

Dear High School Counselors,

The West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and Council for Community and Technical College Education today voted to provide **current college students** with greater flexibilities in accessing and renewing certain state financial aid programs. The recent media release has caused confusion regarding who these modifications are intended for.

**These modifications will not affect the GPA requirements for initial eligibility for the PROMISE Scholarship, WV Higher Education Grant or other state financial aid programs.**

Below are the key changes related to COVID-19, that will affect current high school students when applying for state financial aid programs for the 2020-21 academic year.

- **Regarding PROMISE:** The SAT and ACT tests for March and April have been postponed. Students can still qualify for PROMISE by taking the June SAT and the June and July ACT. If those tests are postponed or canceled, we will act promptly to reevaluate our statewide qualification deadlines and notify all counselors and applicants.
- **Regarding the Higher Education Grant:** The Higher Education Grant application deadline has been extended from April 15, 2020 to **May 15, 2020**. To apply students must file a 2020-21 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov). If you hear students need assistance with completing the form by May 15 they may call our financial aid hotline (877-987-7664) for assistance.
- **Regarding West Virginia Invests:** Students may continue applying at <http://wvinvests.org>. The application deadline for WV Invests is rolling. Students must complete all the application steps prior to the beginning of the semester they are applying. I would encourage students and families to apply and file a 2020-21 FAFSA as soon as possible.

While our office staff is working remotely, we are continuing and maintaining our operations. The best way to reach staff is through e-mail. Staff are able to respond to phone calls as they come in.

[PROMISE@wvhepc.edu](mailto:PROMISE@wvhepc.edu)  
[WVHEG@wvhepc.edu](mailto:WVHEG@wvhepc.edu)  
[WVInvests@wvhepc.edu](mailto:WVInvests@wvhepc.edu)  
[wvfinancialaid@wvhepc.edu](mailto:wvfinancialaid@wvhepc.edu)

If you have any questions, please feel free to reply to this email address and a member of our financial aid staff will reach out to you. Feel free to share this message with your students and families across the state.

Sincerely,

Brian Weingart  
Senior Director of Financial Aid  
West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission  
1018 Kanawha Boulevard, East – Suite 700  
Charleston, WV 25301  
304.558.4618 | fax 855.292.1415  
[Brian.Weingart@wvhepc.edu](mailto:Brian.Weingart@wvhepc.edu)  
[www.cfww.com](http://www.cfww.com)