



## HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY UPDATE

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

The 2022 regular session of the 124<sup>th</sup> South Carolina General Assembly concluded last Thursday afternoon at 5 p.m. with an agreement to return June 15 at noon for a special session to work on the FY 2022-23 budget and conference committees.

Last week, the House reviewed the Senate’s budget recommendations. The House released “House 2,” or its second version of the budget. State-funded scholarship amounts remain steady. The PASCAL funding amount remained the same, but the funding source was moved from unclaimed prizes to net proceeds, which is a more stable funding suballocation. For FY 2022-23, the lottery proceeds and unclaimed prizes are appropriated as follows.

<b>NET PROCEEDS:</b>			
CHE	LIFE	\$	232,953,927
CHE	Palmetto	\$	10,694,895
CHE and Tech Board	Tuition Assistance	\$	51,100,000
CHE	Need-based	\$	60,000,000
CHE	National Guard College Assistance Program	\$	6,200,000
CHE	College Transition Program Scholarships	\$	4,105,597
CHE	PASCAL	\$	1,500,000
<b>UNCLAIMED PRIZES:</b>			
CHE	Higher Education Excellence Enhancement Program (HEEEP)	\$	6,072,474

The House 2 version of the budget reflects an increase in the National Guard College Assistance Program (from \$2.6 million in FY 22) and the College Transition Program (from \$750,000 in FY 22).

Today, May 17, Governor McMaster signed the “Save Women’s Sports Act” ([H. 4608](#)) into law. The law requires athletes in South Carolina schools from the elementary to college levels to compete based on the gender they were assigned at birth.

[H. 3591](#) (SC Educator Preparation Report Card) was signed by Governor McMaster. The law directs the CHE to be the lead agency and establish the annual development and publication of the South Carolina teacher preparation report card. The CHE is directed to form a commission with the assistance of the Department of Education, State Board of Education, SC-TEACHER, and Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office.

[S. 888](#) was also ratified. During the application process for a contractor’s license, a contractor may donate to a specific public college or university that offers courses in building science or civil engineering.

The composition and responsibilities of the Coordinating Council for Workforce Development were revised in [H. 4766](#). The bill was ratified. The CHE’s Executive Director is a member of the Coordinating Council.

[H. 3144](#) changes the eligibility requirements for the South Carolina Workforce Industry Needs Scholarship (SC WINS), and it was ratified. The State Board of Technical and Comprehensive Education (SBTCE) administers SC WINS. This scholarship is currently available to students attending a two-year technical college and dually enrolled high school students. To qualify for the current scholarship, students must either major in a critical workforce area program or fall at or below 185% of Federal income poverty guidelines. This bill would remove the income qualifications so that only students majoring in a critical workforce area would qualify for the scholarship.

A conference committee was appointed for [H. 3588](#). The bill establishes course requirements for high school seniors to be eligible for LIFE scholarships. A senior must successfully complete a math/computer science course and an English course. Senators Massey, Scott and Talley represent the Senate on the conference committee.

On May 12, the CHE’s proposed regulations were finalized: Reg. 5051 (Tuition and Fees), 5052 (LIFE), 5053 (Palmetto) and 5054 (Need-based Grant Program).