

**TOPIC: 2008 REPORT ON THE STATUS OF PERFORMANCE CONTRACTS**

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**I. SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the status of Colorado's public institutions' compliance with specific requirements of their respective performance contracts. The report also provides a description of the institutions' current and future performance contract requirements. Information in this report was provided to the Department of Higher Education (DHE) by institutions in response to SB 04-189.

**II. BACKGROUND**

In 2004, as part of the College Opportunity Fund or COF program, (SB 04-189, tuition stipend program), Colorado created an alternative to traditional state regulation of higher education institutions. Previously, Colorado institutions operated under a system of accountability that employed the Quality Indicator System. In 2004-2005, with COF and its implementation, colleges and universities could choose to remain under the old, more intensely regulated program of accountability, or to sign a performance contract that would set out how the institution would meet its state goals in return for the state easing much of its regulatory oversight. Every public institution in the state opted for the new performance contract.

**III. STAFF ANALYSIS**

See Report  
See Attachment A

**IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

This report is an information item only; no formal action is required by the Commission.

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

The DHE is charged, in section 23-5-129(2) C.R.S., to report annually to the Governor and General Assembly on the progress made towards the goals set forth in each public or private institution's performance contract. To accomplish this, performance contracts contain reporting requirements specific to each governing board.

To assist governing boards and institutions in the reporting of data to demonstrate compliance with performance measures, DHE staff prepared reporting guidelines with templates for written reports and reporting calendars. Hard-copies of the guidelines were

provided to governing board chairs, presidents and vice-presidents of academic affairs in 2005. The performance contract guidelines and the corresponding data and reports do not replace or revise any existing data or reports currently collected by the DHE except as provided for in the performance contracts.

All information on the status of each public institution's compliance with their respective performance contract is maintained, in both hard copy and electronic form, in the Academic and Student Affairs Office of the DHE.