

Commission for Postsecondary Education

	FY 2015 ACTUAL	FY 2016 ESTIMATE	FY 2017 BASELINE
OPERATING BUDGET			
<i>Full Time Equivalent Positions</i>	5.0	5.0	5.0
Personal Services	69,400	118,900	118,900
Employee Related Expenditures	33,000	53,000	53,000
Professional and Outside Services	16,100	0	0
Other Operating Expenditures	(2,800)	12,400	12,400
Equipment	1,000	0	0
OPERATING SUBTOTAL	116,700	184,300	184,300
SPECIAL LINE ITEMS			
Arizona College and Career Guide	100	21,300	21,300
Arizona Minority Educational Policy Analysis Center	13,300	100,000	100,000
Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership	2,319,500	2,319,500	2,319,500
Math and Science Teacher Initiative	176,000	176,000	176,000
Twelve Plus Partnership	70,500	130,500	130,500
AGENCY TOTAL	2,696,100	2,931,600	2,931,600
FUND SOURCES			
General Fund	1,396,800	1,396,800	1,396,800
<u>Other Appropriated Funds</u>			
Postsecondary Education Fund	1,299,300	1,534,800	1,534,800
SUBTOTAL - Other Appropriated Funds	1,299,300	1,534,800	1,534,800
SUBTOTAL - Appropriated Funds	2,696,100	2,931,600	2,931,600
Other Non-Appropriated Funds	1,131,600	723,100	723,100
Federal Funds	34,300	10,000	10,000
TOTAL - ALL SOURCES	3,862,000	3,664,700	3,664,700

AGENCY DESCRIPTION — The Commission for Postsecondary Education reviews and recommends higher education policies, while providing a discussion forum for public and private postsecondary educational institutions and their stakeholders on issues of mutual interest. The 16 commissioners are authorized to administer certain federal and state student financial aid programs.

Operating Budget

The Baseline includes \$184,300 and 4.5 FTE Positions from the Postsecondary Education Fund in FY 2017 for the operating budget. These amounts are unchanged from FY 2016.

Arizona College and Career Guide

The Baseline includes \$21,300 from the Postsecondary Education Fund in FY 2017 for the Arizona College and Career Guide line item. This amount is unchanged from FY 2016.

This line item funds cost associated with the Arizona College and Career Guide, which is an annual publication that lists Arizona's public and private postsecondary

educational institutions. The guide describes each institution's available degree and certificate programs, course lengths, and costs of attendance.

Arizona Minority Educational Policy Analysis Center

The Baseline includes \$100,000 and a 0.2 FTE Position from the Postsecondary Education Fund in FY 2017 for the Arizona Minority Educational Policy Analysis Center (AMEPAC) line item. These amounts are unchanged from FY 2016.

AMEPAC promotes minority students' access to Arizona's postsecondary educational institutions.

Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership

The Baseline includes \$2,319,500 for the Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (LEAP) in FY 2017. This amount consists of:

	<u>FY 2017</u>
General Fund	\$1,220,800
Postsecondary Education Fund	1,098,700

These amounts are unchanged from FY 2016.

LEAP is a state and institutional partnership that provides financial assistance to students demonstrating substantial financial need. To be eligible, students must attend, on at least a half-time basis, an approved program at a properly accredited Arizona postsecondary educational institution (including public universities, public community colleges, private collegiate institutions, and proprietary schools). The federal portion of these funds was eliminated in FY 2012. (Please see *Other Issues* for more information.)

Math and Science Teacher Initiative

The Baseline includes \$176,000 from the General Fund in FY 2017 for the Math and Science Teacher Initiative. This amount is unchanged from FY 2016.

The program, also known as the Math, Science and Special Education Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program (MSSE), offers forgivable loans to students pursuing a teaching degree at a postsecondary institution and who agree to teach math, science, or special education at an Arizona public school upon graduation. A.R.S. § 15-1784 allows the commission to retain up to 10% of the annual fund deposit for administration costs. The commission may also use the interest deposited into the fund for administration costs of the loan repayment portion of the program.

Twelve Plus Partnership

The Baseline includes \$130,500 and a 0.3 FTE Position from the Postsecondary Education Fund in FY 2017 for the Twelve Plus Partnership (TPP). These amounts are unchanged from FY 2016.

TPP is an early education awareness initiative with 3 components: Best Education Practices Conference and Awards Recognition, Think College, and College Goal Sunday. Approximately 70% of this line item funds College Goal Sunday, 25% of the monies go to Best Education Practices Conference and Awards Recognition, and the remaining 5% funds Think College. Private gifts,

donations of service, and corporate sponsorships support TPP.

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FORMAT — Operating Lump Sum with Special Line Items by Agency

FOOTNOTES

Standard Footnotes

The appropriations for the Arizona College and Career Guide, Arizona Minority Educational Policy Analysis Center and Twelve Plus Partnership are estimates representing all monies distributed to this fund, including balance forward, revenue and transfers, during FY 2017. The appropriations shall be adjusted as necessary to reflect actual final monies credited to the Postsecondary Education Fund.

Each participating institution, public or private, in order to be eligible to receive state matching monies under the Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership for grants to students, shall provide an amount of institutional matching monies that equals the amount of monies provided by the state to the institution for the Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership. Administrative expenses incurred by the Commission for Postsecondary Education shall be paid from institutional matching funds and may not exceed 12% of the monies in FY 2017.

Any unencumbered balance remaining in the Postsecondary Education Fund established by A.R.S. §15-1853 on June 30, 2016, and all grant monies and other revenues received by the Commission for Postsecondary Education, when paid into the State Treasury, are appropriated for the specific purposes designated by line items and for additional responsibilities prescribed in A.R.S. § 15-1851 and A.R.S. § 15-1852.

Other Issues

Status of Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership

LEAP was originally created as a federal, state, and institution partnership to provide financial assistance to students demonstrating substantial financial need. However, federal funding and authority was eliminated in FY 2012 by Public Law 112-10, Department of Defense and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011. The program therefore now operates with state and institutional funding only. In FY 2014, awards were provided through 41 postsecondary institutions. Of the total funding distributed, 34% went to public universities,

53% to community colleges, and 13% to private institutions.

Repayment Programs

The commission currently administers repayment programs for unforgiven loans from the Private Postsecondary Education Student Financial Assistance program (PFAP) and the Postsecondary Education Grant (PEG) program, both of which are no longer awarding new grants. In addition, the commission administers repayment programs for unforgiven loans from the MSSE, and the non-appropriated Paul Douglas Teacher Scholarship (PDTs). Loan collections are returned to their respective program fund.

PFAP

Prior to FY 2011, PFAP distributed awards of up to \$2,000 annually, for up to 2 years, to qualified community college graduates enrolled at a private baccalaureate degree granting institution chartered in Arizona, pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-1854. The PFAP program has not been funded since FY 2011, but the repayment process for existing unforgiven loans remains. Repayments are deposited into the Private Postsecondary Education Student Financial Assistance Fund. If a grantee does not earn a baccalaureate degree within 3 years, the grantee must repay the commission all award monies. When a grantee refuses to repay award monies or cannot be located, the Office of the Attorney General takes over administration of the repayment process.

There have been 1,651 students awarded PFAP forgivable loans since its inception in 1996. A total of 20 borrowers are currently being tracked in the repayment program or will be placed in repayment once located. The commission has turned over 66 of these loans to the Attorney General for collections.

The FY 2016 Higher Education Budget Reconciliation Bill (BRB) (Laws 2015, Chapter 16), as permanent law, allows the commission to use PFAP funds to administer PEG collections. At the end of FY 2015, the PFAP fund had a balance of \$33,900. The commission reported it expects to use at least \$5,100 of PFAP funds in FY 2016 to identify PEG students who have not met the loan requirements.

PEG

Prior to FY 2011, PEG distributed awards up to \$2,000 annually, for up to 4 years, to full-time and part-time students enrolled at a private baccalaureate degree-granting institution, pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-1855. The awards are forgiven if a student recipient earns a baccalaureate degree within 5 years. The program has not been funded since FY 2010, but the repayment

process remains (though not started until FY 2012) for existing unforgiven loans. Repayments will be deposited into the PEG Program Fund.

There have been 4,478 students awarded PEG forgivable loans since its inception in 2007. Of those recipients, 2,897 graduated with a baccalaureate degree and 18 are working to complete their degree. The remaining 1,563 are reported as not enrolled at an institution and are being located to determine their enrollment or graduation status. The commission has not yet determined any of these loans to be uncollectible and therefore, has not referred them to the Attorney General.

The FY 2016 Higher Education Budget BRB, as permanent law, allows the commission to contract with a third-party vendor to collect outstanding PEG debt. The commission has not yet selected a third-party vendor to collect debt, but plans to once it identifies students who did not meet loan forgiveness requirements. Once a vendor is selected, the FY 2016 Higher Education BRB (Laws 2015, Chapter 16), allows the commission to use PFAP funds to administer PEG collections.

MSSE

There have been 254 students awarded MSSE forgivable loans since its inception in FY 2007. Of those recipients, 134 completed the loan requirements and had their loan forgiven, 8 have paid their loan balance in full, 33 are currently in repayment, 12 have had their loans referred to the Attorney General, and 67 will require tracking for up to 15 years to ensure they meet the promissory note obligations and to determine retention rates.

PDTs

There have been 254 students awarded PDTs forgivable loans. Of those recipients, 2 are in default. All others have completed their obligation by fulfilling the teaching requirements of the program or repaying their loan in full.

Family College Savings Plan

The Family College Savings Program (FCSP) was established pursuant to Laws 1997, Chapter 171. It enables parents to save for their child's college education in plans compatible with Internal Revenue Code § 529 (529 Plans). Monies in these plans grow tax-free, and withdrawals for qualified higher educational expenses are federal and state income tax free. FCSP operates from the proceeds of new account fees, which are currently \$15 per account. The plans are available to both residents and non-residents of the state. The commission oversees 3 FCSP providers, 2 of which have multiple investment offerings in their plans.

In 2004, A.R.S. § 15-1873 established the Family College Savings Program Trust Fund, which is a non-appropriated fund. The FCSP Trust Fund will now directly receive FCSP fee revenues instead of the FCSP fee revenues passing through to the Postsecondary Education Fund.

SUMMARY OF FUNDS	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Estimate
Family College Savings Program Trust Fund (PEA3121/A.R.S. § 15-1873B)		Non-Appropriated
Source of Revenue: Fees paid by financial institutions which are contracted to serve as program managers of assets.		
Purpose of Fund: For operating expenses and administrative costs of the Arizona Family College Savings Program.		
Funds Expended	514,800	583,200
Year-End Fund Balance	326,400	371,200
Federal Grants (PEA2000/A.R.S. § 35-142)		Non-Appropriated
Source of Revenue: Federal grant revenue.		
Purpose of Fund: Federal grant revenues to be used by the commission as specified by the grant(s).		
Funds Expended	34,300	10,000
Year-End Fund Balance	400	400
IGA/ISA Fund (PEA2500/A.R.S. § 35-142)		Non-Appropriated
Source of Revenue: Any monies received from state agencies for specialized projects.		
Purpose of Fund: For costs associated with approved projects. In FY 2014 the remaining balance of \$546,800 in the now repealed Early Graduation Scholarship Fund was transferred to the IGA/ISA Fund pursuant to the K-12 Education BRB (Laws 2013, 1st Special Session, Chapter 3) to fund a one-year continuation of the Special Education Grant Program that provides forgivable student loans to students at private postsecondary institutions. Laws 2014, Chapter 17 then required the commission to transfer these monies into the Technology-Based Language Development and Literacy intervention Fund within the Arizona Department of Education.		
Funds Expended	546,800	0
Year-End Fund Balance	0	0
Mathematics, Science, and Special Education Teacher Student Loan Fund (PEA2358/A.R.S. § 15-1784)		Non-Appropriated
Source of Revenue: Legislative appropriations and repayments of principal and interest of issued loans.		
Purpose of Fund: To provide up to 5-year loans to eligible in-state students pursuing a teaching degree in mathematics, science, and special education at a state university and who agree to a service commitment to teach in a public school. General Fund expenditures are not displayed to avoid double counting.		
Funds Expended	0	0
Year-End Fund Balance	303,600	336,300
Postsecondary Education Fund (PEA2405/A.R.S. § 15-1853)		Partially-Appropriated
Source of Revenue: Monies appropriated by the Legislature, monies received from state agencies and political subdivisions of the state, monies received from the federal government, and/or private gifts, grants and donations. The commission must separately account for monies received from each source.		
Purpose of Fund: For designated purposes. Donations are used in accordance with the requests of the donor. Other private monies are used to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the commission.		
Appropriated Funds Expended	1,299,300	1,534,800
Non-Appropriated Funds Expended	70,000	139,900
Year-End Fund Balance	180,500	124,500

SUMMARY OF FUNDS	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Estimate
Postsecondary Education Grant Program (PEA2530/A.R.S. § 15-1855)		Non-Appropriated
Source of Revenue: Monies appropriated by the Legislature. Program has not been funded since FY 2011.		
Purpose of Fund: For tuition grants awarded to full and part-time students enrolled at a private baccalaureate degree granting institution. Expenditures from this fund are not displayed to avoid double counting of appropriated funds.		
Funds Expended	0	0
Year-End Fund Balance	1,900	1,900
Private Postsecondary Education Student Financial Assistance Fund (PEA2128/A.R.S. § 15-1854)		Non-Appropriated
Source of Revenue: Monies appropriated by the Legislature. Program has not been funded since FY 2011.		
Purpose of Fund: For tuition vouchers awarded to eligible graduates of Arizona community colleges enabling them to obtain a bachelor's degree at a private college or university in the state. Expenditures from this fund are not displayed to avoid double counting of appropriated funds.		
Funds Expended	0	0
Year-End Fund Balance	33,900	21,800
Teachers Incentive Program Fund (PEA2249/A.R.S. § 15-1851)		Non-Appropriated
Source of Revenue: Monies collected as repayment from students who do not meet the conditions of the loan program.		
Purpose of Fund: To collect repayment monies from students who received a loan in prior years for teacher education and did not fulfill their teaching obligation. The students' teacher loan indebtedness to the State of Arizona is forgiven if the recipient of the monies completes a specified period of time teaching in designated school districts, which are identified as having high proportions of economically disadvantaged and at-risk pupils. Monies collected are reverted to the General Fund.		
Funds Expended	0	0
Year-End Fund Balance	0	0