



South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

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Agenda Item 7.03 B

Memorandum

TO: Dr. Layton R. McCurdy, Chairman, and Members
S.C. Commission on Higher Education

FROM: Ms. Cynthia Mosteller, Chairperson
Members of the Access & Equity and Student Services Committee

DATE: October 30, 2008

Addition of E-2 Visa Classification to CHE Approved Visa Classification List

Commission staff has reviewed the list of CHE approved visa classifications through which a student can receive in-state status for tuition and fee purposes. At the request of some of our state's colleges and universities, staff has also researched the possibility of adding the E-2 visa to the CHE Approved Visa Classification List.

The E-2 visa allows an alien to enter the United States under and in pursuance of the provisions of a treaty of commerce and navigation between the United States and the foreign state of which he is a national, solely to develop and direct the operations of an enterprise in which he has invested, or of an enterprise in which he is actively in the process of investing a substantial amount of capital. The spouse and children of any such alien if accompanying or following may join them under the specifications of this visa.

The Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services met on October 2, 2008, and considered adding the E-2 Visa classification to the CHE Approved Visa classification List. At that meeting, the Committee received both written and verbal testimony from USC, Clemson University and the SC Department of Commerce regarding the addition of the E-2 Visa to the CHE Approved Visa Classification list. The Committee unanimously approved the addition of the E-2 Visa to the CHE Approved Visa Classification list.

Recommendation

The Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services recommends that the S.C. Commission on Higher Education approve the addition of the E-2 Visa classification to the CHE Approved list. If approved by the S.C. Commission on Higher Education, the E-2 Visa classification will be added to the CHE Approved list.