

MISSISSIPPI POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BOARD



IHL Executive Offices, Room 218
3825 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211

May 21, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

MINUTES

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board held a regular meeting on Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. Members of the media and public were invited to attend the meeting in Room 218 of the Education and Research Center, 3825 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, Mississippi, 39211.

The following member participated via Zoom or teleconference:

- Debbi Braswell, MAICU appointee
- Ben Burnett, MAICU appointee
- Mark Keenum, IHL Institutional appointee
- Ann Lamar, IHL Board appointee
- Sharon Ross, Governor's appointee
- Jim Turcotte, Governor's appointee and Chairman

The following members did not participate:

- Lee Bush, MCCB appointee
- Louanne Langston, MCCB Institutional appointee

Also in attendance remotely were:

- Stephanie Ganuchau, Special Assistant Attorney General Universities Division
- Kim Gallaspy, IHL Director of Legislative Services
- Meg Harris, Assistant Director of Operations, Student Financial Aid
- Audra Kimble, Mississippi Community College Board
- Jennifer Rogers, Director of Student Financial Aid and Postsecondary Director

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Turcotte.

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January 16, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes - On motion by Dr. Keenum and seconded by Ms. Braswell, all Board Members legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the board meeting held on January 16, 2020 as originally drafted.

February 12, 2020 Strategic Planning Meeting Minutes - On motion by Ms. Braswell and seconded by Ms. Ross, all Board Members legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the strategic planning meeting held on February 12, 2020 as originally drafted.

March 27, 2020 Special Called Meeting Minutes - On motion by Ms. Lamar and seconded by Ms. Ross, all Board Members legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the special called board meeting held on March 27, 2020 as originally drafted.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Item 1: Ms. Rogers presented a PowerPoint presentation, saved under separate cover as Exhibit 1. No action was required of the Board.

1. Presentation of FY 2021 Budget Scenarios and Expectations

A Powerpoint presentation will be shown to explain the current budget situation and to provide a framework for discussing items 2 and 3.

Item 2: Ms. Rogers presented information about ACT Superscores and shared a report on ACT Superscores, saved under separate cover as Exhibit 2. After discussion, the Board took no action but directed Ms. Rogers to assume the acceptance of ACT Superscores when developing projections and drafting the budget request for FY 2022.

2. Discuss the Adoption of ACT Superscores for State Aid Eligibility

In September 2020 ACT will begin reporting Superscores for test takers who have taken more than one administration of the ACT or have retaken subject sections of the ACT. The IHL Office of Strategic Research conducted an analysis of ACT score data from more than 150,000 students attending a Mississippi public or private high school who took the ACT between February 2012 and November 2019. Based on this information, the IHL Board changed the IHL Admission Policy from using ACT Composite scores to ACT Superscores. Other institutions are expected to follow suit.

The Postsecondary Board will need to consider whether to change program rules to accept ACT Superscores in lieu of ACT Composite scores from a single test date.

What is ACT Superscoring?

ACT Superscoring takes the highest ACT subject test score (English, reading, math, and science) across all administrations, and recalculates a composite score based on the highest subtest scores:

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Test Date	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
February	17	18	19	21	19
April	19	19	20	22	20
June	19	18	22	22	20
Superscore	19	19	22	22	21

Who benefits from ACT Superscoring?

- Data shows that students who have the opportunity to take the ACT multiple times benefit the most from ACT superscoring.
- Students who take the ACT twice generally experience a half-point (+0.45) increase in their superscored composite score.
- Students who take the ACT five times generally experience a one point (+0.97) increase in their superscored composite score.
- Of the students who take the ACT five times, White (62.9%) outnumber African-American (27.9%) students by a 2:1 ratio.

How will ACT Superscoring impact state aid?

SFA conducted additional analysis on the data analyzed by the Office of Strategic Research to determine how many of the students who met the ACT requirement using Superscoring also met the other eligibility requirements for MESH or HELP. To qualify for MESH, SFA looked for students with an ACT Superscore of 29, a high school GPA of 3.5, and enrollment in a Mississippi institution. To qualify for HELP, SFA looked for students with an ACT Superscore of 20, a 2.5 high school GPA, a Pell-eligible EFC, and enrollment in a Mississippi institution.

ACT Superscoring will result in about 350 additional high school graduates establishing eligibility for MESH each year. The average annual cost increase will be about \$770,000. ACT Superscoring will result in about 550 additional high school graduates establishing eligibility for HELP each year. The average annual cost increase will be \$3.4 million. On average, an additional 900 students will qualify for state aid each year, and the average annual cost to award these students will be an additional \$4.1 million.

Graduation Year	MESH-Eligible 29 ACT Superscore		HELP-Eligible 20 ACT Superscore	
	2017	291	\$ 647,766	524
2018	372	\$ 828,072	556	\$ 3,409,392
2019	374	\$ 832,524	566	\$ 3,470,712
Average	346	\$ 769,454	549	\$ 3,364,424

Item 3: After discussion of the current budget situation and possible budget scenarios for the upcoming years, the Board took no action but directed Ms. Rogers to take a strategic approach when drafting the FY 2022 budget request. When the Board meets next, Ms. Rogers should present the Board with an FY 2022 budget request that fully funds authorized grant programs but does not fund the forgivable loan programs that have been unfunded in recent years.

3. Discuss the FY2022 Budget Request

The annual budget request and corresponding five-year strategic plan are due to the Legislative Budget Office in July. SFA will draft the budget request and strategic plan to present to the Board in the July 1, 2020 meeting. SFA requests direction from the Board regarding the formulation of the request.

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ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS IF NECESSARY

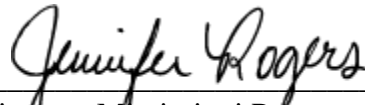
The Board did not consider any additional agenda items.

EXECUTIVE SESSION IF DETERMINED NECESSARY

The Board did not consider the need to enter Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Dr. Turcotte declared the meeting adjourned.



Director, Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial
Assistance Board