



SC Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission

Providing Opportunity. Promoting Choice.

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Agency Updates and Initiatives

Personnel: Kira Demery, Program Coordinator, attended a Leadership Symposium, held at Claflin University, and hosted by the SC Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (SCASFAA), on April 25th. She has also recently earned the Consumer Information credential through the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA). Kira and Gena Miles, Financial Officer, attended an in-person class offered by the Statewide Training Team on the 5 Choices to Extraordinary Productivity, a Franklin Covey course, in April.

Zachary Christian, Deputy Director, successfully presided over his first Executive Board Meeting as President of SCASFAA on June 8th and 9th and will represent the State of South Carolina on the Executive Board of the Southern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (SASFAA) once again this year. Zachary will also attend the annual NASFAA conference in San Diego beginning June 29th as SCASFAA President.

Executive Director Katie Harrison has continued her work as Past President of the National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs (NASSGAP), including in-depth work with the US Department of Education on the upcoming FAFSA changes. She is one of four people who will represent the State of South Carolina at a "Train the Trainer" workshop hosted by the National College Attainment Network (NCAN) and Federal Student Aid (FSA) in Washington, DC, in July. She will also represent the agency at the State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) Policy Conference in August and their State Learning Community FAFSA Convening event in September.

Status of Audits and Other Reviews: The Office of the State Auditor recently began its review of the agency's FY22 and FY23 accounting records. Once the review is complete, the final report will be made available to all Commission members. Agency staff have begun working on the material that will be presented to the House Legislative Oversight Committee later this year as part of their review and study. At this time, these hearings have not been scheduled. The Committee is currently holding its hearings with the Commission on Higher Education.

Student Information System: With the long-awaited procurement process finalized, the agency entered into a contract with Nelnet Diversified Solutions on April 1st for the planning, development, implementation, and maintenance of a new Student Information System. The Nelnet system is called GrantPro and will be branded for the Tuition Grants Commission as "myTG." The team is making great progress in the development of the system, and we anticipate a go-live date of September 1st, just in time for processing Tuition Grants for the Fall 2023 semester. In addition to streamlining the process for aid administrators, the "myTG" system will also include a student portal, which will allow students to register and view the status of their grant award and disbursements, request a transfer from one college to another, upload documents when required, and more. Demonstrations and training for the new system will be made available to all college financial aid offices later this summer, and the agency has made recent improvements to its conference room, which will allow for enhanced opportunities for additional training, either virtually or in person. Thank you to Zachary and Kira, who have been heavily involved with the development process.