

<http://www.hecb.wa.gov/>

Budget Update

Financial assistance for students decreased because of HECB 6.3% reduction.

- Surging demand for financial assistance among the state's neediest students is expected to continue this year.
- Reductions in financial aid make up the bulk of our agency's across-the-board cuts. General fund appropriations to the HECB are < 5% for agency and program administration and 95% for student assistance in all its forms. A \$6.9 million reduction in **State Need Grant** will result in over 2,100 eligible students going unserved. This number is in addition to the 22,000 unserved in the 2009-10 academic year. **SNG Less than Half-time** program cuts will result in an additional 122 unserved students. **State Work Study** will be reduced by nearly \$500,000 and result in about 250 unserved needy students. Reductions in other programs will affect recipients of **Washington Scholars** (additional 3.1% cut) and the **Washington Award for Vocational Excellence** (3.1% cuts for both).
- We anticipate that many of these students will fail to persist and the remainder will find other sources to make up the difference in their cost of education through loans and/or work.
- Other affects of cuts include fewer institutional resources for **CAMP** (migrant program), a reduction in the number of **Community Scholarship Matching Grants** awarded community organizations, and a slowdown in implementation of science and English **college readiness definitions** statewide.

<http://www.hecb.wa.gov/news/HECB-Newsletter.asp>

Other HECB News

Governor forms Higher Education Funding Task Force. A Task Force of 19 members from business, industry, and higher education began meeting this summer to provide insights and recommendations for funding higher education, which is a discretionary part of the state's budget. The Task Force has met three times and two more meetings are scheduled. The task force is focusing on three charges:

- Develop a realistic and viable long-range funding strategy that provides Washington Students with affordable higher education opportunities.
- Recommend ways to improve accountability and performance in our public four-year higher education institutions to ensure we get the very highest value for the state's and student's investment.
- Consider whether the higher education system's current governance model should be modified to improve system-wide performance and accountability.

HECB Research: Do Loans Really Expand Opportunities for Community College Students? A recent study of borrowing among financially needy community college students in Washington, conducted by the HECB, shows that while some types of students are likely to borrow from federal loan programs, others are less likely to borrow. The following types of students are less likely to borrow: first generation college students; females; students considered financially dependent upon their parents; and students who are Asian/Pacific Islander, Hispanic, or American Indian. Students more likely to borrow include those from higher income families, students who are financially independent, male students and older students.

Policy makers must not assume that the neediest students will use federal student loan programs to offset reductions in other types of financial aid. www.hecb.wa.gov/news/newsreports/documents/LoanquestionCSCC_paper_final.pdf

HECB Research: The Impact of Interstate Migration on Human Capital Development in Washington.

More Washington high school graduates leave the state to pursue a college education than come here for the same purpose, according to a new report by the HECB. In the fall of 2008, 1,235 more Washington high school graduates left the state to pursue college educations than came here for the same purpose. Lower-income students who were eligible for financial assistance and had enrolled in private institutions in other states accounted for the largest share of the net out-migration.

To a significant degree, Washington also relies on talent attracted from other states and countries to meet its labor force needs. While Washington colleges and universities produced more than 29,000 bachelor's degrees in 2007, another 22,027 bachelor's holders came to Washington from out of state that year. Furthermore, the number of graduate- and professional-degree holders from outside Washington actually exceeded the number of those who earned such degrees at Washington institutions. Washington's reliance on out-of-state workers is due in part to a scarcity of educational opportunities for students from Washington to earn degrees within the state in key employment disciplines.

www.hecb.wa.gov/research/documents/2010migrationReport-final.pdf.

Staff visit 13 campuses. To help implement the System Design Plan, HECB staff made 13 on-site visits during the months of May through July to all public baccalaureate institutions (including some branch campuses) and several independent institutions and community colleges. The purpose of these visits was to gather information directly from campuses about their near-term and longer-term plans for growth and to discuss how to streamline existing processes for program approval and program review processes.

HECB selects new Executive Director. Governor appoints three new members to Board. Don Bennett was selected as the new executive director in August. Bennett, who has extensive executive management experience in state government, had been serving as interim executive director of the agency since April. In addition, three new Board members were appointed by the Governor: Paul Ishii, general manager of the Mayflower Park Hotel in downtown Seattle; Student Representative Samuel Hap Shaddox, a first-semester student in the University of Washington Law School; and Addison Jacobs, the director of public affairs for the Port of Vancouver.

Technology Transformation Taskforce report being completed. The HECB has convened an independent Technology Transformation Taskforce to recommend strategies to improve and streamline the use of technology in higher education. The Taskforce has held regular meetings since fall 2009 and delivered the first of two required reports to the Legislature in December 2009. A second report, including recommendations, will be completed in December 2010.

Transfer and Articulation Report. We are revising the format for our biennial report to the legislature on Transfer and Articulation. We want to address these two core questions:

1. How many students transfer and is the number/proportion increasing? This includes: the number of ready-to-transfer students (e.g., 45 hours with 2.0 GPA, AA degree recipients), transfers sector-to-sector, transfers via various paths (e.g., AA, Running Start, MRP), transfer rates for various types of students (e.g., AA recipients, college-ready, 15 credits with intent to transfer) within 3 years and within 6 years, and the proportion of new admits at public BI.
2. Are students successful after they transfer? This includes first term/year retention rates, 3-year graduation rates, and total number of credits completed upon graduating (from all institutions) compared to the number completed by native students.

Any or all of the above may be analyzed over time. Analyses may also be conducted using race, gender, financial aid status, type of transfer student (e.g., AA recipient, MRP), sector, or other variables as appropriate. Some analyses may not appear in the January 2011 report but may be released through a series of policy briefs posted on the HECB website or deferred until the next report in 2013. We are working closely with ERDC in securing accurate and consistent data for this report.

Other information available on our website - <http://www.hecb.wa.gov/>

- New degrees approved. <http://www.hecb.wa.gov/autheval/dpr/dprindex.asp>
 - University of Washington Tacoma Bachelor of Arts in Writing Studies
 - Central Washington University B.S. in Clinical Physiology
- Educators for the 21st Century Conference October 26-27. <http://www.hecb.wa.gov/Educators.asp> .
- HECB and the State Board of Education proposals to better align high school graduation requirements with minimum college admission standards. <http://www.hecb.wa.gov/research/issues/admissions.asp>
- **The Educational Research and Data Center (ERDC)** is developing a P-20 longitudinal data system and the HECB is collaborating with them on projects related to pipeline issues. They will link OSPI, SBCTC, HECB, public baccalaureate, National Student Clearinghouse, and Employment Securities data. At this time, we are primarily focused on a baccalaureate follow-up study and data for the Transfer and Articulation Report, including improvements to the Mobility database. -<http://www.erd.c.wa.gov/>
- **Prior Learning Recognition Report.** Participating with the SBCTC and other stakeholders to develop policies for awarding academic credit for learning in alternative settings (**Senate Bill 6357**). Report due December 31st.