

**SCNational Guard College Assistance Program (SCNGCAP)  
Review/Evaluation Committee Meeting  
Main Conference Room  
November 20, 2019  
10:00 a.m.**

**SCAir National Guard**

SMSgt. Steven David

**SCArmy National Guard**

MSG Paul Mead

**Institutional Representatives**

Mr. Hank Fuller, The Citadel

Ms. Sylvia Mills, Midlands Technical College

Ms. Summer Nance, Limestone College

**Guests**

Ms. Julie Frick, USC Columbia

**CHE Staff**

Ms. Lorinda Copeland

Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

**1. Introductions and Approval of Minutes**

The meeting opened at 10:00 a.m. Introductions were made by everyone in attendance. Dr. Karen Woodfaulk asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 26, 2019 meeting. The motion was made (Mead) and seconded (David) to accept the minutes as written. The minutes were accepted as written.

**2. SCNG CAP Awards Update**

Ms. Lorinda Copeland reported as of November 19, 2019, the fall 2019 awards were \$807,468.50. Approximately 12 institutions had not submitted the eligibility verification spreadsheet and/or a request for funds. The deadline for institutions to request and/or return funds was November 22, 2019. Ms. Copeland asked if there were suggestions or feedback regarding the process. Ms. Summer Nance responded that the process was smooth for her first time awarding the SCNGCAP. She appreciated the assistance provided by Ms. Copeland and the SC National Guard representatives. Ms. Sylvia Mills responded that she was appreciative of the assistance provided. Also, spring enrollment would be reported earlier because her institution is removing the 25% and 50% refund policy. However, she would still have to wait until the second term enrollment is complete.

**3. SCNG CAP AY2019-20 Eligibility Update**

MSG Paul Mead reported that the Army Guard received 851 applications. Of this total, 690 were approved and the projected funding \$2,869,200. The projected AIT completions for the spring and summer semesters were 89 and the projected funding \$198,000. The total projected funding for the Army Guard was \$3,067,200. SMSgt. Steven David stated that his approved applications remained at 99 and the projected funding \$891,000.

**4. Previous Points of Discussion**

- **Removal of the 130 Attempted Credit Hour Maximum**
- **SCNG CAP Web Portal**

Ms. Mills asked about the 130 attempted credit hour maximum because the hours are still required to be reported. Dr. Woodfaulk responded that the

Commission did approve the removal of the 130 attempted credit hour maximum. She stated that removal was also endorsed by the Office of the Adjutant General. However, the next step is to move forward with the regulatory process as directed by the SC National Guard. Ms. Copeland provided an update regarding the SCNG CAP web portal. She stated that technology projects must be approved by the Division of Technology Operations (DTO) and was in a final security review. Dr. Woodfaulk responded that DTO approval was another layer of approval for CHE and that she hoped there would soon be information to disseminate to the institutions. MSG Mead explained the technical difficulties that had occurred during the application window for the SCNG CAP. He asked the institutional representatives to contact him if they had students that were not reported to them as eligible.

## **5. Other Business, Comments, or Concerns**

- **Satisfactory Academic Progress - Calculation of Maximum Timeframe with Hours from Various Institutions (In-state/Out-of-state and Military)**
- **ROTC Full Scholarship Definition**

Ms. Summer Nance provided an overview regarding a student with transfer hours from four institutions (military, out-of-state, online and in-state). The attempted credit hours exceeded 200. However, the student had only been awarded \$3,500 as of the initial eligibility date. Ms. Copeland asked if the 130 attempted credit hour maximum was removed, how would satisfactory academic progress (SAP) be calculated. She asked Ms. Julie Frick if all hours for this student would be used to calculate SAP based on the SAP methodology that she had previously provided to the committee. Ms. Frick responded that in her opinion, the hours would be included. Also, in addition to grade point average requirements, degree progression is monitored and full-time equivalency terms for students pursuing a bachelor's degree. She stated in her opinion when the 130 attempted credit hour maximum is eliminated, SAP will limit career students but will award eligible students. Dr. Woodfaulk stated when the 130 attempted credit hour maximum is removed, students would still be eligible up to the \$18,000 maximum if SAP is met. Ms. Mills responded that students can attempt 150% of the degree program. However, students at two-year institutions would meet this percentage quickly. Ms. Frick explained that removing the 130 attempted credit hour maximum would benefit students who are eager to enroll in a higher number of courses but must drop courses. These attempted hours have a quick impact on the 130 attempted credit hour maximum. Dr. Woodfaulk asked the committee to share issues regarding the 130 attempted credit hour maximum. This would allow issues to be resolved before the 130 attempted credit hour maximum is removed. Dr. Woodfaulk shared with the committee that there was a proposal to increase the maximum award to \$24,000. Mr. Hank Fuller responded that he would like to see the maximum benefit increased to \$30,000 - \$32,000 to fund students for four years instead of two.

Dr. Woodfaulk stated that CHE staff received a request from the SC National Guard to review the Reserve Officer's Training Corps (ROTC) full scholarship definition. The SCNG CAP regulation states that ROTC full scholarship recipients are not eligible for the SCNG CAP. However, information was presented that clarified a

full ROTC scholarship is an option between room and board or tuition and fees, not both. The definition of a full scholarship was approved by the Commission and will be submitted to the SC Legislature for approval. An ROTC scholarship recipient will be eligible for the SCNG CAP up to the cost of attendance. Mr. Fuller responded that there is no ROTC scholarship option that would pay both room and board and tuition. Mr. Fuller suggested that the problem could be solved easier if the verbiage regarding an ROTC scholarship was removed. Ms. Copeland responded that for the proposed change to be effective the fall 2020 semester, it was easier to define full ROTC scholarship in the regulation instead of removing the statutory language. Dr. Woodfaulk stated that a statutory change is a longer process because a code of law must be amended or changed. Although in the statute, clarification is made in the regulation. Mr. Fuller stated that he would prefer to eliminate confusion that students may have regarding a decision between room and board and tuition. Students may not maximize the use of the ROTC scholarship benefit because tuition is \$13,000 and room and board \$7,000. The ROTC scholarship is more valuable if tuition and fees is selected. He further stated that the proposed regulation would allow an additional 25 to 35 students eligibility to receive the SCNG CAP. Dr. Woodfaulk stated that the public hearing for the ROTC full scholarship full definition would be held in January. If there were comments, Dr. Woodfaulk asked that comments be forwarded to her.

SMSgt. David asked Ms. Frick if she could provide direction for the establishment of military discounts at other institutions. Ms. Frick responded that the bursar's office at her institution is involved in the process, not financial aid. She further stated that the SCNG CAP Review Evaluation Committee is where ideas could be discussed. Although all institutions are not represented, there is room for discussion with other institutions. SMSgt. David stated that his primary goal is 100% tuition for members of the SC National Guard. Ms. Nance suggested contact with the institution to start a conversation. Military discounts at her institution did not evolve out of financial aid, but a higher administrative decision.

Ms. Copeland will contact the committee to schedule the spring 2020 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorinda Copeland  
Recording Secretary