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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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