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News Release

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NNC Committee Approves Temporary Changes to ONNSFA Policies in Response to National Health Emergency

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Temporary changes to the Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship & Financial Assistance (ONNSFA) policies and procedures in response to the Public Health National Emergency concerning the COVID-19 Outbreak were approved by the Navajo Nation Council's Health, Education and Human Services Committee on April 29, 2020.

"Temporary changes to the scholarship policies are required to accommodate students impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic," said Rose Graham, ONNSFA director. "Many students will not be able to meet requirements of the ONNSFA policies due to numerous issues such as changes to pass/fail grading systems."

Temporary changes included in Resolution HEHSCAP-06-20 are:

- The extension of the application deadline for the 2020-2021 academic year from June 25, 2020 to Nov. 25, 2020.
- An allowance for students to submit unofficial transcripts for the Fall 2020 term if they cannot submit an official transcript. Students will be required to submit official transcripts by the Spring 2021 deadline.
- Changes to GPA calculation where pass/fail, satisfactory or credit will be consider as a "B" grade for purposes of GPA calculation.
- An allowance for students to make up three credit hours during the summer term if they earned less than 12 credit hours in Spring 2020 due to the National Health Emergency. The class is required to be listed on the student's degree checklist.
- An allowance for students, who received an incomplete or withdrawal due to the National Health Emergency, to resolve their incomplete or withdrawal grade by Spring 2021.
- An allowance for students on probation for the Spring 2020 receiving an incomplete and/or withdrawal to remain on probation status if they are enrolled in summer courses.
- Not penalizing students awarded for Spring 2020 for incomplete or withdrawal if they have earned at least 9 credit hours for the Spring term.

Resolution HEHSCAP-06-20 and temporary changes to the ONNSFA Policies and Procedures may be found here: <https://bit.ly/HEHSCAP0620>

All ONNSFA offices are continuing to provide limited services through May 18, 2020.