

BOARD OF REGENTS  
BRIEFING PAPER  
**Use of Student Access Funds**

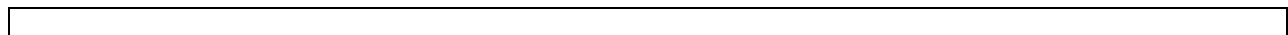
**BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board has expressed on a number of occasions that financial aid to students is a critical priority. In addition, the Board is on record that the current level of financial aid to students is unacceptably low. The Nevada System of Higher Education recently received an “F” for “affordability” in *Measuring Up 2006*, a national report card on higher education. This issue is exacerbated by the necessity to continually increase tuition and fees in line with approved Board policy. Amending the policy language as recommended will ensure that state appropriated financial aid funds, in addition to the student access funds generated from registration fee increases, are expended based on the 90/10 guideline for financial aid established in Title 4, Chapter 18, Section 17, and that the dollars appropriated to the scholarship function of the state-operating budget do not diminish over time. Therefore, it will be ensured that all appropriated and available financial aid dollars are actually expended for that purpose alone.

**POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:**

If adopted, this policy will impact an institution’s flexibility in terms of establishing a minimum dollar amount to be budgeted for the Scholarship function of the state-supported operating budget, whereby budgeted amounts that are less than the

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**POLICY PROPOSAL**  
**TITLE 4, CHAPTER 18, SECTION 17**  
**Student Access Funds**

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

Section 17. [~~Guidelines for~~] Use of Student Access Funds

In order to improve the access of all students and to encourage participation in higher education, an amount up to 50% of all registration fee increases, net the amounts distributed to other fee categories, will be dedicated to student financial assistance. [~~The funds are budgeted in the scholarship function and titled "Student Access."~~] *For the purposes of this section, "Student Access funds" means any budgeted dollars intended for student financial aid, including allocations for scholarships from state appropriations (excluding grants-in-aid) and funds generated from registration fees.* The guidelines for the use of Student Access funds are as follows:

1. One-hundred percent (100%) of [~~these~~] *Student Access* funds will be used for financial assistance for students. [(The