## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION STATE OF NEBRASKA

The Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education will hold consecutive public hearings on Thursday, September 19, 2024, commencing at 9:00 a.m. CDT in the Commission's conference room of Suite 300, 140 N. 8<sup>th</sup> St., in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Hearings will be held on the adoption of <u>Title 281</u>, <u>Nebraska Administrative Code</u>, <u>Chapter 1 –</u> <u>Rules and Regulations Governing the Excellence in Teaching Act</u>; amendments to <u>Title 281</u>, <u>Nebraska Administrative Code</u>, <u>Chapter 5 – Rules and Regulations Concerning the Nebraska</u> <u>Opportunity Grant Act</u>; and amendments to <u>Title 281</u>, <u>Nebraska Administrative Code</u>, <u>Chapter 8</u> <u>– Guaranty Recovery Cash Fund</u>.

The purpose of the adoption of Chapter 1 (281 NAC 1) is to create rules and regulations governing the Excellence in Teaching Act. LB 705 (2023) transferred administration of the Excellence in Teaching Act, 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. The rule governs eligibility, the application processes, awarding processes, requirements for Ioan forgiveness, and repayment processes for the Enhancing Excellence in Teaching Program, the Attracting Excellence to Teaching Program.

The purposes of the proposed amendments to Chapter 5 (281 NAC 5) are to elaborate the definition of "located in Nebraska" to include specific criteria for physical locations, and change terms from "expected family contribution" to "student aid index" pursuant to changes in federal law. These changes codify changes made to the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act by LB 705 (2023).

The purpose of the proposed amendment to Chapter 8 (281 NAC 8) is to increase surety bond or security agreement requirements for for-profit postsecondary educational institutions seeking initial recurrent authorization to operate in Nebraska. The amendment would increase the surety bond or security agreement requirement from \$20,000 to the highest projected annual tuition revenue over the five years subsequent to approval to operate in Nebraska. The Guaranty Recovery Cash Fund and surety bond or security agreements (Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 85-2422 to 2428) exist to reimburse students suffering loss or damage by the termination of operations of a for-profit postsecondary institution.

For information on these hearings, contact the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education at 140 N. 8<sup>th</sup> St, Suite 300, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508 or by phone at (402) 471-2847. Draft copies of the chapters proposed to be adopted or amended can be obtained from the Coordinating Commission at the above address or by viewing the Commission website at <u>www.ccpe.nebraska.gov</u>, as well as from the Office of the Secretary of State, State Capitol, 1445 K St., Suite 2300, Lincoln, NE 68508, (402) 471-2554.

Members of the public are invited to attend and present oral or written testimony at the public hearing. Written comments in advance of the public hearing are also solicited and may be sent to the Commission at the above address. If received by September 17, 2024, such advance comments will be made part of the hearing record at the time of the hearing. Individuals with

disabilities may request auxiliary aids or other services necessary for participating by contacting the Commission at the address or phone number listed above no later than September 17, 2024.

A copy of the fiscal impact statement for <u>Chapter 1</u>, <u>Chapter 5</u>, and <u>Chapter 8</u> can be obtained at the Commission's address or website listed above.

Dated at Lincoln, Nebraska this 14<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024.

Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education Dr. Michael Baumgartner Executive Director