

Minutes

VSAC Programs & Services Committee Meeting

March 25, 2024
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Boardroom, VSAC Offices
10 East Allen Street
Winooski, Vermont 05404

Committee Members Present: Martha Heath (Chair), Dave Larsen, Ryan Dulude, Tim Chamberlin,
Committee Members Absent: Caleb Elder, Clarence Davis
Other Members Present: Dodie Mitchell, Chair
VSAC Staff Present: Scott Giles, Tom Little, Patrick Leduc, Mike Stuart, Brad Fallon, Miranda Roth

Chair Martha Heath called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. With a quorum established, the Committee took up the first order of business.

Approval of January 22, 2024, Minutes

Upon a motion made by Ryan Delude and seconded by Dave Larsen, the Committee Members voted unanimously to approve the Programs & Services Committee Minutes of January 22, 2024, as presented.

Public Comment

There were no public comments given during the public comment period.

Grant Policy – Ongoing Review

Martha Heath started the Committee meeting with the ongoing review of grant policies, which covered the following policies:

- **Non discrimination** – Miranda Roth reviewed the policy and recommended no changes.
- **Cost of attendance** - Miranda reviewed the policy and recommended no changes.
- **Family contribution cutoff & 24/25 maximum** - Miranda reviewed the policy and based on the inflation rate, recommended that the Parent/Student Contribution Cap adjusts to \$31,395 for the 2024-2025 academic year.
- **Income cutoff & 24/25 maximum** - Miranda reviewed the policy and recommended no changes.

The Committee discussed the policies and Miranda responded to questions.

Upon a motion made by Ryan Dulude and seconded by Tim Chamberlin, the Committee Members voted unanimously to recommend that the full Board approve the Non-discrimination, Cost of Attendance policies as presented, and the Family contribution cutoff &

24/25 maximum, and Income cutoff & 24/25 maximum policies, edited to remove the reference to 802 Opportunity, but otherwise as presented.

Miranda Roth Exited the meeting at 10:26

Operations Updates

- FAFSA update – Scott Giles with Patrick Leduc provided updates to the Committee on the Federal Department of Education and how the overall process of their updates are affecting: students, families, and schools.
- Scholarship Selection Day update – Patrick told the committee that due to the changing timelines for FAFSA data, scholarship day is still tentatively April 22nd but may be moved.
- FFEL wind down update - Scott Giles reviewed the complexity of the projects and meeting the singular deadline, and how successful all teams were.
- NY Audit update – Patrick outlined the number and nature of the findings to be addressed and stressed that no findings were related to any actual servicing errors.
- College and Career Pathways events – Patrick reviewed the four events and the success of each.
- Workforce Opportunity Loan Program update – Patrick provided a review of the program and expects the program to expand based on the current interest of new employers.
- Items of interest from Standing reports – There were no questions or comments on the standing reports.

Federal Update

Scott Giles provided updates on Congress, and that VSAC will be starting to write up our next GEAR UP grant application this summer.

Vermont Update

Scott Giles reviewed the different items coming to the Legislature that could affect VSAC and the students and families we serve.

Other Business

Scott Giles informed the committee that a new Chief Financial Officer has been hired and will be starting on May 1st, with Mike Stuart staying on for a period of time to support the transition.

There being no other business, the Committee adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Leduc, Assistant Secretary