

TOPIC: THE 2006 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 as stated within their respective performance contracts. Additionally, the report will provide a description of the institutions' current and future performance contract requirements. Information in this report was provided to the Department of Higher Education (DHE) in response to SB 04-189.

II. BACKGROUND

In 2004, in conjunction with the College Opportunity Fund (COF), (SB 04-189, tuition stipend program), Colorado created an alternative option to traditional state regulation of higher education institutions. Previously, Colorado institutions operated under a system of accountability that employed the Quality Indicator System, (QIS). In 2004-2005, with the advent of COF and its implementation, colleges and universities were given the choice to either remain under the old, more intensely regulated program of accountability, or sign a performance contract that would explicitly delineate how the institution would meet its state goals in exchange for the state waiving much of its regulatory oversight. As a result, every public institution in the state opted for the new performance contract.

III. STAFF ANALYSIS

[Report attached.](#)

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 annually report 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, the 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. DHE staff are currently working on making these materials available on our website. Additionally, a web collection system is under development to make data submission and reporting easier and more efficient. 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.