POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

September 2024 Quarterly Meeting

September 27, 2024

10:00 AM









POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BOARD



Minutes (pg. 3)

June 28, 2024 Board Meeting



POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BOARD



Items for Consideration







1. Name Southeastern Baptist College an Eligible Institution (pg. 31)

- Update APA Part 605: General Administration Rules and Regulations
- Southeastern Baptist College meets requirements
 - Private, not-for-profit
 - Physically located in Laurel, MS
 - Chartered 1948
 - MCCA approval in 1963
- Board request: Approval recommended







2. HELP Grant Applications/Awards (pg. 35)

- Presentation
 - 23-24 Awards down by 367 recipients
 - Applications by deadline UP
 - Applicants meeting academic requirements UP
 - Applicants meeting EFC eligibility UP
 - Applicants meeting AGI and enrollment requirements DOWN
 - Retention rates DOWN
- Board request: Discussion only







	2020-21		2021-22		2022-23			2023-24				
	#	%	(+/-)	#	%	(+/-)	#	%	(+/-)	#	%	(+/-)
_												
Count PY Grads	31,186		-1,292	30,189		-997	30,351		162	30,458		107
w/ Apps by DLD	12,053	38.6%	45	10,701	35.4%	-1,352	12,507	41.2%	1,806	12,911	42.4%	404
w/ ACT & GPA	6,941	22.3%	-115	6,291	20.8%	-650	6,543	21.6%	252	6,795	22.3%	252
w/ EFC	3,474	11.1%	-193	3,024	10.0%	-450	3,131	10.3%	107	3,329	10.9%	198
w/ AGI	2,545	8.2%	-222	2,124	7.0%	-421	2,218	7.3%	94	2,142	7.0%	-76
Rec'd HELP Y1	1,612	5.2%	-338	1,537	5.1%	-75	1,648	5.4%	111	1,515	5.0%	-133
Rec'd HELP Y2	1,058	65.6%	-119	1,095	71.2%	37	1,031	62.6%	-64			
Rec'd HELP Y3	829	51.4%	-66	787	51.2%	-42						
Rec'd HELP Y4	650	40.3%	-77									



POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BOARD



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	2020-21		2021-22		2022-23			2023-24				
	#	%	(+/-)	#	%	(+/-)	 # 	%	(+/-)	#	%	(+/-)
HELP Awards	4,307		-54	4,249		-58	4,505	ı	256	4,138		-367
Freshmen	1,612	37.4%	-338	1,537	36.2%	-75	1,648	36.6%	111	1,515	36.6%	-133
Sophomores	1,177	27.3%	133	1,058	24.9%	-119	1,095	24.3%	37	1,031	24.9%	-64
Juniors	792	18.4%	75	895	21.1%	103	829	18.4%	-66	787	19.0%	-42
Seniors	572	13.3%	75	622	14.6%	50	727	16.1%	105	650	15.7%	-77
5th Yr Seniors	154	3.6%	1	137	3.2%	-17	206	4.6%	69	155	3.7%	-51



POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BOARD





3. Strategic Planning Discussion

- A. Extend HELP Grant Application Deadlines
- B. Legislative Request to Amend HELP Code
- C. Legislative Request to Expand MTAG (MTAG Works)
- D. Legislative Request to Repeal Remaining Forgivable Loans
- E. Future of Nurse Retention Loan Repayment
- F. Funding Challenges / Alternative Approaches to Funding







3.A. Extend HELP Grant Deadlines (pg. 35)

- MTAG/MESG deadlines: September 15/October 15
- HELP deadlines: March 31/April 30
- Extend to April/May or May/June
- Additional data unavailable at this time
- Board request: Discussion only







3.B. Amend HELP Grant Code Section

- Amend HELP Grant Code Section 37-106-75
 - 1. Remove HELP Core Curriculum requirement
 - 2. Utilize the family size derived from the FAFSA
 - 3. Remove outdated language
- Total impact to cost and recipients:
 - 120-200 additional recipients
 - \$1 M \$1.2 M additional cost
- Board request: Approval recommended







3.B.1. Remove HELP Curriculum Req't (pg. 35-36)

- Unnecessary for determining "college readiness"
 - 20 ACT and 2.5 GPA also required
 - IHL CPC already required for graduation at most high schools
 - IHL CPC already required for admission to IHL institutions
- Administrative burden
 - Counselors must manually evaluate and submit curriculum
 - Not submitted for ~50 students each year (43% of denials)
 - SFA Staff must evaluate for homeschool students
- Minimal impact to recipients or cost (2.5% of recipients)







	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	
Recipients	4,249	4,505	4,138	
Amount Received	\$27,686,733	\$30,172,816	\$29,190,736	
Ineligible due to Core	114 (2.6%)	113 (2.4%)	110 (2.6%)	
Amount not Received	\$735,186	\$751,337	\$774,950	
Did Not Complete Core	66 (57.9%)	64 (56.6%)	62 (56.4%)	
Core Not Reported	48 (42.1%)	49 (43.4%)	48 (43.6%)	







3.B.2. Utilize FAFSA Family Size (pg. 36-37)

- Current requirements:
 - Pell-eligible EFC/SAI from FAFSA
 - AGI from FAFSA (<\$39,500 + \$5,000 for each additional child under 21)
- Family size from FAFSA determined by tax qualified dependents
- Application burden
 - Household size verification worksheet
 - Verification documents (when discrepancies)
- Administrative burden
- Change to AGI from FAFSA (< \$39,500 + \$5,000 for family size > three)
- Minimal impact to recipients or cost







	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Additional Recipients	69	7	81
Additional Amount	\$335,319	\$(18,755)	\$504,998









3.B.3. Remove Outdated Language (pg. 37)

- Ability to award grants to applicants who fail to meet criteria by 10% or less
- Waiver of curriculum requirement for 1996-1997 academic year
- No impact to recipients or cost







MTAG WORKS

Providing educational opportunities for more skilled Mississippians.





THE NEED FOR **DEGREES**

There are not enough Mississippians prepared for the workforce.



47.6%

current postsecondary attainment rate (Lumina Foundation, January 2024)



63%

of all jobs in Mississippi will require some training beyond high school (Georgetown University National Report, March 2024)

There is a production shortfall of college credentials.



THE NEED FOR SKILLED WORKERS

Improving college affordability supports a skilled workforce.



87%

of current MS employers indicate the workforce needs additional education and training

(Accelerate MS Horizons Conference, August 2024)

The state needs more college graduates among working-aged Mississippians.



Providing educational opportunities for more skilled Mississippians.



LINDSEY

FRESHMAN
PRACTICAL NURSING MAJOR
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
3.0 GPA
18 ACT®
MAX PELL GRANT



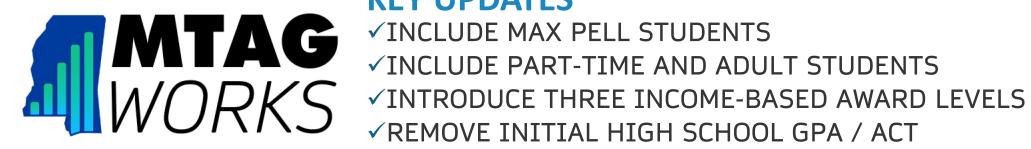
ELIJAH

SENIOR
CYBERSECURITY MAJOR
PUBLIC UNIVERSITY
3.7 GPA
20 ACT®
PART-TIME STUDENT

Current MTAG exclusions are limiting student options.



Providing educational opportunities for more skilled Mississippians.



KEY UPDATES

- ✓INCLUDE MAX PELL STUDENTS

- ✓ REMOVE INITIAL HIGH SCHOOL GPA / ACT
- ✓ MAINTAIN NO INCOME CAP

Make MTAG work for more Mississippians.



Providing educational opportunities for more skilled Mississippians.



AID LEVELS BY INCOME & ENROLLMENT

	Number of New Recipients	Freshman/ Sophomore Years	Junior/ Senior Years	Aid over 4 Years (full-time)	Aid over 4 Years (part-time)
0 - 50% Median	19,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$6,000	\$3,000
Income	MAX PELL STUDENTS				PART-TIME STUDENTS
51-100% Median Income	8,000	\$750	\$1,500	\$4,500	\$2,250
101%+ Median Income	11,000	\$500	\$1,000	\$3,000	\$1,500



Providing educational opportunities for more skilled Mississippians.



GRAD RATE: +10%

Current Grad Rate: 49% Estimated Grad Rate with MTAG Works: 63%

Make MTAG work for more Mississippians.



Providing educational opportunities for more skilled Mississippians.



2:1 ROI

Estimated Cost: \$31.5M Estimated ROI: \$63M (Example Cohort: Class of 2017)

Make MTAG work for more Mississippians.





Providing educational opportunities for more skilled Mississippians.





3.C. Adopt MTAG Works Redesign (pg. 40-48)

- Proposed by State Aid Redesign Task Force
- Support statewide educational attainment goal "Ascent to 55%"
- MTAG unchanged since creation in 1995
- + 38,000 recipients (+ enrollment 2%; + graduation rate 2.5%)
- + \$31.5 Million (breakdown by institution)
- 2:1 ROI
- Board request: Approval recommended







3.C. Adopt MTAG Works Redesign (cont.)

Changes:

- Remove Pell exclusion
- Allow part-time enrollment (minimum 6 hours)
- Remove initial academic requirements to expand access to adult learners
- Increase award amounts (three tiers of awards)
- Require FAFSA







3.D. Repeal Remaining Forgivable Loans (pg. 48-50)

- Continuation of ongoing effort
- Forgivable loans costly to administer
- Forgivable loans ineffective
- Forgivable loans hard to discharge
- High borrower default rates
- No cost; cost savings
- Board request: Approval recommended







3.D. Repeal Remaining Forgivable Loans (cont.)

- Sections to amend or repeal:
 - Authorization
 - State Medical Education FL (prohibited in appropriation bill)
 - State Dental Education FL (prohibited in appropriation bill)
 - Graduate & Professional Degree FL (prohibited in appropriation bill)
 - Health Care Professions FL (prohibited in appropriation bill)
 - Family Protection Specialist Social Worker FL (prohibited in approp. bill)
 - Dyslexia Education FL (created in 2014; insufficient funding)
 - Speech-Language Pathologists FL (annual funding capped at \$70,000)







3.E. Future of Nurse Retention Loan Repayment Program (pg. 50)

- Nursing Education and Nursing Teacher Stipend Forgivable Loans repealed
- NULR awards up to \$6,000/year for up to 3 years
- Funded with ARPA funds that expire in December 2026
- Board request: Guidance on continuation and funding source







3.F. Funding Challenges/Approaches (pg. 51-52)

- Block funding vs. line-item appropriation
 - Block funding for General Funds
 - Line-item appropriation for Education Enhancement Funds
 - Complicates budgeting and budget request
- Timing of appropriations
 - Too late to aid student decision-making
 - Forward-funding ideal
 - Alternative: prepare to request deficit appropriation annually
- Board request: Discussion only







4. Selection of Chairperson for 2024-25 (pg. 52)

- Required by APA Part 601, Chapter 2, Rule 2.1, Section III
- Dr. Jim Turcotte current chairperson
- May serve consecutive terms as chairperson







5. Updates and Announcements (pg. 52)

- MTAG Works presentations:
 - Education Achievement Council Meeting October 21
 - Joint Legislative Hearing December 11
- Next meeting in January to approve Annual Report





Executive Session

If Determined Necessary









POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

