

## Summary of Proposed Action State Board of Higher Education September. 28, 2017

1. **Issue:** Proposed elimination of [SBHE policy 302.6](#) – Student Financial Assistance Program Advisory Board
2. **Proposed actions:** Approve elimination of SBHE policy 302.6– Student Financial Assistance Program Advisory Board
3. **Background information:** House Bill 1036, as approved by the 2017 Legislative Assembly, repealed NDCC section 15-62.4-04, thereby eliminating the current student financial assistance program advisory board.

The advisory board, as it is currently structured, provides advice to the SBHE and acts as liaison between the SBHE and the institutions of higher education solely related to the state grant program. The state grant program provides financial awards to students who demonstrate significant financial need and are attending an institution of higher education within the state.

Many of the duties historically considered by the advisory board, such as the annual award amount and residency issues, have been prescribed in statute in recent years. This has minimized the required functions of the advisory board. Additionally, North Dakota has a broad range of financial aid programs that are not represented by the advisory board. The programs include the ND Academic Scholarship and Career and Technical Education Scholarship, the ND Scholars Program, the ND Indian Scholarship and various loan forgiveness programs and student exchange opportunities.

The NDUS will be developing an advisory group that would encompass all state financial aid programs and other financial aid topics. The new advisory group would bring together key stakeholders to provide strategic direction on establishing and maintaining financial aid programs that support the post-secondary education of North Dakota residents. SBHE policy and/or procedure related to the new advisory group will be presented at a later date for consideration.

4. **Financial implications:** None
5. **Legal/policy issues:** None
6. **Academic issues:** None
7. **Coordination:** Senior staff, Councils and SBHE Committees
8. **Attachments:** None
9. **Contact information:** Tammy Dolan, [tammy.dolan@ndus.edu](mailto:tammy.dolan@ndus.edu), 701-328-4116
10. **Chancellor's Cabinet recommendation:** Recommend approve