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Date: May 21, 2025 at 3:55:16 PM CDT

To: CEOs Only <CEO@tacc.org>

Cc: Ray Martinez <ray.martinez@tacc.org>, Ashley Bliss Lima <ablisslima@tacc.org>, Jacob Cottingham <jcottingham@tacc.org>

Subject: Action Requested: Recommended Outreach Regarding Proposed Pell Grant Changes

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Good afternoon, Presidents & Chancellors,

I hope this finds you all well! TACC has been engaged in ongoing national conversations with our partners at the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) and the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) regarding proposed changes to federal financial aid in the current Budget Reconciliation Bill. We share their serious concerns about the potential impact these changes may have on student access and affordability—particularly in Texas.

Of particular concern are provisions that would redefine full-time enrollment status from 12 to 15 credit hours and eliminate Pell Grant eligibility for students enrolled less than half-time. These changes would create significant barriers for many of our students, especially working adults, part-time learners, and those balancing education with family responsibilities.

We encourage each college to consider sending institution-specific letters to members of your congressional delegation **by this Friday, May 23, before the bill (likely) goes to the House floor.** Your voice and data can help personalize the broader national conversation and reinforce the real-world consequences of these proposed changes.

To support this effort, and in collaboration with our colleagues at San Jacinto College and Austin Community College, we are providing two draft letter templates. Each uses the same general framing and language but offers different ways to present local data depending on your institutional capacity. You are encouraged to use whichever version aligns best with the data you have available. Examples from both colleges are also included for reference.

We are grateful to both San Jacinto College and Austin Community College for sharing their examples and committing to send their letters to their respective congressional delegations.

If you have questions or would like assistance as you tailor your own letter, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Regards,
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