

MDHETM

Missouri Department of Higher Education

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State Student Financial Aid Policy Task Force Meeting

May 15, 2018

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Morning Agenda

- 10:00 – 10:05 Welcome and Introductions
- 10:05 – 10:30 Refinement of First Charge
- 10:30 – 12:00 ECS Discussion
- Four Redesign Principles for State Financial Aid
 - Trends in Financial Aid Policy
 - Facilitated Discussion
- 12:00 – 12:45 Lunch

Afternoon Agenda

- 12:45 – 1:15 Data Review
- 1:15 – 2:45 Outstanding Policy Issues
 - Inclusiveness
 - Free College
 - Early Awareness Components
 - Eligibility Timeframe
 - Residency
 - Award Distribution
 - Workforce Connection
- 2:45 – 3:00 Wrap Up/Next Meeting

First Charge Refinement

First Charge

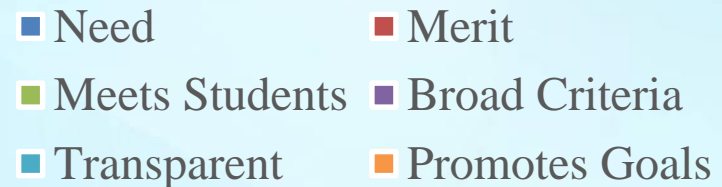
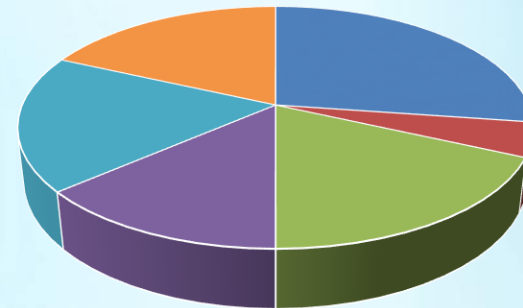
- Recommend a broad policy framework that will result in a more balanced, responsive, and efficient state aid system.
 - Surveys
 - Activity
 - Discussion

First Charge Survey Results

A balanced state aid system _____.

- prioritizes need
- expands the definition of merit
- meets students where they are
- provides broad awarding criteria
- is transparent in its operations
- promotes agreed upon goals

Balanced Top 2 Rankings

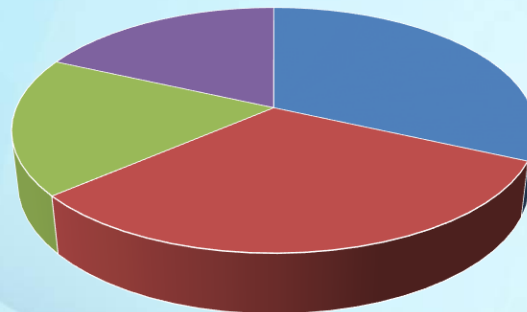


First Charge Survey Results

An efficient state aid system _____.

- serves intended students
- provides timely eligibility and award information
- is based on data-driven measures and considers impact
- is transparent in its operation

Efficient Top 2 Rankings



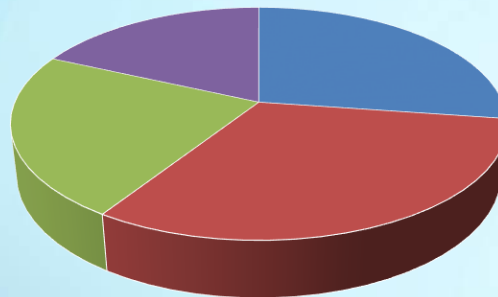
■ Intended Students ■ Timely
■ Data-Driven ■ Transparent

First Charge Survey Results

A responsive state aid system _____

- provides timely eligibility and award information
- is student centered
- is student outcome oriented
- is transparent in its operation

Responsive Top 2 Rankings



First Charge

Draft Value Statement

- A state aid system that is balanced, responsive, and efficient:
 - Is based on policies that are student centered,
 - Serves eligible students where they are,
 - Provides for timely awards,
 - Includes broad criteria that prioritize need,
 - Promotes Missouri's goals, and
 - Results in transparent operations.

Data Review

Outstanding Policy Issues

Inclusiveness (Traditional vs. Non-Traditional)

- Draft statement from survey 1:
I believe _____ should be the primary population served by a successful state student aid system.
- 18-24 year olds: 22% ranked #1; 78% ranked #2

Inclusiveness

(Traditional vs. Non-Traditional)

- Draft Policy Statement from Survey 2:

Missouri's student financial aid portfolio should be targeted to primarily assist students who are of traditional college age (18-24 years of age) who matriculate directly from secondary education (high school, high school equivalency, home school) to postsecondary education.
- 50% agreed; 8% somewhat agreed; 42% disagreed

Inclusiveness (Traditional vs. Non-Traditional)

- Revised Draft Policy Statement
 - Missouri's student financial aid portfolio should be targeted to primarily assist students who are of traditional college age (18-24 years of age) while including sufficient flexibility, either through separate programs or eligibility structure, to assist non-traditional students (age, prior education, other).

Two Years of “Free College”

- Charge 2c: The need to reduce or fully cover the cost for up to two years of postsecondary education for all eligible students
- Draft statement from survey 1:
I believe _____ should be a primary factor in determining eligibility/award levels for state student assistance.
- Only 30% ranked tuition and fees #1; 0 ranked #2
 - Not included in Survey 2 policy statement

Two Years of “Free College”

- Due to costs, most state-level “free college” or “Promise” programs are limited to covering tuition and fee costs.
- Draft Policy Statement
 - Missouri’s student financial aid portfolio should seek to at least cover the tuition and fee costs for students, with a focus on students with identified need and taking into account other available government-funded student aid.
 - In general, Missouri’s student aid portfolio should seek to assist students in financing their full cost of attendance rather than limit the focus to cover only tuition and fees.

Early Awareness Components

- Draft Policy Statement from Survey 2:

To the extent possible, Missouri's student financial aid programs should incorporate provisions that require high school students to demonstrate their preparation for postsecondary work (e.g., attendance, GPA or other academic performance, community service, etc.) in order to satisfy initial eligibility requirements.
- 67% Agreed; 25% Somewhat Agreed; 8% Disagreed

Early Awareness Components

- Might include—
 - High school performance
 - Financial literacy
 - Other postsecondary preparation
- Should early awareness/preparation components be incorporated into other programs?
- Should early awareness/preparation components be required separately?
- What types of programs, if any, are adaptable to this requirement?

Eligibility Timeframe

- Should students be required to enroll within a certain time frame after high school to be eligible for financial aid?
- If so, how soon?
- Is this appropriate for all programs? If not, which ones?

Eligibility Timeframes

- What is the appropriate length of eligibility?
- Current limits include:
 - 10 semesters
 - Receipt of an associate's or bachelor's degree
 - Completion of the hours normally required for the degree being pursued
 - Completion of 150 credit hours
 - Completion of 105% of the program hours
 - 48 months from high school graduation

Residency

- Should state residency be an eligibility requirement?
- What does residency standard should be applied for adult students?
- How does a residency requirement balance with Missouri's need to attract educated and/or skilled workers?

Award Distribution

- Should the award focus be on maximizing the number of students served or ensuring awards are large enough to be impactful?
 - Many recipients/smaller awards
 - Fewer recipients/larger awards
- How should the appropriate balance be determined?

Workforce Connection

- Should the state's student aid portfolio include incentives to enroll in specific program areas?
 - How should those areas be determined?
 - Separate programs or “bonus”?
- To what extent should programs include work requirements after graduation?
 - If included, should those requirements use penalties (scholarship to loan) or incentives (tax credit/tax deduction)?

Other Issues

- Are there other financial aid policy issues the task force needs to consider?

Final 15

- Wrap Up
- Next Meeting
 - May 29; Room 400; HST
 - Address Any Outstanding Issues
 - Review Comprehensive Policy Statements
 - Determine Need for June 4 Meeting
- Adjourn

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