Section 4. Selection of Peer and Aspirational Institutions

1. At least every three years, institutions will recommend a list of three comparison peer institutions and no more than three comparison aspirational institutions. Peer institutions will serve as the basis of comparison for outcomes in areas such as student retention rates, graduation rates, awards conferred, research productivity, and other relevant metrics, particularly those associated with the NSHE strategic plan. Aspirational institutions will represent the general characteristics of the desired future state, for the institution’s strategic goals.

2. The recommended list of comparison peer institutions must include public institutions only and come from the most recent annual IPEDS Data Feedback Report. Comparison peer institutions must be selected due to similarity with the NSHE institution, based on characteristics including but not limited to 12-month full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment, percent of undergraduate students receiving a Pell Grant, academic program mix, urban/rural location, and/or percent of faculty who are full-time. Aspirational institutions shall be recommended by the institution in consultation with the Chancellor and shall include public institutions only.

3. The recommended list of comparison peer and aspirational institutions will be submitted to the Chancellor’s Office for review and feedback. Following review by the Chancellor’s Office, peer and aspirational institutions will be submitted to the Board for approval.

4. This section does not apply to Desert Research Institute.

RENUMBER SECTIONS 5 THROUGH 29 AS 6 THROUGH 30.