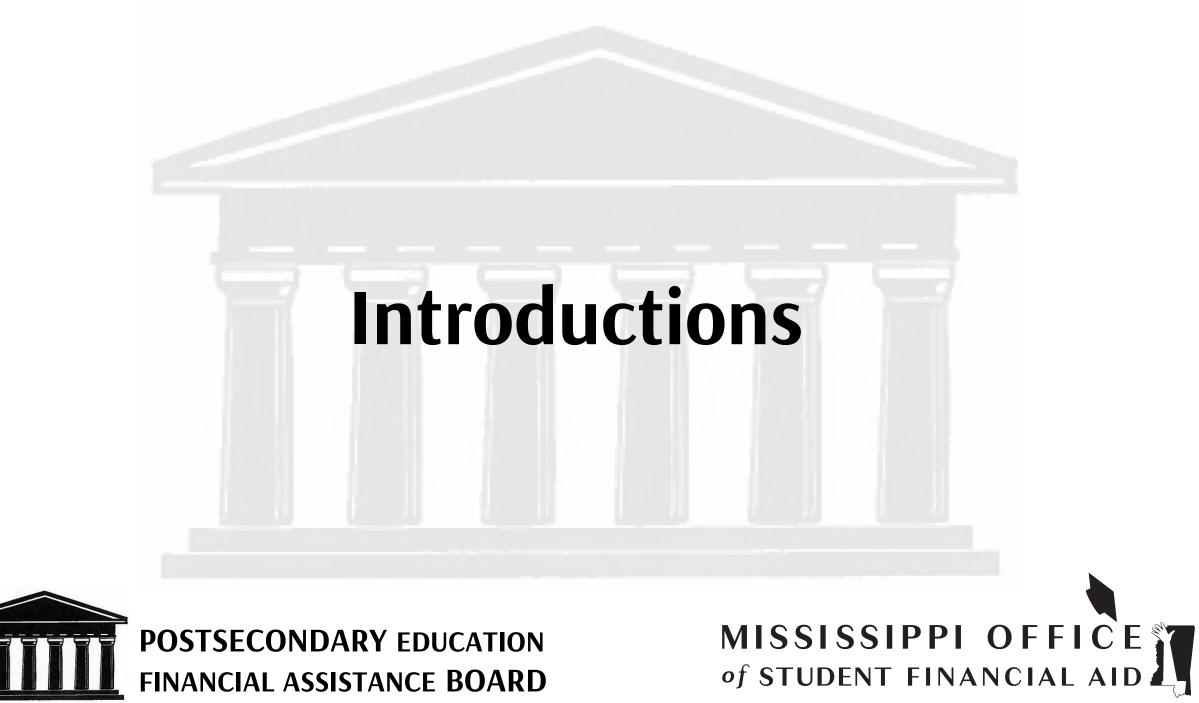
POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

May 2025 Quarterly Meeting

May 7, 2025 2:30 PM

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POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BOARD



Minutes (pg. 3)

January 14, 2025 Board Meeting







POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

1. 2025 Legislative Session Update (pg. 12)

• Requested by SFA:

- HB 627 Repeal forgivable loan programs
- HB 628 MTAG Works (without award amount increases)
- HB 814 Update HELP to remove curriculum & revise family size
- "Free College" Proposals
 - HB 11 and HB 1556 MissCATEE (CTE forgivable loan)
 - SB 2527 MS Promise
 - SB 2528 MS Reconnect
 - SB 2529 MS Career Promise (CTE forgivable loan)



1. 2025 Legislative Session Update – (Cont.)

- New Loan Repayment Programs:
 - HB 593 Rural Physicians
 - SB 2514 Nurse Teachers
 - SB 2524 Board Certified Behavior Analysts
 - SB 2595 Educational Counselors, Psychologists and Psychiatrists
- Other:
 - SB 2444 Combat Veterans scholarship
- Appropriation: SB 3009
- Board request: Discussion only; no action required



POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

2. Update on FY 2025 Awards & Budget (pg. 13)

- FY 2025 budget adequate to fully fund all programs
- No deficit appropriation needed for 4th consecutive year
- SFA will lapse General Funds to be carried over to FY 2026
- Board request: Discussion only; no action required



MISSISSIPPI OFFICE of STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

3. Update Rules & Regs to Change Definition of Full-Time from 15 to 12 Credit Hours (pg. 14)

- State code requires full-time enrollment, but does not define hours required for full-time enrollment
- Full-time hours increased from 12 to 15 in June 2016 in response to budget deficit
- Rationale for change:
 - For federal aid, 12 hours is full-time
 - More students taking dual credit/enrollment
 - Increases pressure on STEM majors
- Board voted to change from 15 to 12 in January 2025
- Need to officially update the Program Rules and Regulations



3. Update Rules & Regs to Change Definition of Full-Time from 15 to 12 Credit Hours (Cont.)

- A. General Administration Rules and Regulations pg. 14
- B. MTAG Rules and Regulations pg. 16
- C. MESG Rules and Regulations pg. 17
- D. HELP Rules and Regulations pg. 18
- E. LAW Rules and Regulations pg. 19

Board request: Approval recommended



POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

4. Update Nissan Scholarship Rules (pg. 20)

- Changes requested to simplify the selection process
- Current process to select 1-2 recipients per year:
 - Nissan reviews trust returns and determines number of awards
 - SFA requests selection committee appointments (7-members including Nissan representative, 2 MCCB faculty, 2 IHL faculty, 2 IHL staff)
 - If awarding, SFA conducts initial electronic review of academic and financial eligibility
 - SFA duplicates top applications and sends to selection committee
 - Selection committee scores applications using rubrics and SFA tallies scores
- Recommended change:
 - 5-member committee of Nissan representative, 2 MCCB staff, and 2 IHL staff
- Board request: Approval recommended



POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BOARD MISSISSIPPI OFFICE of student financial aid

5. Update FAITH Scholarship Rules (pg. 21)

- FAITH awards up to COA
- COA is set by institution and can be increased to cover educational expenses
- FAITH awards for a single year may exceed \$30,000
- FAITH is awarded first-come, first-served, so excessive awards could create budget shortfall
- Change requested to clarify that FAITH awards will not cover unusual or unnecessary costs of attendance
- SFA will provide guidance to institutions
- Board request: Approval recommended



POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

6. Approve Personnel Changes (pg. 22)

- Increased Program Administrator workloads due to new loan repayment programs
- Loan Repayment Specialist position vacant since 2019
 - Forgivable loan duties shared by Program Administrators and Director
- Assistant Director of Policy and Planning position vacant since April 2023
- Personnel proposal:
 - Hire Deputy Director
 - Change title of Director to Executive Director
- Board request: Approval recommended



7. Updates and Announcements (pg. 25)

- Board member appointments:
 - MCCB Board Representative
 - IHL Institutional Representative
- Next meeting: June/July
 - Approve Annual Operating Budget (AOB) & Program Allocation
 - Approve FY 2027 Budget Request (MBR)
 - Approve 5-Year Strategic Plan



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Executive Session

If Determined Necessary



POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

