Higher Education Assistance Plans

HB 2550

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THECB 10/30/13

HB 2550: Consolidation of Higher Education Enrollment Assistance Programs

- Passed by 83rd Legislature, 2013 (§51.810)
- Consolidates Higher Education Enrollment Assistance Program (§61.088) & Higher Education Assistance Plan (§61.07622)
- Purpose: increase college-going at low-performing high schools (identified by THECB)
- Transfers responsibility for collaborating with high schools from THECB to IHEs

Elements of HB 2550

- Carryover from the two previous plans:
  - IHE in closest proximity to HS is to provide info to HS students on admissions, testing, financial aid, etc.
  - Closest IHE is also to assist HS students with admissions & financial aid applications, testing, etc.

- New legislation:
  - Adds emphasis on African American males & Hispanics
  - IHEs work with ISDs to provide access to dual credit
  - IHEs annually report plans & results to THECB
  - THECB summarizes plans & results in annual *Closing the Gaps* Progress Report

THECB Responsibilities

- Identify high schools – one possibility:
  - HB 400 already identifies low-performing HS's: average of 26+ grads, lowest 10% HS to college, must be low-performing 2 consecutive years (approximately 150 high schools)
- Other Ideas for identifying high schools?

THECB Responsibilities (cont.)

- Summarize plan results – possible metrics:
  - HS to college enrollment rates overall/Hispanic/AA male, 2-yr/4-yr, and dual credit students/non-dual students
  - Number of applications to universities (& to CTCs when ApplyTexas data are available), with breakouts
  - Participation & success in dual credit courses
  - Persistence in higher ed (fall to spring & fall to fall)
  - Number of FAFSA completions

How Should THECB Obtain Plan Information?

- **Survey sent once a year to find out what your institution does**

(Check all that apply)

  - College fairs
  - FAFSA assistance sessions
  - Outreach to bring HS students to tour campus
  - Outreach to bring HS students campus events
  - Distribution of admission and financial aid materials at HS
  - Work Study students contact high school freshmen
  - Grants/scholarships targeted to students at HS
  - Training for HS counselors

Survey of Activities (Cont.)

- College admission/recruitment staff placed on HS campus (% of time?)
- Bridge programs or other college readiness activities
- Dual credit partnerships
- High school and college faculty collaborations
- SAT/ACT/TSI test prep
- Mentoring/tutoring
- First-year support/success programs
- Other (specify)

Ideas for activities to add to survey, additional metrics, or other approaches to providing THECB with Plan information?

- Send to:

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First College-Level Course Stakeholder Advisory Group; Update and Timeline

- First meeting held on August 7, 2013
  - Participants provided input on what should be included in first college-level course guidelines
- Draft guidelines developed and sent to participants for comments
- Second Advisory Group meeting (webinar format) held on October 18 to discuss draft proposal and comments
- Revised draft will be sent to Advisory Group for comments in early November; guidelines will be updated based on feedback
- Draft guidelines will be distributed widely for review in December (TACC, CPUPC, presidents, CIOs, CAOs, DevEd directors, THECB leadership, etc.)
- Anticipated posting date for final guidelines: Jan/Feb 2013