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NCCPE Fact Sheet

Nebraska's Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education

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NEBRASKA'S COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

FACT SHEET

Coordinating Commission

BY THE NUMBERS:

82

Percentage of 2013-14 Access College Early scholarship recipients who went to college after high school - compared to 53.6% of other low-income students. The Commission administers this program.

15,943

The number of low-income Nebraska college students who received a Nebraska Opportunity Grant in 2014-15. The Commission administers this program.

VIII-14

Article in the Nebraska constitution that created the current Coordinating Commission

11

Commissioners, appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Legislature, who serve as voting members of the Commission

11.5

State-funded Commission employees—fewer than in 2005.

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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