

BOARD OF REGENTS
BRIEFING PAPER

HANDBOOK REVISION: Millennium Scholarship Co-Enrollment Exception Policy

BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

Title 4, Chapter 19, Section 19 of the Board's *Handbook* currently provides an exception to enrollment requirements only if a course is not taught by the home institution and is required for a student's program of study. For the purposes of this policy, enrollment is defined as a minimum of 12 credits at an eligible four year institution and a minimum of six credits at an eligible community college. Therefore, it is possible that a student taking 3 credits at a community college and 9 credits at a university will not qualify for the scholarship. Likewise, a student with split enrollment across two four-year institutions would possibly not qualify.

SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

Amend Title 4, Chapter 19, Section 19 to allow institutions to grant co-enrollment exceptions according to institutionally established procedures and guidelines.

IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

It was brought to the attention of System Administration during the 2007 legislative session that the current co-enrollment exception policy is too narrowly defined and hinders students' ability to attend more than one institution when so doing may be necessary for access and success.

BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- ♦ The current policy is too narrowly defined and does not meet the needs of all institutions in locations across the state to ensure student success and access.
- ♦ Students often perceive enrollment in NSHE to be systemwide, rather than institutionally specific.
- ♦ Expanded flexibility allows institutions to formulate procedures and requirements in alignment with their mission and the needs of their students.
- ♦ Expanded flexibility promotes institutional partnerships and 2 + 2 programs.

POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- ♦ The change in policy will confuse students if other institutions develop differing co-enrollment exception procedures and regulations.
- ♦ Allowing co-enrollment limits institutional engagement and dilutes the student's tie to any one institution.

ALTERNATIVE(S) TO WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED/RECOMMENDED:

Keep the current policy allowing co-enrollment only if a course is not taught at the home institution and is required for a student's program of study.

COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:

- Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title # _____ Chapter # _____ Section # _____
- Amends Current Board Policy: *Title 4, Chapter 18, Section 19*
- Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter # _____ Section # _____
- Other: _____
- Fiscal Impact: Yes _____ No X _____
- Explain: _____

POLICY PROPOSAL
TITLE 4, CHAPTER 18, SECTION 19 (in part)
Millennium Scholarship Co-Enrollment Exception

Additions appear in *boldface italics*; deletions are [~~stricken~~ and bracketed]

- 19.5 A Nevada resident who meets the requirements set forth in section 19.1, 19.2 or 19.3 shall receive a Millennium Scholarship if the student:
- a. enrolls in at least 6 semester credits at [~~a NSHE~~] *an eligible* community college or 12 semester credits at another eligible institution; and
 - b. enrolls in a program of study leading to a recognized associate degree, baccalaureate degree, or pre-baccalaureate certificate.

Credits taken at another eligible institution to meet degree requirements at the student's home institution may count towards the requirement of 19.5(a) only with approval of the home institution and under institutionally established procedures and requirements.

"Home institution" means the institution at which the student is enrolled in a program of study leading to a recognized degree or certificate.

19.6 Millennium Scholarship lifetime limits

19.6.1 The maximum total Millennium Scholarship award is \$10,000.

19.6.2 All qualified students who graduated from high school on or before May 1, 2003, may receive a Millennium Scholarship during the eight academic years following (a) their high school graduation date¹, or (b) the date when they satisfied the requirements of section 19.2.

19.6.3 All qualified students, who graduated from high school after May 1, 2003, may receive a Millennium Scholarship during the six academic years following (a) their high school graduation date², or (b) the date when they satisfied the requirements of section 19.2.
(B/R 8/03)

An exception to the limitations of 19.6.2 and 19.6.3 is made for qualified students who serve on active duty in the United States Armed Forces. Time served on active duty, not to exceed six years, will not apply to the limitations in 19.6.2 and 19.6.3.

(B/R 8/03)

- 19.7 Students who have a documented physical or mental disability or who were previously subject to an individualized education program under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 et seq., or a plan under Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §§ 791 et seq. are to be determined by the institution to be exempt from the following Millennium Scholarship eligibility criteria:

¹ In the case of a student graduating from a program for adult learners (see section 19.1.1), on or before May 1, 2003, the eight-year period is the period following the regularly scheduled graduation date of the student's original high school class.

² In the case of a student graduating from a program for adult learners (see section 19.1.1), on or before May 1, 2003, the six-year period is the period following the regularly scheduled graduation date of the student's original high school class.

- a. 6 year application limitation following high school graduation set forth in section 19.1.3;
 - b. minimum semester credit hour enrollment levels set forth in sections 19.5 and 19.13(c); and
 - c. time limits for expending funds set forth in sections 19.6.2 and 19.6.3.
- (B/R 6/05)

19.8 Millennium Scholarship recipients may enroll in and receive the scholarship for summer term as long as they meet all eligibility requirements and all continuation requirements, excluding the requirements of 19.5a.

19.9 A student may [~~simultaneously~~] receive *simultaneously* [a] Millennium Scholarship *funding* at more than one eligible institution if the student meets the eligibility requirements established in 19.5(a) *for the credits approved by the home institution* [~~at each institution in which the student is enrolled and seeks to receive a Millennium Scholarship~~].

~~[An exception to the requirements of 19.5 is made for a student who is a Millennium Scholar at an institution where a course not taught by that institution is a requirement of the student's program. In that case, the required course, with the approval of the student's institution, may be taken with Millennium Scholarship support at a different eligible institution.]~~

19.10 The maximum amount of a Millennium Scholarship award each semester or summer term is determined on a dollars-per-credit enrolled basis as set by the State of Nevada⁵.

- a. Total semester disbursements shall not exceed the cost of 12 credits per semester across all eligible institutions based on dollar-per-credit rates set by the State of Nevada for the Millennium Scholarship.
- b. Millennium funds cannot be used to pay for remedial/developmental courses defined as any course with a course number less than 100.

(B/R 6/06)

19.11 The Millennium Scholarship may only be used for costs related to attendance that are not covered by other grants or scholarships. The financial aid office in each eligible institution shall administer the Millennium Scholarship and calculate the amount of the scholarship for each student. Costs of attendance shall be defined by the institution and shall include, but not be limited to, all costs defined under federal financial aid guidelines.

(B/R 6/05)

19.12 Appeals related to initial eligibility shall be handled on a case-by-case basis by a standing Millennium Scholarship Appeals Committee appointed by the Chair of the Board of Regents. The Committee shall consist of representatives of the Board of Regents, the NSHE's universities, state colleges and community colleges, one representative from an eligible non-NSHE institution, and the Governor and State Treasurer or their designees.

19.13 To remain eligible ⁶ for a Millennium Scholarship, a student with a Millennium Scholarship must meet all of the following conditions [~~at each institution where the student is a Millennium Scholarship recipient~~]:

- a. The student must make satisfactory academic progress, as defined by the *home* institution, toward a recognized associate degree, baccalaureate degree, or pre-baccalaureate certificate;
- b. The student must maintain at least a 2.00 cumulative grade point average if Millennium Scholarship eligibility occurred on or before May 1, 2003, and a 2.60 cumulative grade

- point average if the student became eligible for a Millennium Scholarship after May 1, 2003; and
- c. Beginning January 1, 2006, all students with initial Millennium Scholarship eligibility occurring after May 1, 2003 must:
 - 1. maintain a 2.60 semester grade point average for each semester during their first year of enrollment (first year is defined as less than 30 credit hours earned); and
 - 2. maintain a 2.75 semester grade point average for each semester thereafter.
 - d. The student must satisfactorily complete the *minimum* credit requirements [~~at each institution~~] *in courses approved by the home institution* in each fall and spring semester in which enrolled. The *minimum* credit requirements pursuant to section 19.5 (a) require at least 6 semester credits if enrolled at [a-NSHE] *an eligible* community college and 12 semester credits if enrolled at another eligible institution.
 - e. *The requirements of 19.13(c) must be met at each institution where the student is a Millennium Scholarship recipient for any fall or spring semester.*