2020 Data Advisory Committee
Meeting 6: November 16\textsuperscript{th} 2020

Steve Rogness, Research Analyst
Meredith Fergus, Manager, Research and SLEDS
Today’s Meeting

Agenda:

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Updates to Cumulative Debt proposal
3. Inclusive Gender Identity proposal
4. Next steps and adjourn

Logistics:

• Please mute yourself when you are not talking
• Put comments and questions into the chat box (or unmute yourself to comment) – Nicole Whelan is monitoring the chat box
• You can send chats to everyone if you want us to bring them into this meeting, or you can send Nicole a private chat message to log comments privately
Legal Authority of Colleges to Share This Data with OHE

The Minnesota Office of Higher Education (OHE) is a state educational authority under 34 C.F.R. § 99.31(a)(3)(iv). OHE is authorized by State and Federal laws to access education records in order to conduct audits or evaluations of federal or state-supported education programs, including compliance and enforcement activities, under 34 C.F.R § 99.35(a).

Your institution may provide education records to OHE for the following purposes:

- in connection with financial aid, as permitted by 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(D) and 34 C.F.R. § 99.31(a)(4); subject to 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (b)(3) and 34 C.F.R. § 99.35,
- to an educational authority to audit or evaluate Federal or State supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs; and
- to an organization to conduct studies for or on an institution’s behalf, as permitted by 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(F) and 34 C.F.R. § 99.31(a)(6).

Furthermore, institutions participating in state financial aid are subject to data collection requirements under Minnesota Statutes 136A.121 Subd. 18.
Updates to Cumulative Debt Proposal

How OHE Will Use the Data

Until we implement this change and can verify data quality, we have no plans to change reporting. We will use the student-level data to produce the same, but more accurate, Cumulative Debt summary report. In considering future changes to reporting we will undergo a stakeholder review process for institutions to provide feedback on changes. Student-level data will allow for analysis of important equity issues in the future.

Limits to Data Sharing Beyond OHE

Cumulative Debt data will not be shared with SLEDS (Statewide Longitudinal Education Data System) until further consideration of the legal and research implications is completed.
Updates to Cumulative Debt Proposal

Reporting Multiple Awards:

1) More than one award in the same year, at different levels: report the same amount for each award

2) More than one award in the same year, at the same level: report the same amount for each award

*(in the second case, OHE de-dupes by year/student/degree level)*
Reporting Multiple Awards (cont.):

3) More than one award in different years: report total debt accumulated at this institution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Loan Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student 1</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student 1</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$ 1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student 1</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$ 2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student 1</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$ 2,000, $5,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student 1</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$ 3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student 1</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$ 3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student 1</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$ 3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student 1</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>$ 3,500, $19,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Example Loan Records

In Awards Conferred Report:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Degree Level</th>
<th>Cumulative Debt at Graduation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Student 1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$ 5,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Student 1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$ 5,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Student 1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$ 19,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- OHE subtracts out debt from previous awards, sets this amount to $14,000
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Order</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Awards Conferred Data Definition</th>
<th>Field Length</th>
<th>Alpha or Numeric</th>
<th>Awards Conferred Data Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cumulative Debt at Graduation</td>
<td>Total dollar amount of cumulative debt incurred by the student for the degree program at the institution. Include loans from all sources known to the institution and made to the student while enrolled at your institution. Do not include loans made to the student’s parents, for example federal PLUS loans made to the parents of undergraduate students. Enter the amount in whole numbers without commas.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>numeric</td>
<td>Actual dollar amount rounded to the nearest dollar. Regular rounding rules apply (round up if .50 or higher, round down if .49 or lower).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When reporting multiple awards:

- **More than one award in the same year, at different award levels**: report the same amount for each award.
- **More than one award in the same year, at the same award level**: report the same amount for each award.
- **More than one award in different years**: report total debt accumulated at this institution.

The Data Sharing Agreement, included earlier in this manual, describes the legal authority to share this data with OHE.
### Adding Inclusive Gender Identity

**Database(s):** Enrollment and Awards Conferred

**Original proposal:** Add gender identity detail beyond male/female binary option set, either by 1) expanding the existing Gender option set or 2) by splitting into two elements, one for Sex (Male/Female/Unavailable) and another for Gender Identity (note: option two is preferred based on institution feedback, for IPEDS alignment)

**Feedback:** Glad to see this, students are asking for this

Privacy concerns

Does the state need to know both sex and gender identity?

How to maintain alignment with federal reporting requirements (IPEDS)?
Notes from meeting with campus advocates for LGBTQ+ students 11/5/20:

Institutions: Gustavus Adolphus College, Hamline University, St. Cloud State University, St. Olaf College, University of St. Thomas, and Winona State University. We also received written guidance from the University of Minnesota’s Gender and Sexuality Center for Queer and Trans Life.

Feedback: Important to gather this information in order to analyze equity gaps – helps to understand needs.

It will be important to be clear about how the data will be used – how it will be reported. Need to build this out more.

The key is how it is being collected, rather than whether it’s being collected – need to safeguard student privacy; considerations such as preventing students from being “outed” to their parents.

Two-step question (separate questions for sex and gender identity) has been shown in research to yield higher quality information, due to respondents having more options for how they identify.

Avoid using the term “other” in the option set (or anywhere else) – use “additional” or another alternative. “Other” is not inclusive terminology.

OHE should add “Intersex” as an option alongside “Male” and “Female”. Even if not in use at institutions, this is recommended and would set an example.

Important to include all options for Gender Identity currently in use at institutions, and add as needed.
### Inclusive Gender Identity

#### DRAFT – Modification – Gender (changes in red)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Order</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Enrollment Data Definition</th>
<th>Field Length</th>
<th>Alpha or Numeric</th>
<th>Enrollment Data Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 12          | Gender Sex | Student’s gender self-reported sex as gathered by the institution. Use capital letter. Use unavailable when sex has not been reported by the student. **Note:** as of Fall 2020, currently no institution has Intersex as an option, but this is recommended. | 1            | alpha            | Male.................. M
|             |             |                                                                                           |              |                  | Female.................. F
|             |             |                                                                                           |              |                  | Intersex.................. X
<p>|             |             |                                                                                           |              |                  | Unavailable.................. Z |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Order</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Enrollment Data Definition</th>
<th>Field Length</th>
<th>Alpha or Numeric</th>
<th>Enrollment Data Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gender Identity</td>
<td>Student’s self-reported gender identity as gathered by the institution. Each institution may have their own, often similar definition of Gender Identity. Here is the definition used by Minnesota State Colleges and Universities as an example: “Gender identity is a person’s innermost concept of self as feminine, masculine, neither, or a combination – how individuals perceive themselves. One’s gender identity may or may not be influenced by their sex assigned at birth.”</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>numeric</td>
<td>01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 90, 97, 98, 99</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Consultation with the Tribal Nations Education Committee this Thursday

Next meeting: Wednesday, December 9\textsuperscript{th}, 1:30pm-3:00pm
Thank You