



Minnesota
STATE COLLEGES
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 22, 2012

TO: Chief Academic Officers and Chief Student Affairs Officers

FROM: Douglas Knowlton, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs
Douglas Knowlton

SUBJECT: ASA-2013-04: Updated Gainful Employment Program Disclosures – Action Needed by
January 31, 2013

The U.S. Department of Education's gainful employment regulations require disclosure of certain program information to students and prospective students in order to maintain federal financial aid eligibility for students enrolled in "gainful employment" programs. Gainful employment programs are those "that prepare students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation." At public colleges and universities, all undergraduate and graduate programs that lead to certificates, diplomas or graduate certificates and are financial aid eligible are defined as gainful employment programs. Degree programs at all levels are not considered to be gainful employment programs at public colleges and universities.

The gainful employment regulations required initial disclosure of program information on July 1, 2011 with annual updates of the information. Subsequent communication from the U. S. Department of Education advised colleges and universities to delay updating the disclosure reports until it released a standard template for the disclosures. A November 2012 communication from the Department directed colleges and universities to resume updating their disclosure reports no later than January 31, 2013. The Department has not yet released the standard disclosure template. This communication is available at:

<http://ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/112312GEAnnounce42DisclosureofGEPrograms1112.html>

Disclosure Requirements:

The regulations require disclosure of the following information for each "gainful employment" program that is Title IV eligible:

- Information on occupations that the program prepares students to enter;
- Program costs including tuition and fees and books and supplies;
- Median federal and private loan debt of recent graduates;
- On-time completion rate of recent graduates; and
- Job placement rate of recent graduates.

The November 2012 communication also restated the requirement that the disclosures be accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Gainful Employment Reports:

System Office Research, Planning and Policy staff prepared a disclosure report that contains the required information for each college and university gainful employment program. The attached file titled *Institution Name Gainful Employment Reports-2013-01-18.pdf* contains the reports for your college or university.

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Research, Planning and Policy staff worked with college and university institutional research directors and financial aid administrators in 2011 to develop the reports. Appendix A of this memo describes the reporting requirements and the methods and data sources that were used to prepare the program information contained in the reports. Last summer, each college and university was offered the opportunity to revise the occupations that are reported on the disclosure reports and the number of terms required to complete the programs. All revisions that were submitted have been included in the updated reports. The reports also have been produced in a manner such that the Adobe “Read Out Loud” function will read them.

Action Required by January 31, 2013:

College and university staff must post the disclosure information on program web pages for each Title IV eligible gainful employment program by January 31, 2013. The gainful employment report file may contain a few reports for programs at your college or university that are **not** Title IV eligible. Reports for programs that are not Title IV eligible do not need to be posted on program websites.

Contact Information:

For questions about the Gainful Employment disclosure requirements and reports contact:

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Attachment

c: Financial Aid Administrators
Institutional Research Directors
Leslie Mercer, Mike Lopez, Chris Halling