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Act IV

CHE 2008 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

FY 2008-09 Funding Requests and Legislation

FY 2008-09 FUNDING REQUESTS

Overall Higher Education

- \$108 million increase, Core Operating Needs for Public Institutions
- \$12 million increase, Need-based Grants (Request brings total to \$35,631,566)
- \$11 million increase, Lottery Tuition Assistance (Request brings total to \$58 million)
- \$3 million continued, National Guard Tuition Assistance
(FY 2007-08 funding includes \$1.7 million in lottery and \$1.3 million in supplemental)
- Continued full funding for Merit-based Student Aid Programs with increased support for program growth
(FY 2007-08 totals: \$40,915,490 for Palmetto Fellows, \$147,727,542 for LIFE, and \$7,767,606 for HOPE)
- \$2.5 million recurring to continue and increase funding for Statewide Higher Education Electronic Library
- \$4.5 million non-recurring continued for SC LightRail
- \$982,464 recurring increase, EPSCOR (Request brings program total to \$3 million)
- \$1,281,301 recurring increase, University Center of Greenville (UCG) (Request brings total to \$1,708,402)
- \$635,919 recurring increase, Greenville Tech UCG Debt Service (Request brings total to \$1,723,710)
- \$1.2 million non-recurring continued as recurring to maintain SCMEP funding at \$2,427,921
- Continued funding for Other Higher Education Lottery Programs (\$30 million Centers of Economic Excellence, \$12 million Higher Education Technology, \$2.5 million SC State, and \$4.7 million Higher Education Excellence Enhancement)

Capital Bond Funding: \$782,388,759 for 68 projects ranked in priority order

Commission

- \$130,000 received as one-time funds continued in recurring, Agency Technology
- \$200,000 recurring increase, SC GEAR UP (Request brings total to \$800,000)
- \$25,000 recurring, SC College Access Network
- \$400,000 recurring increase, Access & Equity Initiative for Increasing Underrepresented in Health Care
- \$145,735 recurring increase for SREB programs and services (Request brings total to \$3,034,740)

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

- Need-based Grant Program – To seek appropriate changes in legislation to the methodology required in State Code for the allocation of Need-based Grant funding.
- Facilities Approval Process – To improve state planning, streamline the approval process, and improve institutional planning
- Palmetto Fellows and LIFE “Math/Science” Scholarship Enhancements – To pursue a change to legislation in regard to the hours required in the freshman year such that students would be able to meet the required fourteen hours by any combination of math and science courses.
- Centers of Economic Excellence (CoEE) Review Board - To seek legislative program changes.

CHE Regulations To Be Submitted By Subject:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| • Palmetto Fellows | • LIFE |
| • HOPE | • Need-based Grants |
| • Residency | • National Guard Tuition Assistance |
| • Postsecondary Licensing | • Free tuition for SC Residents aged 60 years and over |