



# TASFAA

*encourage • promote • facilitate • inspire • motivate*

## Legislative Update

**January 13, 2021**

### **Congress:**

- Funding under CRRSSA made available starting 1/14/21. Full written guidance available [here](#).
- The budget reconciliation process permits an expedited means for considering tax, spending and debt limit-related legislation and can only affect “mandatory” or “entitlement” spending. Certain programs are funded through mandatory spending and are subject to consideration under a budget reconciliation bill. These programs include federal student loans and the Pell Grant program funded through mandatory spending.
- COVID-19 relief legislation passed simplifies the FAFSA, reducing the form from 108 questions to about three dozen. It will be effective for the 2023-2024 FAFSA.

### **State Legislature:**

- Introduction of various legislation related to higher education.
  - HB 141: Relating to the establishment of the Texas Promise Grant Program for certain students at two-year public institutions of higher education.
  - HB 333: Relating to establishing a Texas Service Corps to provide student loan relief, job training, and work experience, in exchange for providing community service in underserved areas.
  - HB 403: Relating to exemption certain individuals who are homeless from the payment of tuition and fees at public institutions of higher education.
  - SB 32: Relating to a student loan repayment assistance program for certain professionals for exceptional service to the State of Texas during the coronavirus pandemic.
  - SB 33: Relating to the establishment of the Texas Promise Grant Program for certain students at public institutions of higher education.
  - SB 34: Relating to the establishment of the Texas Promise Grant Program for certain students at two-year public institutions of higher education.

- SB 35: Relating to the establishment and operation of the Texas B-On-tme student loan program; authorizing a fee.
- SB 101: Relating to the establishment of the Texas Emergency Aid for Public Postsecondary Students (TEAPPS) grant program for students at public institutions of higher education.
- SB 146: Relating to student loan repayment assistance for certain nurses employed by a long-term care facility.
- Deadline for the unrestricted filing of bills and joint resolutions other than local bills, emergency appropriations, and emergency matters submitted by the governor is Friday, March 12, 2021.

**Other:**

- Revenue for the State of Texas estimated from the Comptroller at about \$1 Billion deficit – less than originally projected.
- There will be more money flowing to state governors in current CRRSSA and subsequent funding package.
- College scorecard will publish Parent Plus default and repayment information.