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LOUISIANA COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

TO: Dr. Monty Sullivan
LCTCS President

FROM: Dr. Emily Campbell *EC*
Chief Enrollment Management Officer

SUBJECT: Academic Year 2017-2018 Institutional Aid Pilot Overview

DATE: 05/31/2018

Received
APPROVED
SK 6/13/18
LCTCS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

FOR BOARD INFORMATION:

In March 2017, the Board of Supervisors of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) approved a comprehensive and strategic plan to ensure the long term sustainability and growth of the LCTCS. This plan, known as the "Strategic Sustainability and Growth Plan," contained many facets, including Item 1A, which called for college leaders to "develop initiatives to lessen the financial burden of the total cost of attendance for students."

In June 2017, the LCTCS Board of Supervisors approved a package of items that together reduced the financial burden on students in an effort to incentivize enrollment. The package included: 1) maintaining tuition for academic year 2017-2018 at 2016-2017 rates, 2) authorization of an LCTCS Institutional Aid Pilot that authorized colleges to provide financial incentives to attract target student populations, and 3) endorsement of the reduction of non-tuition related costs of attendance, the most prominent being the reduction of textbook costs.

Enrollment across the LCTCS was stable for academic year 2017-2018 (compared to 2016-2017), reversing a three year decline. This stabilization is partly attributable to the LCTCS Board's bold action and the implementation by colleges of innovative institutional aid pilots. Each college, using historical enrollment data, identified populations who have historically "under-enrolled" (examples included former students who did not complete or transfer to another institution, adult students, students not eligible for Title IV funds) and offered applicants/continuing students within those populations reduced tuition (waivers). Each college submitted to the Board Office a plan for the pilot, which included the specific population of students they would target, the total dollar value of waivers that would be offered, and the estimated net return in terms of enrollments and revenue. College leaders estimated that the pilot would include approximately 2,000 students, \$613,000 in waivers, and would return (in terms of increased enrollments) approximately \$810,000 in tuition revenue.

Because the 2017-2018 aid year does not conclude until the end of the summer 2018 term, final outcomes of the pilot are not yet available but will be reported to the Board in the fall.

Monty Sullivan
Approved for Recommendation to the Board
Dr. Monty Sullivan

6-13-18
Date