 to 85-3110 and 85-3112 to 85-3115.

001.02 Scope and Application. This chapter provides the procedures to carry out the Excellence in Teaching Act, which includes the Attracting Excellence to Teaching Program and the Enhancing Excellence in Teaching Program.

### 002. ATTRACTING EXCELLENCE TO TEACHING PROGRAM.

002.01 Purposes. The purposes of the Attracting Excellence to Teaching Program are to:

002.01(A) Attract outstanding students to major in shortage areas at the teacher education programs of Nebraska's postsecondary educational institutions;

002.01(B) Retain resident students and graduates as teachers in the accredited school districts, educational service units, and private schools or approved private schools of Nebraska; and

002.01(C) Establish a loan contract that requires a borrower to obtain employment as a teacher in this state after graduation.

002.02 Definitions. For purposes of the Attracting Excellence to Teaching Program:

002.02(A) AETP means the Attracting Excellence to Teaching Program.

002.02(B) Award year means the period from July 1<sup>st</sup> of one year through June 30<sup>th</sup> of the succeeding year.

002.02(C) Board means the State Board of Education.

002.02(D) Borrower means an eligible student who receives a loan pursuant to the AETP.

002.02(E) Commission means the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education.

002.02(F) Department means the State Department of Education, which is comprised of the Board and the Commissioner of Education.

002.02(G) Eligible for the AETP means an eligible student who:

002.02(G)(i) graduated in the top quarter of his or her high school class or has a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a four-point scale in an eligible institution;

002.02(G)(ii) agrees to complete a teacher education program at an eligible institution and to complete the major on which the applicant's eligibility is based; and

002.02(G)(iii) commits to teach in an accredited or approved public or private school in Nebraska upon successful completion of the teacher education program for which the applicant is applying to the AETP and to becoming certified pursuant to Sections 79-806 to 79-815 R.R.S.

002.02H Eligible institution means a not-for-profit college or university which:

002.02(H)(i) is located in Nebraska;

002.02(H)(ii) is accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education as determined to be acceptable by the Board;

002.02(H)(iii) has a teacher education program; and

002.02(H)(iv) if a privately funded college or university has not opted out of the program pursuant to Section 002.04C of this Chapter.

002.02(I) Eligible student means an individual who:

002.02(I)(i) is a full-time student;

002.02(I)(ii) is enrolled in an eligible institution in an undergraduate or a graduate teacher education program working toward his or her initial certificate to teach in Nebraska;

002.02(I)(iii) if enrolled at a state-funded eligible institution, is a resident student as described in Section 85-502 R.R.S. or, if enrolled in a privately funded eligible institution, would be deemed a resident student if enrolled in a state-funded eligible institution; and

002.02(I)(iv) is a student majoring in a shortage area.

002.02(J) Employed as a teacher means employment equivalent to 0.5 full-time employment (FTE) or greater under one (1) or more teaching contracts with an approved or accredited Nebraska school throughout the course of one (1) school year or a period of two (2) consecutive school terms that are the equivalent of one (1) school year (e.g., one (1) spring semester and the following fall semester). Substitute teachers who meet this requirement will be considered employed as a teacher. This term also means employment by an Educational Service Unit (ESU) as a certificated employee as defined in Section 79-1234(2) R.R.S. when the certificated employee will be functioning as a teacher throughout the course of one (1) school year or a period of two (2) consecutive school terms that are the equivalent of one (1) school year (e.g., one (1) spring semester and the following fall semester) in an approved or accredited Nebraska school pursuant to authority provided in the Educational Service Unit Act (Section 79-1201 R.R.S., et seq.).

002.02(K) Employed as a full-time teacher means employment equivalent to 1.0 FTE under one (1) or more teaching contracts with an approved or accredited Nebraska school throughout the course of one (1) school year or a period of two (2) consecutive school terms that are the equivalent

of one (1) school year (e.g., one (1) spring semester and the following fall semester). Substitute teachers who meet this requirement will be considered employed as a full-time teacher. This term also means employment by an Educational Service Unit (ESU) as a certificated employee as defined in Section 79-1234(2) R.R.S. when the certificated employee will be functioning as a teacher equivalent to 1.0 FTE throughout the course of one (1) school year or a period of two (2) consecutive school terms that are the equivalent of one (1) school year (e.g., one (1) spring semester and the following fall semester) in an approved or accredited Nebraska school pursuant to authority provided in the Educational Service Unit Act (Section 79-1201 R.R.S. et seq.).

002.02(L) Full-time student means, in the aggregate, the equivalent of a student who in a twelve-month (12) period has completed or is enrolled in twenty-four (24) semester credit hours for undergraduate students or eighteen (18) semester credit hours for graduate students of classroom, laboratory, clinical, practicum, or independent study course work.

002.02(M) Loan means an amount of money advanced under a contract to a borrower pursuant to the AETP.

002.02(N) Majoring in a shortage area means pursuing a degree which will allow an individual to be properly endorsed to teach in a shortage area.

002.02(O) Repayment period means the time during which the borrower is required to make payments on the loan or loans.

002.02(P) Repayment status means when a borrower meets any of the conditions triggering repayment commencement described in Section 002.05A of this Chapter.

002.02(Q) Secular field of teaching means teaching areas covered by teaching endorsements identified in 92 NAC 24 excluding Religious Education.

002.02(R) Shortage area means a secular field of teaching for which there is a shortage, as determined by the Department, of properly endorsed teachers pursuant to Section 004 of this Chapter, at the time the borrower first receives funds pursuant to the program.

002.02(S) Student-teaching semester means a semester of full-time enrollment for clinical practice which provides initial preparation for a student enrolled in an eligible institution and pursuing a certificate to teach that includes a culminating supervised experience to demonstrate competence in the professional teaching role for which such student is applying.

002.02(T) Teacher means an individual who holds a valid teaching certificate and who is regularly employed for the instruction of pupils pursuant to Section 79-101 R.R.S. For purposes of this Chapter, this definition does not include administrative or special services certificate holders who are employed in positions requiring these endorsements.

002.02(U) Teacher education program means a program of study approved by the Board pursuant to subdivision (5) (g) of Section 79-318 R.R.S.

### 002.03 Application Process.

002.03(A) Application. In order to be considered for a loan, an eligible student must complete the appropriate application forms prescribed by the Commission.



002.03(A)(i) Incomplete applications will not be considered for a loan.

002.03(B) Deadlines.

002.03(B)(i) Applications must be submitted to the administrator responsible for the teacher education program in which the applicant is enrolled by a date determined by the administrator. Applications recommended by the institution must be received by the Commission on or before July 1 of each award year in which funds are available.

002.03(B)(ii) Applications recommended by the institution for reallocated funds as described in Section 002.04B of this Chapter must be received by the Commission on or before February 1 of each award year in which reallocated funds are available.

002.03(C) Maximum amounts. Eligible students may apply, on an annual basis, for loans in an amount of not more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000) per year, except that eligible students applying for a loan for a student-teaching semester may apply for an additional loan of not more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000) and may receive no more than six thousand dollars (\$6,000) for the year in which they complete their student teaching semester. Loans awarded to an eligible student must not exceed a cumulative period exceeding five (5) consecutive years.

002.03(D) Awards. Loans must only be awarded through an eligible institution and funded pursuant to Section 85-3112 R.R.S. Prior to receiving any money from a loan pursuant to the AETP, an eligible student must enter into a contract with the Commission.

002.03(E) Distribution. The Commission must allocate the funds to be distributed for the AETP, including both funds restricted to eligible students enrolled in student-teaching semesters and funds not restricted to students enrolled in student-teaching semesters, to all eligible institutions according to the formula set forth in Section 002.04 of this Chapter.

002.03(E)(i) Eligible institutions must act as agents of the Commission in the distribution of funds to borrowers.

002.03(E)(ii) Eligible institutions must disburse funds directly to the borrower in a lump sum unless another manner or method of disbursement or distribution has been authorized, in writing, by the borrower.

002.04 Formula. The formula for the distribution of the appropriated funds to eligible institutions that have not opted out of the AETP according to Section 002.04C of this Chapter must be based on the percentage of the most recent teacher education program completer data generated by each eligible institution. The percentage of funds allocated to each eligible institution, for both eligible students enrolled in student-teaching semesters and eligible students not enrolled in student-teaching semesters, will match the institution's percentage of the total teacher education program completers from all eligible institutions.

002.04(A) The allocation of available funds will be reported to each participating eligible institution no later than March 15 prior to the award year in which funds are available.

002.04(B) Funds not awarded pursuant to Section 002.03B1 of this Chapter will be reallocated to those institutions that notify the Commission on or by December 1 of the award year of the institution's desire to be considered for the reallocated funds. The reallocation of available

funds will be reported to eligible institutions no later than December 15 of each award year that those funds are available.

002.04(C) Opting Out Provisions. An eligible institution may opt out of the AETP by notifying the Executive Director of the Commission, in writing, postmarked or emailed by March 1 prior to the award year for which loans are available, of the institution's intent not to participate in the AETP. Such notification will be considered in force until the Executive Director is notified, in writing, of the institution's intent to recommence its participation in the AETP.

002.05 Loan Contract Provisions. Prior to receiving any money from a loan pursuant to the AETP, an eligible student must enter into a contract with the Commission. Such contract is exempt from the requirements of the State Procurement Act.

002.05(A) Repayment Commencement.

002.05(A)(i) For eligible students who applied for the first time prior to April 23, 2009:

002.05(A)(i)(1) If the borrower is not employed as a teacher in Nebraska for a time period equal to the number of years required for loan forgiveness and is not enrolled as a full-time student in a graduate program within six (6) months after obtaining an undergraduate degree for which a loan from the AETP was obtained or the borrower does not complete the requirements for graduation within five (5) consecutive years after receiving the initial loan under the AETP, then the loan must be repaid, with interest at the rate fixed pursuant to Section 45-103 R.R.S. accruing as of the date the borrower signed the contract.

002.05(A)(ii) For eligible students who applied for the first time on or after April 23, 2009:

002.05(A)(ii)(1) If the borrower is not employed as a full-time teacher in an approved or accredited school in Nebraska and teaching at least a portion of the time in the shortage area for which the loan was received for a time period equal to the number of years required for loan forgiveness or is not enrolled as a full-time student in a graduate program within six (6) months after obtaining an undergraduate degree for which a loan from the AETP was obtained or the borrower does not complete the requirements for graduation within five (5) consecutive years after receiving the initial loan under the AETP, then the loan must be repaid, with interest at the rate fixed pursuant to Section 45-103 R.R.S. accruing as of the date the borrower signed the contract and actual collection costs as determined by the Commission.

002.05(A)(iii) If the borrower fails to remain enrolled at an eligible institution or otherwise fails to meet the requirements of an eligible student, repayment of the loan must commence within six (6) months after such change in eligibility.

002.05(A)(iv) The interest rate for the entire repayment period must be that which is in effect under Section 45-103 R.R.S. on the date that the borrower signed the contract.

002.05(B) Repayment Procedures. Repayment will be made on a monthly basis on a schedule which allows up to two (2) years of payments for all loans received. The borrower, at his/her option, may accelerate payment on all or any part of the loan principal plus accrued interest at any time without penalty. Monthly payments must be received at the Commission no later than the 15th of each month.

002.05(C) Penalty. In the event the borrower fails to make a scheduled installment payment, the entire unpaid indebtedness, including any accrued interest, may become immediately due and payable at the option of the Executive Director.

002.05(D) Repayment Exceptions.

002.05(D)(i) Cancellation. The repayment obligation must be cancelled if the Executive Director determines that:

002.05(D)(i)(1) The borrower is unable to teach because s/he is permanently totally disabled, on the basis of verification from the Social Security Administration; or

002.05(D)(i)(2) The borrower has died, on the basis of a death certificate or other evidence conclusive under State law provided by next of kin or personal administrator of the estate.

002.05(D)(ii) Deferment. A deferment of the repayment period may be granted by the Executive Director if the borrower is in repayment status and can substantiate that s/he is:

002.05(D)(ii)(1) engaging in a full-time course of study at an institution of higher education;

002.05(D)(ii)(2) serving on active duty as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, for a period not in excess of three (3) years;

002.05(D)(ii)(3) temporarily totally disabled as established by the sworn affidavit of a qualified physician, for a period not in excess of three (3) years;

002.05(D)(ii)(4) unable to secure employment by reason of the care required by a disabled child, spouse, or parent for a period not in excess of twelve (12) months; or

002.05(D)(ii)(5) seeking and unable to find full-time employment for a single period not in excess of twelve (12) months.

002.05(D)(iii) Qualification for Exceptions. To qualify for a cancellation or deferment, the borrower must notify the Commission, in writing, of his or her claim and provide supporting documentation of the claim. If the borrower's claim is accepted, s/he will not be required to make repayments nor will interest accrue on the outstanding balance during the deferment period.

002.05(E) Loan Forgiveness.

002.05(E)(i) For eligible students who applied for the first time prior to April 23, 2009:

002.05(E)(i)(1) If the borrower successfully completes the teacher education program and becomes certified pursuant to Sections 79-806 to 79-815 R.R.S., becomes employed as a teacher in this state within six (6) months of becoming certified, and otherwise meets the requirements of the contract, payments must be suspended for the number of years that the borrower is required to remain employed as a teacher in this state under the contract. For each year that the borrower teaches in Nebraska pursuant to the contract, payments must be forgiven in an amount equal to the amount borrowed for one (1) year, except that if the borrower teaches in a school district that is in a local system classified in the very sparse

cost grouping as defined in Section 79-1003 R.R.S. or teaches in a school district in which at least forty percent (40%) of the students are poverty students as provided in Section 79-1003 R.R.S., payments must be forgiven each year in an amount equal to the amount borrowed for two (2) years.

002.05(E)(ii) For eligible students who applied for the first time on or after April 23, 2009:

002.05(E)(ii)(1) If the borrower successfully completes the teacher education program and major for which the borrower is receiving a forgivable loan pursuant to the program and becomes certified pursuant to Sections 79-806 to 79-815 R.R.S. with an endorsement in the shortage area for which the loan was received, becomes employed as a full-time teacher teaching at least a portion of the time in the shortage area for which the loan was received in an approved or accredited school in Nebraska within six (6) months of becoming certified, and otherwise meets the requirements of the contract, payments must be suspended for the number of years that the borrower is required to remain employed as a teacher in this state under the contract. Beginning after the first two (2) years of teaching full-time in Nebraska following graduation for the degree for which the loan was received, for each year that the borrower teaches full-time in Nebraska pursuant to the contract, the loan must be forgiven in an amount equal to three thousand dollars (\$3,000), except that if the borrower teaches full-time in a school district that is in a local system classified as very sparse as defined in Section 79-1003 R.R.S., teaches in a school building that provides free meals to all students pursuant to the community eligibility provision, teaches in a school building in which at least forty percent (40%) of the formula students are poverty students as defined in Section 79-1003 R.R.S., or teaches in an accredited or approved private school in Nebraska in which at least forty percent (40%) of the enrolled students qualified for free lunches as determined by the most recent data available from the Department, payments must be forgiven each year in an amount equal to six thousand dollars (\$6,000).

002.05(E)(iii) When a loan has been forgiven pursuant to Section 002.05E of this Chapter, the amount forgiven may be taxable income to the borrower and the Commission must provide notification of the amount forgiven to the borrower, the Nebraska Department of Revenue, and the United States Internal Revenue Service if required by the Internal Revenue Code.

002.05(F) Default. Failure of a borrower to either fulfill the terms necessary for loan forgiveness according to Section 002.05E of this Chapter or repay the loan according to Section 002.05A and Section 002.05B of this Chapter must constitute a default. Borrowers in default may be referred to a collection agency according to Section 45-623 R.R.S.

### 003. ENHANCING EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING PROGRAM.

003.01 Purposes. The purposes of the Enhancing Excellence in Teaching Program are to:

003.01(A) Retain teachers in the accredited school districts, educational service units, and private schools or approved private schools of Nebraska;

003.01(B) Improve the skills of existing teachers in Nebraska through the graduate education programs of Nebraska's postsecondary educational institutions; and

003.01(C) Establish a loan contract that requires a borrower to continue employment as a teacher in this state after completion of the eligible graduate program.

003.02 Definitions. For purposes of the Enhancing Excellence in Teaching Program:

003.02(A) Approval to teach postsecondary courses by a Nebraska postsecondary educational institution means official documentation issued by a Nebraska postsecondary educational institution declaring that an individual has met the graduate degree or course requirements necessary to teach courses in a specific subject or subjects offered by the Nebraska postsecondary education institution for postsecondary degree credit.

003.02(B) Award year means the period from July 1<sup>st</sup> of one year through June 30<sup>th</sup> of the succeeding year.

003.02(C) Board means the State Board of Education.

003.02(D) Borrower means an eligible student who receives a loan pursuant to the EETP.

003.02(E) Commission means the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education.

003.02(F) Department means the State Department of Education, which is comprised of the Board and the Commissioner of Education.

003.02(G) EETP means the Enhancing Excellence in Teaching Program.

003.02(H) Eligible coursework means those classes included on the Program of Study that begin during the loan award period.

003.02(I) Eligible graduate program means:

003.02(I)(i) a Program of Study offered by an eligible institution which results in obtaining a graduate degree; or

003.02(I)(ii) a graduate course of study leading to an endorsement in a shortage area specified by the Department; or

003.02(I)(iii) a graduate course of study leading to approval to teach postsecondary courses by a Nebraska postsecondary educational institution.

003.02(J) Eligible for the EETP means an eligible student who:

003.02(J)(i) agrees to complete an eligible graduate program at an eligible institution and to complete the program on which the applicant's eligibility is based as determined by the Department; and

003.02(J)(ii) commits to teach in an accredited or approved public or private school in Nebraska upon successful completion of the eligible graduate program for which the applicant is applying to the EETP and to maintaining certification pursuant to Sections 79-806 to 79-815 R.R.S.

003.02(K) Eligible institution means a not-for-profit college or university which:

003.02(K)(i) is located in Nebraska;

003.02(K)(ii) is accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education as determined to be acceptable by the Board;

003.02(K)(iii) has a teacher education program as defined in Section 002.02U of this Chapter; and

003.02(K)(iv) if a privately funded college or university has not opted out of the EETP pursuant to Section 003.04B of this Chapter.

003.02(L) Eligible student means an individual who:

003.02(L)(i) is a certificated teacher employed to teach in an approved or accredited school in Nebraska;

003.02(L)(ii) is enrolled in an eligible graduate program;

003.02(L)(iii) if enrolled at a state-funded eligible institution, is a resident student as described in Section 85-502 R.R.S. or, if enrolled in a privately funded eligible institution, would be deemed a resident student if enrolled in a state-funded eligible institution; and

003.02(L)(iv) is majoring in a shortage area, curriculum and instruction, a subject area in which the individual already holds a secular teaching endorsement, a subject area that will result in an additional secular teaching endorsement, or is applying for approval to teach postsecondary courses by a Nebraska postsecondary educational institution, which the superintendent of the school district or head administrator of the private, denominational, or parochial school employing the individual believes will be beneficial to the students of such school district or school as evidenced by a statement signed by the superintendent or head administrator.

003.02(M) Employed as a teacher means employment equivalent to 0.5 full-time employment (FTE) or greater under one (1) or more teaching contracts with an approved or accredited Nebraska school throughout the course of one (1) school year or a period of two (2) consecutive school terms that are the equivalent of one (1) school year (e.g., one (1) spring semester and the following fall semester). Substitute teachers who meet this requirement must be considered employed as a teacher. This term also means employment by an Educational Service Unit (ESU) as a certificated employee as defined in Section 79-1234(2) R.R.S. when the certificated employee will be functioning as a teacher throughout the course of one (1) school year or a period of two (2) consecutive school terms that are the equivalent of one (1) school year (e.g., one (1) spring semester and the following fall semester) in an approved or accredited Nebraska school pursuant to authority provided in the Educational Service Unit Act (Section 79-1201 R.R.S., et seq.).

003.02(N) Employed as a full-time teacher means employment equivalent to 1.0 FTE under one (1) or more teaching contracts with an approved or accredited Nebraska school throughout the course of one (1) school year or a period of two (2) consecutive school terms that are the equivalent of one (1) school year (e.g., one (1) spring semester and the following fall semester). Substitute teachers who meet this requirement must be considered employed as a full-time teacher. This term also means employment by an Educational Service Unit (ESU) as a certificated employee as defined in Section 79-1234(2) R.R.S. when the certificated employee will be functioning as a teacher equivalent to 1.0 FTE throughout the course of one (1) school year or a period of two (2) consecutive school terms that are the equivalent of one (1) school year (e.g., one (1) spring semester and the following fall semester) in an approved or accredited Nebraska school pursuant to authority provided in the Educational Service Unit Act (Section 79-1201 R.R.S. et seq.).

003.02(O) Enrolled means the eligible student is officially admitted into an eligible graduate program at an eligible institution and s/he meets that institution's requirements for continuing enrollment certification purposes or for maintaining graduate student status.

003.02(P) Loan means an amount of money advanced under a contract to a borrower pursuant to the EETP.

003.02(Q) Majoring in a shortage area or subject area means pursuing a degree or graduate course of study which will allow an individual to be properly endorsed to teach in such shortage area or subject area.

003.02(R) Nebraska postsecondary educational institution means a Nebraska public postsecondary institution as defined in section 85-2403 and any private, nonprofit postsecondary institution with a principal facility in Nebraska that is exempt from the Private Postsecondary Career School Act.

003.02(S) Program of Study means official documentation that verifies enrollment and coursework in an eligible graduate program and must include:

003.02(S)(i) the name of the applicant;

003.02(S)(ii) the name of the eligible graduate program to be completed;

003.02(S)(iii) a listing of the coursework required to complete the eligible graduate program;

003.02(S)(iv) a tentative timeline for completion of the eligible graduate program; and

003.02(S)(v) the signature of the designated representative of the eligible institution.

003.02(T) Proof of coursework completion means a grade report or transcript from an eligible institution which verifies that the borrower has completed the eligible coursework for which funds were received during the award year.

003.02(U) Proof of program completion means an official transcript from an eligible institution which verifies that the borrower has completed the eligible graduate program for which the loan was received.

003.02(V) Proof of registration means a class schedule or transcript from an eligible institution which verifies registration for eligible coursework.

003.02(W) Repayment period means the time during which the borrower is required to make payments on the loan or loans.

003.02(X) Repayment status means when a borrower meets any of the conditions triggering repayment commencement described in Section 003.05A of this Chapter.

003.02(Y) Secular field of teaching means teaching areas covered by teaching endorsements identified in 92 NAC 24 excluding Religious Education.

003.02(Z) Shortage area means a secular field of teaching or endorsement area for which there is a shortage, as determined by the Department pursuant to Section 004 of this Chapter, of properly endorsed teachers at the time the borrower first receives funds pursuant to the EETP.

003.02(AA) Teacher means an individual who holds a valid teaching certificate and who is regularly employed for the instruction of pupils pursuant to Section 79-101 R.R.S. For purposes of this Chapter, this definition does not include administrative or special services certificate holders who are employed in positions requiring these endorsements.

### 03.03 Application Process.

003.03(A) Application. In order to be considered for a loan, an eligible student must complete the appropriate application forms prescribed by the Commission.

003.03(A)(i) Applications must include a Program of Study approved by a designated representative of the eligible institution in which the applicant is enrolled.

003.02(A)(ii) Incomplete applications will not be considered for a loan.

003.03(B) Deadlines. Applications must be submitted to the administrator responsible for the teacher education program, or his/her designated representative, of the eligible institution in which the applicant is enrolled by a date determined by the administrator.

003.03(B)(i) Institutions must number the applications in the order in which they are received and send all submitted applications to the Commission. Applications must be received by the Commission on or before June 1 prior to the award year in which funds are available.

003.03(C) Maximum Amounts. Eligible students may apply on an annual basis for loans in an amount of not more than one hundred seventy-five dollars (\$175) per credit hour. Loans awarded to individual students must not exceed a cumulative period exceeding five (5) consecutive years.

003.03(C)(i) Loans awarded to individual students must not exceed an annual amount of three thousand dollars (\$3,000).

003.03(D) Distribution. The Commission must allocate the funds to be distributed for the EETP to all eligible institutions according to the formula set forth in Section 003.04A of this Chapter. The Commission must distribute the funds for the EETP directly to the borrower.

003.03(E) Awards. Loans must only be awarded through the Commission and funded pursuant to Section 85-3112 R.R.S.

003.03(E)(i) The borrower must submit proof of registration for eligible coursework to the Commission pursuant to the contract prior to any funds being distributed.

003.03(E)(i)(1) The borrower must only receive payment one time for each eligible course on his/her Program of Study. Repeated coursework for which a final course grade has been previously assessed is ineligible for payment.

003.03(E)(ii) Funds not claimed pursuant to the contract will revert to the Excellence in Teaching Cash Fund.



#### 003.04 Formula.

003.04(A) Formula for Distribution. The Commission must distribute one-sixth (1/6) of the total funds available pursuant to Section 85-3112 R.R.S. evenly among all eligible institutions. The remaining funds must be allocated by formula on the basis of the percentage of the total Master's degrees in education awarded by each eligible institution, excluding those awarded in administrative or special services programs. The percentage of loan funds available to each eligible institution will match the institution's percentage of the state's total Master's degrees in education awarded by all eligible institutions.

003.04(A)(i) The formula will be based on the most current Master's degree in education completer information reported to the Commission.

003.04(A)(ii) The allocation of available funds will be reported to the eligible institutions no later than March 15 prior to each award year.

003.04(A)(iii) In the event that additional funds for the EETP become available during the current loan award period, the Commission may establish an interim distribution process based on the percentage of the state's total Master's degrees in education awarded by each eligible institution.

003.04(B) Opting Out Provisions. An eligible institution may opt out of the EETP by notifying the Executive Director of the Commission, in writing, postmarked or emailed by February 1 prior to the award year for which loans are available, of the institution's intent not to participate in the EETP. Such notification will be considered in force until the Executive Director is notified, in writing, of the institution's intent to recommence its participation in the EETP.

003.05 Loan Contract Provisions. Prior to receiving any money from a loan pursuant to the EETP, an eligible student must enter into a contract with the Commission. Such contract is exempt from the requirements of the State Procurement Act.

003.05(A) Repayment Commencement. For the purposes of Repayment Commencement, the following provisions apply:

003.05(A)(i) If the borrower is not employed as a full-time teacher teaching in an approved or accredited school in Nebraska for a time period equal to the number of years required for loan forgiveness pursuant to Section 003.05E of this Chapter, or the borrower does not complete the requirements for graduation, for the additional secular teaching endorsement, or for the approval to teach postsecondary courses by a Nebraska postsecondary educational institution within five (5) consecutive years after receiving the initial loan under the EETP, then the loan must be repaid with interest at the rate fixed pursuant to Section 45-103 R.R.S. accruing as of the date the borrower signed the contract and actual collection costs as determined by the Commission.

003.05(A)(ii) If the borrower fails to remain enrolled at an eligible institution or otherwise fails to meet the requirements of an eligible student, repayment of the loan must commence within six (6) months after such change in eligibility.

003.05(A)(iii) If the borrower fails to provide the Commission with proof of coursework completion within sixty (60) days of the completion of all eligible coursework for which the

loan was received, repayment of the loan must commence within six (6) months from the end of the loan award period in which the loan was received.

003.05(A)(iv) If the borrower fails to provide the Commission with proof of program completion within sixty (60) days of completion of the eligible graduate program, repayment of the loan must commence within six (6) months of completion of the program.

003.05(A)(v) The interest rate for the entire repayment period must be that which is in effect under Section 45-103 R.R.S. on the date that the borrower signed the contract.

003.05(B) Repayment Procedures. Repayment will be made on a monthly basis on a schedule which allows up to two (2) years of payments for all loans received. The borrower, at his/her option, may accelerate payment on all or any part of the loan principal plus accrued interest at any time without penalty. Monthly payments must be received at the Commission no later than the 15th of each month.

003.05(C) Penalty. In the event the borrower fails to make a scheduled installment payment, the entire unpaid indebtedness, including any accrued interest, may become immediately due and payable at the option of the Executive Director,

003.05(D) Repayment Exceptions.

003.05(D)(i) Cancellation. The repayment obligation must be cancelled if the Executive Director determines that:

003.05(D)(i)(1) The borrower is unable to teach because s/he is permanently totally disabled, on the basis of verification from the Social Security Administration; or

003.05(D)(i)(2) The borrower has died, on the basis of a death certificate or other evidence conclusive under State law provided by next of kin or personal administrator of the estate.

003.05(D)(ii) Deferment. A deferment of the repayment period may be granted by the Executive Director if the borrower is in repayment status and can substantiate that s/he is:

003.05(D)(ii)(1) serving on active duty as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, for a period not in excess of three (3) years;

003.05(D)(ii)(2) temporarily totally disabled as established by the sworn affidavit of a qualified physician, for a period not in excess of three (3) years;

003.05(D)(ii)(3) unable to secure employment by reason of the care required by a disabled child, spouse, or parent for a period not in excess of twelve (12) months; or

003.05(D)(ii)(4) seeking and unable to find full-time employment for a single period not in excess of twelve (12) months.

003.05(D)(iii) Qualification for Exceptions. To qualify for a cancellation or deferment, the borrower must notify the Commission, in writing, of his or her claim and provide supporting documentation of the claim. If the borrower's claim is accepted, s/he will not be required to make repayments nor will interest accrue on the outstanding balance during the deferment period.

003.05(E) Loan Forgiveness. If the borrower successfully completes the eligible graduate program for which the borrower is receiving a forgivable loan pursuant to the EETP, maintains certification pursuant to Sections 79-806 to 79-815 R.R.S., maintains full-time employment as a teacher in an approved or accredited school in this state, and otherwise meets the requirements of the contract, payments must be suspended for the number of years that the borrower is required to remain employed as a teacher in this state under the contract.

003.05(E)(i) For recipients who received funds for the first time prior to July 1, 2016:

003.05(E)(i)(1) Beginning after the first two (2) years of teaching full-time in Nebraska following graduation for the degree for which the loan was received, for each year that the borrower teaches full-time in Nebraska pursuant to the contract, the loan must be forgiven in an amount equal to three thousand dollars (\$3,000), except that if the borrower teaches full-time in a school district that is in a local system classified as very sparse as defined in Section 79-1003 R.R.S., teaches in a school building that provides free meals to all students pursuant to the community eligibility provision, teaches in a school building in which at least forty percent (40%) of the students are poverty students as defined in Section 79-1003 R.R.S., or teaches in an accredited or approved private school in Nebraska in which at least forty percent (40%) of the enrolled students qualified for free lunches as determined by the most recent data available from the Department, payments must be forgiven each year in an amount equal to six thousand dollars (\$6,000).

003.05(E)(ii) For recipients who received funds for the first time on or after July 1, 2016:

003.05(E)(ii)(1) Beginning after the first two (2) years of teaching full-time in Nebraska following completion of the eligible graduate program for which the loan was received, for each year that the borrower teaches full-time in Nebraska pursuant to the contract, the loan must be forgiven in an amount equal to one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500), except that if the borrower teaches full-time in a school district that is in a local system classified as very sparse as defined in Section 79-1003 R.R.S., teaches in a school building in which at least forty percent (40%) of the students are poverty students as defined in Section 79-1003 R.R.S., teaches in a school building that provides free meals to all students pursuant to the community eligibility provision, or teaches in an accredited private school or educational service unit or an approved private school in Nebraska in which at least forty percent (40%) of the enrolled students qualified for free lunches as determined by the most recent data available from the Department, payments must be forgiven each year in an amount equal to one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) for the first year of loan forgiveness and three thousand dollars (\$3,000) for each year of loan forgiveness thereafter.

003.05(E)(iii) The borrower must provide the Commission with proof of coursework completion within sixty (60) days of the completion of all eligible coursework for which the loan was received.

003.05(E)(iv) The borrower must provide the Commission with proof of program completion within sixty (60) days of completion of the eligible graduate program for which the loan was received.

003.05(E)(v) When a loan has been forgiven pursuant to Section 85-3110 R.R.S., the amount forgiven may be taxable income to the borrower and the Commission must provide notification

of the amount forgiven to the borrower, the Nebraska Department of Revenue, and the United States Internal Revenue Service if required by the Internal Revenue Code.

003.06 Default. Failure of a borrower to either fulfill the terms necessary for loan forgiveness according to Section 003.05E of this Chapter or repay the loan according to Section 003.05A of this Chapter must constitute a default. Borrowers in default may be referred to a collection agency according to Section 45-623 R.R.S.

004. SHORTAGE AREAS. Shortage areas will be determined annually by the Department on the basis of an annual teacher supply survey of accredited and approved Nebraska school systems. Shortage areas as defined by the United States Department of Education under the Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant will also be considered as qualifying shortage areas. Shortage areas for the current award period are available on the Department's web site ([www.education.ne.gov](http://www.education.ne.gov)).

005. REPORTS. The Commission must provide reports on the AETP and the EETP as required by Section 85-3114 R.R.S.

005.01 Institutional Reports. Each participating institution must file an annual report with the Commission for the Attracting Excellence to Teaching Program and for the Enhancing Excellence in Teaching Program for any fiscal year in which the eligible institution receives funding to distribute to the students pursuant to either or both of such programs. Reports must be received by October 15 containing the following information:

005.01(A) The number of borrowers who are currently enrolled as full-time students; and

005.01(B) The number of borrowers who have completed the program for which the loan was received.

005.02 Commission Reports. On or before December 31 of each even-numbered year, the Commission must submit an electronic report to the Governor, the Clerk of the Legislature, and the Education Committee of the Legislature. This report must include information on an institution-by-institution basis and information on:

005.02(A) the status of the AETP and the EETP;

005.02(B) the status of the borrowers;

005.02(C) the impact of the AETP and the EETP on the number of teachers in shortage areas in Nebraska;

005.02(D) the number of teachers receiving graduate degrees and added endorsements in teaching areas in Nebraska;

005.02(E) the number of teachers receiving approval to teach postsecondary courses by a Nebraska postsecondary educational institution; and

005.02(F) a financial statement with a description of the activity of the Excellence in Teaching Cash Fund.

005.03 Confidentiality of Information. Any report which includes information about borrowers must exclude confidential information or any other information which specifically identifies a borrower.



**NEBRASKA'S**  
COORDINATING COMMISSION  
FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

## **NEBRASKA CAREER SCHOLARSHIP 2024-25 ANNUAL ALLOCATION REPORT**

**Presented to the Commission  
July 26, 2024**

2024-25 NCS Allocations for Students Attending:	
<b>COMMUNITY COLLEGES:</b>	
Central	\$ 611,350.00
Little Priest	\$ 42,886.00
Metropolitan	\$ 1,313,756.00
Mid-Plains	\$ 279,131.00
Northeast	\$ 536,906.00
Southeast	\$ 974,374.00
Western Nebraska	\$ 241,597.00
<b>PRIVATE NONPROFITS</b>	
Bellevue University	\$ 365,058.00
Bryan College of Health Sciences	\$ 339,301.00
CHI Health	\$ 109,367.00
Clarkson College	\$ 367,399.00
College of Saint Mary	\$ 241,895.00
Concordia University	\$ 302,305.00
Creighton University	\$ 541,138.00
Doane University	\$ 212,392.00
Hastings College	\$ 164,157.00
Midland University	\$ 273,271.00
NE Methodist College	\$ 471,830.00
Nebraska Wesleyan University	\$ 201,621.00
Union Adventist University	\$ 240,958.00
Western Governor's University	\$ -
York University	\$ 169,308.00
GRAND TOTALS:	\$ 8,000,000.00

2024-25	
	Dollars
CC	\$4,000,000
Priv	\$4,000,000
Total	\$8,000,000

The Nebraska Career Scholarship is a decentralized financial aid program. The commission allocates state funding to participating institutions based on one of two formulas. For community colleges the formula uses the most recent 3-year REU calculations. For private nonprofits the formula takes into account the average number of Nebraska residents enrolled in specific high-need academic programs over the past three years. The institutions then make recommendations to the Commission as to who they would like to award the scholarship to based on eligibility qualifications.



**NEBRASKA'S**  
COORDINATING COMMISSION  
FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

## **NEBRASKA OPPORTUNITY GRANT 2024-25 ANNUAL ALLOCATION REPORT**

**Presented to the Commission  
July 26, 2024**

2024-25 Allocations for Students Attending:	
<b>UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA:</b>	
Kearney	\$1,908,374
Lincoln	\$6,444,657
Medical Center	\$306,058
Omaha	\$5,646,473
NCTA	\$61,837
<b>STATE COLLEGES:</b>	
Chadron	\$544,939
Peru	\$387,737
Wayne	\$1,130,599
<b>COMMUNITY COLLEGES:</b>	
Central	\$609,126
Metropolitan	\$1,052,491
Mid-Plains	\$138,951
Northeast	\$515,704
Southeast	\$716,395
Western Nebraska	\$163,570
<b>PRIVATE CAREER COLLEGES:</b>	
Capitol Beauty School	\$172,667
College of Hair Design	\$129,921
Joseph's Colleges of Beauty	\$95,486
Xenon International School of Hair	\$229,374
<b>INDEPENDENT COLLEGES:</b>	
Bellevue University	\$473,513
Bryan College of Health Sciences	\$190,146
Clarkson College	\$367,094
College of Saint Mary	\$244,528
Concordia University	\$303,639
Creighton University	\$336,934
Doane University	\$241,778
Hastings College	\$274,991
Little Priest Tribal College	\$57,612
Midland University	\$274,771
Nebraska Indian Community College	\$30,739
NE Methodist College	\$327,009
Nebraska Wesleyan University	\$660,286
Union Adventist University	\$102,221
Western Governor's University	\$244,732
York University	\$63,950
<b>GRAND TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$24,448,302</b>

The NOG program is a decentralized financial aid program. The commission allocates state funding to participating institutions based on a statutory formula that takes into account the proportion of all eligible students attending each institution and their tuition and fees (capped at tuition and fees at the University of Nebraska Lincoln) and verifies student eligibility but does not determine individual student award amounts or dictate how many eligible students receive NOG grants. Participating institutions award NOG grants to eligible students subject to eligibility criteria, maximum award limits, and available allocations.

#### 2024-25

	Dollars	Percent
<b>NU</b>	\$14,367,399	58.8%
<b>NSCS</b>	\$2,063,275	8.4%
<b>CC</b>	\$3,196,237	13.1%
<b>Priv</b>	\$627,448	2.6%
<b>Ind</b>	\$4,193,943	17.2%
<b>Total</b>	\$24,448,302	100.0%
<b>Public</b>	\$19,626,911	80.3%
<b>Private</b>	\$4,821,391	19.7%
<b>Total</b>	\$24,448,302	100.0%

#### 2023-24

	Dollars	Percent
<b>NU</b>	\$14,083,410	57.6%
<b>NSCS</b>	\$2,118,600	8.7%
<b>CC</b>	\$3,499,620	14.3%
<b>Priv</b>	\$579,160	2.4%
<b>Ind</b>	\$4,167,512	17.0%
<b>Total</b>	\$24,448,302	100.0%
<b>Public</b>	\$19,701,630	80.6%
<b>Private</b>	\$4,746,672	19.4%
<b>Total</b>	\$24,448,302	100.0%



**2022-23**

	Dollars	Percent
<b>NU</b>	\$13,615,173	55.7%
<b>NSCS</b>	\$2,162,749	8.8%
<b>CC</b>	\$3,293,383	13.5%
<b>Priv</b>	\$604,631	2.5%
<b>Ind</b>	\$4,272,366	17.5%
<b>Total</b>	\$23,948,302	98.0%
<b>Public</b>	\$19,071,305	78.0%
<b>Private</b>	\$4,876,997	19.9%
<b>Total</b>	\$23,948,302	98.0%

**2021-22**

	Dollars	Percent
<b>NU</b>	\$13,414,179	58.5%
<b>NSCS</b>	\$1,910,417	8.3%
<b>CC</b>	\$3,095,056	13.5%
<b>Priv</b>	\$532,822	2.3%
<b>Ind</b>	\$3,995,828	17.4%
<b>Total</b>	\$22,948,302	100.0%
<b>Public</b>	\$18,419,652	80.3%
<b>Private</b>	\$4,528,650	19.7%
<b>Total</b>	\$22,948,302	100.0%

**2020-21**

	Dollars	Percent
<b>NU</b>	\$11,564,965	54.7%
<b>NSCS</b>	\$1,752,168	8.3%
<b>CC</b>	\$3,151,419	14.9%
<b>Priv</b>	\$449,658	2.1%
<b>Ind</b>	\$4,221,758	20.0%
<b>Total</b>	\$21,139,968	100.0%
<b>Public</b>	\$16,468,552	77.9%
<b>Private</b>	\$4,671,416	22.1%
<b>Total</b>	\$21,139,968	100.0%

**2019-20**

	Dollars	Percent
<b>NU</b>	\$10,294,910	54.3%
<b>NSCS</b>	\$1,495,400	7.9%
<b>CC</b>	\$2,968,686	15.7%
<b>Priv</b>	\$442,081	2.3%
<b>Ind</b>	\$3,747,225	19.8%
<b>Total</b>	\$18,948,302	100.0%
<b>Public</b>	\$14,758,996	77.9%
<b>Private</b>	\$4,189,306	22.1%
<b>Total</b>	\$18,948,302	100.0%

**2018-19**

	Dollars	Percent
<b>NU</b>	\$9,467,798	52.6%
<b>NSCS</b>	\$1,383,314	7.7%
<b>CC</b>	\$3,067,929	17.0%
<b>Priv</b>	\$558,421	3.1%
<b>Ind</b>	\$3,526,912	19.6%
<b>Total</b>	\$18,004,374	100.0%
<b>Public</b>	\$13,919,041	77.3%
<b>Private</b>	\$4,085,333	22.7%
<b>Total</b>	\$18,004,374	100.0%

**2017-18**

	Dollars	Percent
<b>NU</b>	\$9,008,975	51.6%
<b>NSCS</b>	\$1,288,880	7.4%
<b>CC</b>	\$2,599,823	14.9%
<b>Priv</b>	\$1,172,514	6.7%
<b>Ind</b>	\$3,378,110	19.4%
<b>Total</b>	\$17,448,302	100.0%
<b>Public</b>	\$12,897,678	73.9%
<b>Private</b>	\$4,550,624	26.1%
<b>Total</b>	\$17,448,302	100.0%

**2016-17**

	Dollars	Percent
<b>NU</b>	\$8,426,399	49.7%
<b>NSCS</b>	\$1,326,487	7.8%
<b>CC</b>	\$2,934,560	17.3%
<b>Priv</b>	\$866,711	5.1%
<b>Ind</b>	\$3,394,146	20.0%
<b>Total</b>	\$16,948,302	100.0%
<b>Public</b>	\$12,687,446	74.9%
<b>Private</b>	\$4,260,856	25.1%
<b>Total</b>	\$16,948,302	100.0%

**2015-16**

	Dollars	Percent
<b>NU</b>	\$7,734,845	45.9%
<b>NSCS</b>	\$1,175,019	7.0%
<b>CC</b>	\$3,110,456	18.4%
<b>Priv</b>	\$1,559,712	9.2%
<b>Ind</b>	\$3,288,124	19.5%
<b>Total</b>	\$16,868,156	100.0%
<b>Public</b>	\$12,020,320	71.3%
<b>Private</b>	\$4,847,836	28.7%
<b>Total</b>	\$16,868,156	100.0%

**2014-15**

	Dollars	Percent
<b>NU</b>	\$7,256,011	44.1%
<b>NSCS</b>	\$1,182,964	7.2%
<b>CC</b>	\$3,067,820	18.6%
<b>Priv</b>	\$1,803,200	10.9%
<b>Ind</b>	\$3,158,161	19.2%
<b>Total</b>	\$16,468,156	100.0%
<b>Public</b>	\$11,506,795	69.9%
<b>Private</b>	\$4,961,361	30.1%
<b>Total</b>	\$16,468,156	100.0%

**2013-14**

	Dollars	Percent
<b>NU</b>	\$7,026,919	42.7%
<b>NSCS</b>	\$1,109,418	6.7%
<b>CC</b>	\$3,187,642	19.4%
<b>Priv</b>	\$1,985,779	12.1%
<b>Ind</b>	\$3,138,286	19.1%
<b>Total</b>	\$16,448,044	100.0%
<b>Public</b>	\$11,323,979	68.8%
<b>Private</b>	\$5,124,065	31.2%
<b>Total</b>	\$16,448,044	100.0%

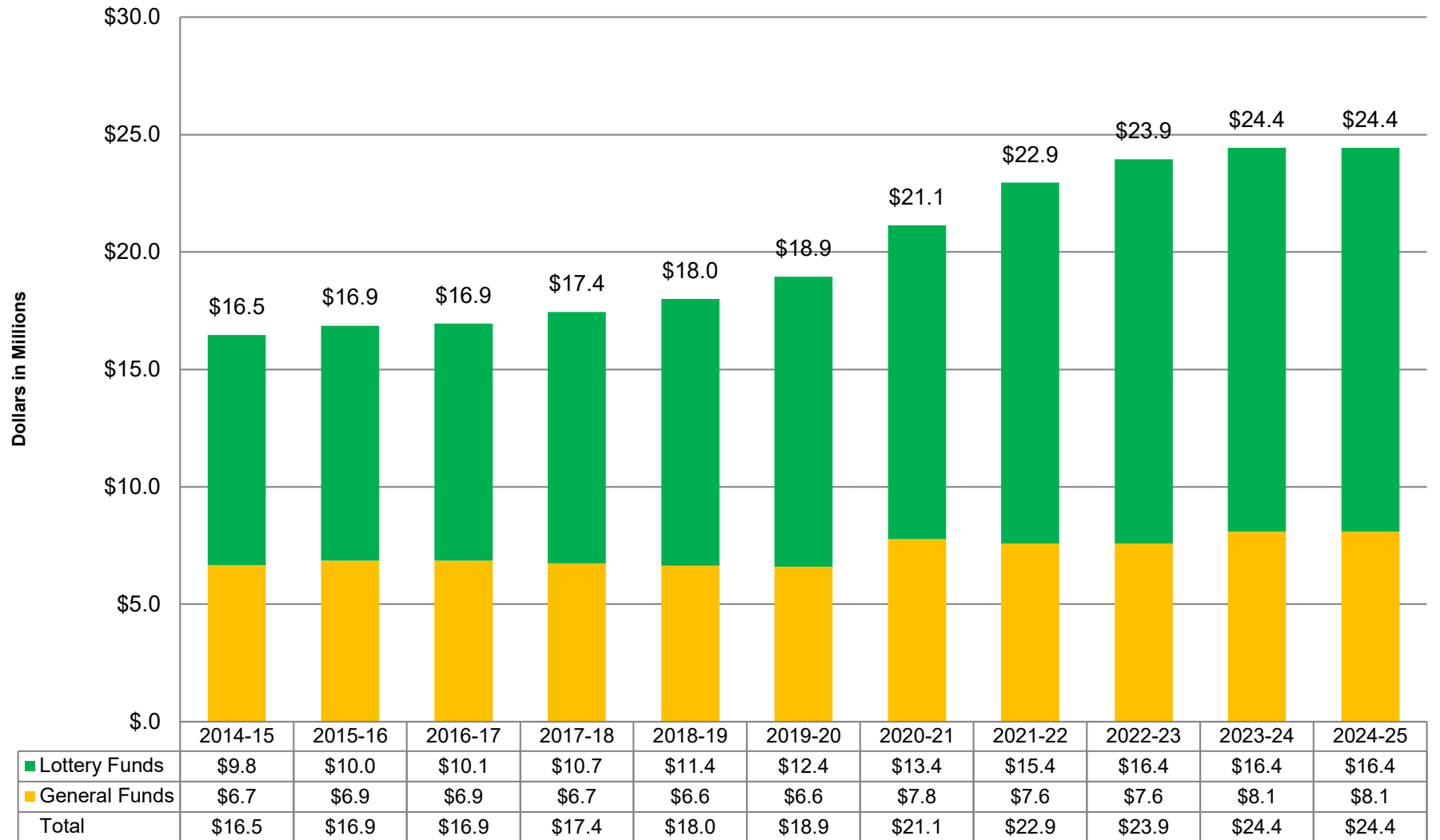
**2012-13**

	Dollars	Percent
<b>NU</b>	\$6,633,642	43.6%
<b>NSCS</b>	\$987,719	6.5%
<b>CC</b>	\$2,668,007	17.5%
<b>Priv</b>	\$1,915,261	12.6%
<b>Ind</b>	\$3,018,355	19.8%
<b>Total</b>	\$15,222,984	100.0%
<b>Public</b>	\$10,289,368	67.6%
<b>Private</b>	\$4,933,616	32.4%
<b>Total</b>	\$15,222,984	100.0%

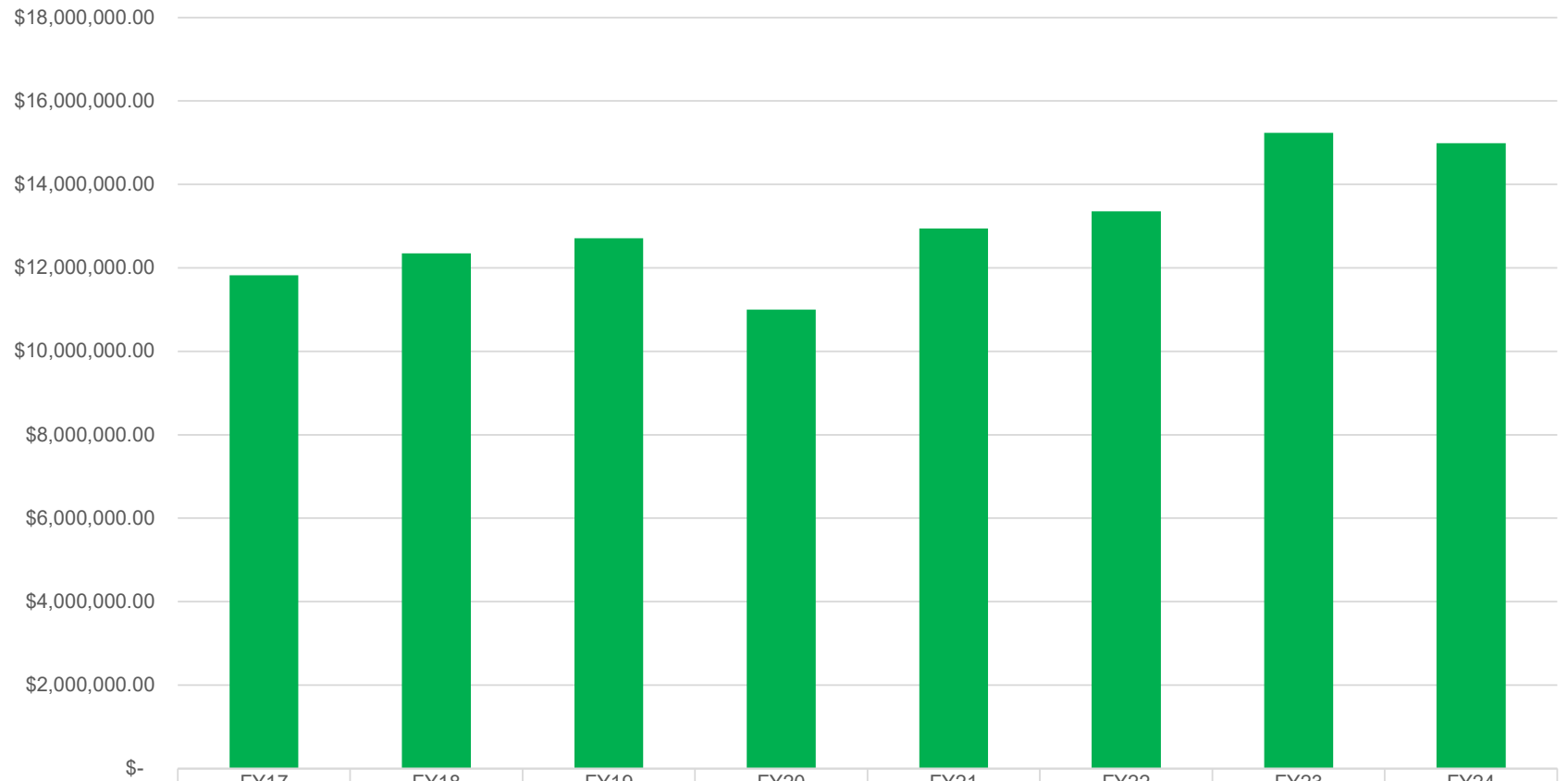
**2011-12**

	Dollars	Percent
<b>NU</b>	\$5,810,137	39.4%
<b>NSCS</b>	\$923,198	6.3%
<b>CC</b>	\$2,787,113	18.9%
<b>Priv</b>	\$2,419,700	16.4%
<b>Ind</b>	\$2,787,951	18.9%
<b>Total</b>	\$14,728,099	100.0%
<b>Public</b>	\$9,520,448	64.6%
<b>Private</b>	\$5,207,651	35.4%
<b>Total</b>	\$14,728,099	100.0%

## NOG Appropriation Funding by Source



## Lottery Fund Transfers to NOG



■ Lottery Proceeds for NOG

FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24
\$11,820,142.15	\$12,346,556.62	\$12,710,048.36	\$11,003,088.89	\$12,944,920.72	\$13,355,957.12	\$15,238,514.87	\$14,987,172.54