NCCPE Fact Sheet

Nebraska's Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education

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

- Creating and putting into action a comprehensive statewide plan to guide Nebraska’s higher education system.
- Partnering with Legislators to develop innovative and results-driven higher education policy.
- Helping low-income Nebraska students attend college by awarding more than $17 million in need-based financial aid programs and developing state financial aid strategy.
- Administering the Community College Gap Assistance Program, which offers financial aid to students who want to work in high-need fields.
- Ensuring the efficient use of taxpayer funds by approving or disapproving postsecondary construction projects that rely on tax funds and reviewing institutional biennial budget requests.
- Approving or disapproving academic programs based on specific criteria: need, demand, unnecessary duplication, resources, and cost.
- Assembling and analyzing statewide data and publishing reports tied to the state’s higher education goals. The Coordinating Commission is the only Nebraska entity that does this kind of work on a statewide level.
- Administering roughly $95 million in annual State appropriations to Nebraska’s six community colleges.
- Helping teachers and underserved populations through the administration of federal education grants.
- Saving Nebraska colleges and universities thousands of dollars through the administration of a nationwide distance learning agreement.

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