



State of Connecticut

The Connecticut General Assembly

The Planning Commission for Higher Education Student Financial Aid Working Group

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 1800
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591
PHONE: (860) 240-0271 / FAX: (860) 240-8833

James Maroney, Chairman

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 19, 2015

9:30 a.m., Room 1E

The meeting was called to order by James Maroney at 10:06 a.m.

The following commission members/designees/guests were present: James Maroney, Jen Widness, Mark French, Alan Shepard, Kerry Kelley, Judy Resnick, Rich Bishop, Roberta Willis, Greg DeSantis, Jeanette Weldon, Jane Ciarleglio, Steve McDowell and Gregg Haddad.

Members introduced themselves.

Kerry Kelley, Section Director, Education and Workforce Programs, Office of Policy and Management gave a presentation: [Overview of Student Financial Aid in Connecticut](#).

Mark French, Financial Aid Director, Office of Higher Education gave a presentation: [Governor's Scholarship Program Overview](#).

The goal of the program was stated as to provide state residents with consistent higher education financial aid programs.

A discussion followed on the ways in which state financial aid money is allocated.

Some of the factors considered were need based awards, GPA and merit based awards, and full or part time status of the students.

There was a conversation on the differences in financial aid allocations at community colleges, especially as it applies to part time students.

A suggestion was made that the Governor's Scholarship could be pro-rated, similar to the Pell Grant. A discussion followed on this topic.

There was a discussion on how certificate programs are factored into the Governor's Scholarship Program.

There was a conversation on scholarships given through the program on a merit versus need basis.

The time and date of the next meeting was agreed upon.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:43 a.m.