Nevada Office of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (Nevada WICHE Commission)

Nevada System of Higher Education System Administration Building 2601 Enterprise Road Reno, NV 89512 Room 114

Video or Telephone Conference Connection from the Meeting Site to:

Nevada System of Higher Education System Administration Building 4300 S. Maryland Parkway Las Vegas, NV 89119 Room 105

Friday, March 17, 2023, 3:30 pm

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE AGENDA AND PUBLIC MEETING

Below is an agenda of all items scheduled to be considered. Notification is hereby provided that items on the agenda may be taken out of the order presented, including moving an item to a different day if the meeting is noticed for more than one day, two or more agenda items may be combined for consideration, and an agenda item may be removed from the agenda or discussion relating to an item on the agenda may be delayed at any time.

Some agenda items are noted as having accompanying reference material. The agenda and associated reference material may also be accessed on the Internet by visiting the Nevada Office of WICHE website at: https://nvwiche.nevada.edu/. Copies of reference material and any supporting materials that are submitted to the Nevada WICHE Commission after the posting of this agenda and before or during the meeting will be made available at the NV WICHE Commission Office, 2601 Enterprise Road, Reno, Nevada 89512. A copy may be requested by contacting Director Patty Porter by email at nvwiche@nevada.edu or by telephone at 775-784-4901. Copies of any such additional materials will also be available at Nevada WICHE Commission website at: https://nvwiche.nevada.edu/.

The Commission is pleased to make reasonable accommodations for any member of the public who has a disability and wishes to attend the meeting. If special arrangements are necessary, please notify us via email at nvwiche@nevada.edu or call 775-784-4901 as far in advance as possible.

BOARD		
ROLL CALL:	Mr. Fred Lokken, Executive Commissioner	_
	Ms. Cathy Dinauer, Commissioner	
	Mr. Dale Erquiaga, Commissioner	

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1. PUBLIC COMMENT

INFORMATION ONLY

Public comment will be taken during this agenda item. No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item until the matter is included on an agenda as an item on which action may be taken. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name. The Executive Commissioner may elect to allow additional public comment on a specific agenda item when that agenda item is being considered.

In accordance with Attorney General Opinion No. 00-047, as restated in the Attorney General's Open Meeting Law Manual, the Chair may prohibit comment if the content of that comment is a topic that is not relevant to, or within the authority of, the Nevada Office of the Western Interstate Commission of Higher Education, or if the content is willfully disruptive of the meeting by being irrelevant, repetitious, slanderous, offensive, inflammatory, irrational or amounting to personal attacks or interfering with the rights of other speakers.

2. MINUTES

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

The Commission will consider approval of the minutes from the February 6, 2023, meeting.

(Ref. 2-WICHE Commission Meeting Minutes, February 6, 2023)

ESTIMATED TIME: 5 minutes

3. COMMISSIONER UPDATES

INFORMATION ONLY

The WICHE Commissioners will provide updates on their activities as commissioners.

ESTIMATED TIME: 15 minutes

4. DIRECTOR UPDATE

INFORMATION ONLY

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Director Patty Porter will provide the Commissioners with an update on the Nevada Office of WICHE activities during the 2023 Nevada Legislative Session.

ESTIMATED TIME: 10 minutes

5. REQUEST TO REVISE AND APPROVE AMENDMENT TO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN NEVADA WICHE COMMISSION AND NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

will provide the

Director Patty Porter and Deputy General Counsel Carrie Parker will provide the Commissioners with information regarding request to revise Memorandum of

Understanding. Possible action may include revising and/or approving the proposed Amendment to MOU.

ESTIMATED TIME: 10 minutes

6. REVIEW OF REGULATIONS AS REQUIRED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER 2023-003 SECTION 5D

Director Patty Porter will request approval to submit a request for exemption to Executive Order 2023-003 per Section 5 (d) Regulations that affect the application of powers, functions and duties essential to the operation of the executive agency, department, board or commission at issue. Possible action may include reviewing the regulations and/or instructing Director Porter to submit a request for exemption to Executive Order 2023-003.

(Ref. 3 -Executive Order 2023-003) (Ref. 4 -NAC Chapter 397)

ESTIMATED TIME: 10 minutes

7. REQUEST TO ACCEPT VOLUNTEER HOURS <u>FOR POSSIBLE ACTION</u> IN NEVADA TO FUFILL PRACTICE REQUIREMENT

Director Patty Porter will request approval from the commissioners to accept from participants documented volunteer hours to meet required service obligation for receiving stipend. The requirements that participants must comply with after they graduate and achieve their practice license to fulfill their service requirement applies to the volunteer hours completed.

ESTIMATED TIME: 5 minutes

8. NEW BUSINESS

INFORMATION ONLY

Items for consideration at future meetings may be suggested. Any discussion of an item under "New Business" is limited to description and clarification of the subject matter of the item, which may include the reasons for the request, and no substantive discussion may occur at this meeting on new business items in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law (NRS 241.010 *et seq.*).

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

INFORMATION ONLY

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This agenda has been posted at the following locations:

- Nevada WICHE's website: https://nvwiche.nevada.edu/
- Nevada System of Higher Education: 2601 Enterprise Road, Reno, NV 89512
- Nevada System of Higher Education: 4300 S. Maryland Pkwy, Las Vegas, NV 89119
- The Nevada Legislature's website: https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Notice/A/
- Nevada Public Notice Website: https://notice.nv.gov

Nevada Office of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (Nevada WICHE Commission) Minutes

Nevada System of Higher Education System Administration Building 2601 Enterprise Road Reno, NV 89512 Zoom

This meeting was conducted by the use of a remote technology system pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes 241.020(11). Members of the Nevada Office of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (Nevada WICHE Commission) and/or the public could utilize the remote technology system to attend and participate in the meeting, including to provide public comment.

Monday, February 6, 2023, 12:00 pm

Members Present: Mr. Fred Lokken, Executive Commissioner

Ms. Cathy Dinauer, Commissioner

Members Absent: Mr. Dale Erquiaga, Commissioner

Others Present: Ms. Patty Porter, Director, Nevada Office of WICHE

Ms. Lynda King, Associate General Counsel, NSHE

Executive Commissioner Fred Lokken called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

1. <u>Information Only – Public Comment</u>

There was no public comment.

2. Approved – Minutes

The Nevada WICHE Commission approved the minutes from its January 20, 2023 meeting. (Ref. 2-WICHE Commission Meeting Minutes, January 20, 2023)

Commissioner Dinauer moved approval of the January 20, 2023 meeting minutes. Executive Commissioner Lokken seconded. Motion carried.

3. <u>2023-25 Slot Matrix Budget Revision</u> (Ref. 3-Nevada Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education [WICHE] 2023-25 Biennial Budget Loan & Stipend [Programs] Account #202-2681 PSEP AND HPEP Governor recommended Slot Matrix)

Patty Porter, Nevada Office of WICHE Director, presented a revision to the 2023-25 Slot Matrix budget.

- Director Porter explained that the revision is due to an oversight when formulating the 2023-25 budget projection for the biennium budget. The projection included only on the base allocation, excluding the projected model repayment revenue. The slots have been revised accordingly.
- The total revenue for 2023-25 is projected to be \$1,307,379 and total expenditures are projected to be \$1,046,379, which includes 39 Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP) slots, 29 Health Profession Education Program (HPEP) slots, and \$112,500 for Nevada Department of Public and

Behavioral Health (DPBH) Nevada Psychological Internship program. The difference of \$261,000 is due to a decrease in projected loan revenue. New PSEP slots projections include one slot for Occupational Therapy and two slots for the Physician Assistant program, resulting in a decrease from 43 to 39 total PSEP slots. For HPEP slots there was one additional slot for Master of Social Work, resulting in an increase from 28 to 29 HPEP slots.

- For 2023-2024 total revenue, base and loan repayment revenue is projected at \$1,093,900 and total projected expenditures are \$1,097,904, including 38 PSEP slots and 49 HPEP slots and \$112,500 for the DPBH Nevada Psychological Internship program. The difference of \$4,004 is unexpected revenue due to impact of continuing slots in 2024-2025.
- For 2024-2025 total revenue, base and loan repayment revenue is projected at \$1,097,371 and total projected expenditures projections are \$1,097,904 including 36 PSEP slots and 49 HPEP slots and \$112,500 for DPBH Nevada Psychological Internship program. The difference of \$533 cannot be spent because all support fees must be a minimum of \$5,000.
- For the 2023-2025 biennial budget, the addition of projected loan repayment revenue to our base appropriation amount increased our PSEP and HPEP slots as previously allotted and eliminated the need for special request for additional funding for four Veterinary Medicine slots and additional HPEP funding for 2023-2025 biennial budget.
- Based on the elimination of special request funding for Veterinary Medicine and additional HPEP slots Director Porter met with GFO (Governor's Finance Office) and LCB (Legislative Bureau Counsel) and GFO is in the process of submitting a budget amendment to eliminate the special request budget funding.

Discussion

Executive Commissioner Lokken noted that in terms of selecting the occupations that PSEP will support, they have to be based on data, shortage including critical need and the ability to recruit. We get assistance with recruitment for PSEP from regional WICHE. For in-state it is dependent upon relationship Director Porter builds with stakeholders in the state.

Director Porter noted that the PSEP recruitment is done in partnership with regional WICHE who work with these institutions who have competitive programs; states in the Western Regional Compact are competing for the same slots. Regional WICHE uses a ranking system and works with the states to select participants. What makes it challenging to project slots is the variation in PSEP support fees due to difference in cost for each occupational program. Annually the cost of tuition is surveyed and support fee amounts increase yearly. All PSEP programs must be fully accredited. A good topic for future discussion would be the focus for future funding, possibly including pre-license programs.

Commissioner Dinauer noted that there is a review based on critical need, shortages but also looking at the cost to go through a program such as Veterinary Medicine versus Nursing School or Social Work and having to decide not just based on workforce need but on funding available.

Executive Commissioner Lokken shared that regional WICHE data shows that Nevada PSEP participants have a higher return rate among the western states.

Director Porter said PSEP will only pay for full accredited private institution in state and private/public out of state. Programs currently in Nevada at a public institution that are not fully accredited are not eligible for PSEP but there are some that are close and when that happens regional WICHE will have to make a decision regarding addition to the PSEP program.

Commissioner Dinauer asked why the focus only on RN to BSN Pipeline and not on pre-licensure RN programs. Baccalaureate RN students come to Nevada for degree and then leave.

Director Porter stated that the focus is on baccalaureate RN students who are considering pursuing a future APRN program. That is a good question for a future retreat of where the Commission wants to focus spending stipend funding. Would pre-licensure be a direction the Commission would like to go? This would have impact since it would take longer for pre-licensure students to complete versus a baccalaureate student.

Director Porter shared that she received a legislative request from LCB for information regarding graduation and return rate to Nevada of PSEP and HPEP participants since 2019. Data shows that graduation rate is high but return rate to Nevada after practice requirement (ranges from 2-4 years) fulfilled, drops. Data that regional WICHE reports for states is based on graduation and if they return after graduation within a five-year period.

Executive Commissioner Lokken stated that one overall issue in past budget discussions is we do far better in one region of the state than Clark County, which needs to be addressed.

Director Porter added that she received pre-budgeting hearing questions from LCB for upcoming Budget Hearing and anticipates questions regarding the change in slot matrix slots. Explanation Director Porter will give is only focusing on the base appropriation and not adding in the projected loan revenue repayment funding. One of the pre-budget hearing questions was regarding the \$112,500 funding for DPBH and if we can reallocate what stipend slots that would be? Other pre-budget hearing question is why Nevada WICHE requested additional funding and answer would be due to not adding in projected loan repayment revenue. With updated slot matrix there is no need for additional funding.

Commissioner Dinauer moved approval of the revised 2023-25 Slot Matrix budget revision as presented. Executive Commissioner Lokken seconded. Motion carried.

4. New Business

Executive Commissioner Lokken:

- Shared University of Nevada, Reno new viewbook and on the back it stated that the number of WUE students has grown, in the past it has been limited, so this is a positive development.
- Been selected as the moderator for a summit sponsored by WICHE in March, 2023 and will chair the technology committee.
- Requested the updated regional WICHE handout on Nevada and activities for the legislative session.

• Similar programs like Nevada WICHE are being proposed in the legislature. It would be ideal to have a more coordinated effort with a depth of understanding of the topic.

5. Public Comment

• There was no public comment.

Meeting adjourned at 12:41 pm

Prepared and submitted by: Patty A. Porter Director, Nevada Office of WICHE

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2023-003

Order Freezing the Issuance of New Regulations and Requiring a Review of Existing Regulations by All Executive Branch Agencies, Departments, Boards and Commissions

WHEREAS, state regulations should protect workers, consumers and the environment, while promoting entrepreneurship and economic growth; and

WHEREAS, state regulations can become outdated, result in unintended consequences, create conflicts or impose an unnecessary burden on citizens, businesses or government entities; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the state of Nevada that its regulatory environment be concise, transparent, stable, balanced, predictable and thoughtfully constructed; and

WHEREAS, Nevada's current regulatory structure is too often unfocused and inefficient, contains regulations that are obsolete and includes regulations that are unnecessarily onerous, thereby limiting the economic potential of the State; and

WHEREAS, Article 5, Section 1 of the Nevada Constitution provides that, "The Supreme Executive Power of this State shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate who shall be Governor of the State of Nevada;

NOW, THEREFORE, by the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and laws of the State of Nevada, it is hereby ordered as follows:

SECTION 1

Every executive branch department, agency, board and commission shall undertake a comprehensive review of the regulations subject to its enforcement. On or before, May 1, 2023 each department, agency, board and commission shall provide a report to the Governor's office detailing how the regulation subject to its enforcement can be streamlined, clarified, reduced or otherwise improved to ensure those regulations provide for the general welfare of the State without unnecessarily inhibiting economic growth.

SECTION 2:

As part of its report, every executive branch department, agency, board and commission shall provide a list of not less than ten (10) regulations recommended for removal, ranking them in descending order of priority.

SECTION 3:

Prior to submitting their respective reports, every executive branch department, agency, board and commission shall hold a public hearing, after having provided reasonable notice consistent with Chapter 233B of the Nevada Revised Statutes, to key industry stakeholders, to: (i) vet their recommended changes; (ii) solicit input as to the merits of those changes and (iii) identify other regulatory changes stakeholders feel are worthy of consideration. Stakeholder input shall be reflected in the summary of findings and recommendations included in each submitted report.

SECTION 4:

Unless specifically exempt from this Executive Order as set forth in Section 5, no new regulations shall be proposed, approved or acted on by any executive branch agency, department, board or commission until such time as this Executive Order is rescinded.

SECTION 5:

The following regulations are not subject to the suspension set forth in Section 4:

(a) Regulations that affect public health;

- (b) Regulations that affect public safety and security;
- (c) Regulations that are necessary in the pursuit of federal funds and certifications;
- (d) Regulations that affect the application of powers, functions and duties essential to the operation of the executive branch agency, department, board or commission at issue;
- (e) Regulations that affect pending judicial deadlines; and
- (f) Regulations necessary to comply with federal law.

Until the suspension of this Executive Order, each executive branch department, agency, board and commission that intends to continue with the enactment of a proposed regulation under an exception to the freeze set forth in Section 4 shall submit a report to the Governor's office identifying which exemption the proposed regulation falls within and detailing the problem the regulation addresses or the value to the public of the regulation, how the regulation addresses the problem or the benefits provided by the regulation, why alternate forms of regulation are insufficient to address the problem and whether other regulations currently address the problem.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 12th day of January, in the year two thousand twenty-three.

Governor
Secretary of State
Deputy

[NAC-397 Revised Date: 6-16]

CHAPTER 397 - WESTERN INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

<u>397.010</u>	"Commissioners" defined.
397.018	"Residence" interpreted.
<u>397.020</u>	Petition to reduce period of required practice.
397.030	Petition for extension for completing required practice.
397.040	Period to complete required practice in medically underserved area of State; petition for extension.
397.050	Petition for extension for repayment of loan or stipend because of hardship.
397.060	Petition for reduction of principal balance of loan or stipend because of hardship.
397.070	Director authorized to negotiate terms of repayment of loan or stipend; collection of debt.

NAC 397.010 "Commissioners" defined. (NRS 397.020, 397.040) As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, "commissioners" means the three persons appointed to represent Nevada on the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, acting jointly.

(Added to NAC by Interstate Comm'n for Higher Education, eff. 8-22-84; A by R047-14, 12-22-2014)

NAC 397.018 "Residence" interpreted. (NRS 397.020, 397.040) For the purposes of NRS 397.060, "residence" means the physical presence of a person within this State. If a person leaves this State with the intention in good faith to return without delay and continue his or her residence, the time of such absence is not considered in determining the fact of residence.

(Added to NAC by Interstate Comm'n for Higher Education by R047-14, eff. 12-22-2014)

NAC 397.020 Petition to reduce period of required practice. (NRS 397.020, 397.040, 397.0645)

- 1. To apply for a reduction of the period of required practice as authorized by paragraph (a) of subsection 2 of NRS 397.0645, a person must submit a petition to the commissioners in writing after having practiced continuously for not less than 1 year the profession which the person was certified to study. The petition must contain the reasons for requesting the reduction.
 - 2. The practice must have been:
- (a) In a rural area of this State, with at least one-half of the person's overall practice time having been spent in the rural area; or
 - (b) As a full-time employee of this State.
- 3. If the commissioners grant a petition submitted pursuant to this section, the commissioners will reduce the period of required practice by not more than 1 year.
- 4. If the commissioners deny a petition submitted pursuant to this section, the petitioner may appeal to the commissioners by submitting a request for an appeal in writing not later than 10 days after his or her receipt of the notice of denial.
- 5. As used in this section, "rural area" means any part of this State which is 50 miles or more from the corporate boundaries of the cities of Carson City, Reno or Las Vegas.

(Added to NAC by Interstate Comm'n for Higher Education, eff. 8-22-84; A by R047-14, 12-22-2014)

NAC 397.030 Petition for extension for completing required practice. (NRS 397.020, 397.040, 397.0645)

- To apply for an extension of the period for completing the required practice beyond 5 years as authorized by paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 397.0645, a person must submit a petition to the commissioners in writing before the period for completion has expired. The petition must contain the reasons for requesting the extension.
 - 2. The commissioners will grant an extension for good cause, including, without limitation:
 - (a) Military service;
 - (b) Service in the Peace Corps or the AmeriCorps VISTA program;
 - (c) Participation in the National Health Service Corps Scholarship Program;
 - (d) Continuation of education in the petitioner's field of study or specialization;
 - (e) Interruption of study due to financial hardship;

 - (g) Failure to fulfill any professional licensing requirement; or
 - (h) Any other circumstance deemed appropriate by the commissioners.
 - 3. An extension granted pursuant to paragraph (g) of subsection 2 must be for not longer than 2 years after the date

on which the first professional examination was administered after the graduation of the petitioner from the program for which he or she received state contributions for stipends, except that the person may apply for an additional extension for good cause. Any additional extension must be for not longer than 2 years after the expiration of the prior extension.

4. If the commissioners deny a petition submitted pursuant to this section, the petitioner may appeal to the commissioners by submitting a request for an appeal in writing not later than 10 days after his or her receipt of the notice of denial.

(Added to NAC by Interstate Comm'n for Higher Education, eff. 8-22-84; A by R047-14, 12-22-2014)

NAC 397.040 Period to complete required practice in medically underserved area of State; petition for extension. (NRS 397.020, 397.040, 397.0617)

- 1. A person who receives a support fee because he or she agrees to practice in a profession in a medically underserved area of this State for at least 2 years pursuant to NRS 397.0617 must complete that practice within 5 years after the person completes or terminates the education, internship or residency for which he or she received the support fee unless an extension is granted pursuant to this section.
- 2. A person may apply for an extension of the period to complete his or her practice by submitting a petition to the commissioners in writing before the period for completion has expired. The petition must contain the reasons for requesting the extension.
 - 3. The commissioners will grant an extension for good cause, including, without limitation:
 - (a) Military service;
 - (b) Service in the Peace Corps or the AmeriCorps VISTA program;
 - (c) Participation in the National Health Service Corps Scholarship Program;
 - (d) Continuation of education in the petitioner's field of study or specialization;
 - (e) Interruption of study due to financial hardship;
 - (f) Illness
 - (g) Failure to fulfill any professional licensing requirement; or
 - (h) Any other circumstance deemed appropriate by the commissioners.
- 4. An extension granted pursuant to paragraph (g) of subsection 3 must be for not longer than 2 years after the date on which the first professional examination was administered after the graduation of the petitioner from the program for which he or she received a support fee, except that the person may apply for an additional extension for good cause. Any additional extension must be for not longer than 2 years after the expiration of the prior extension.
- 5. If the commissioners deny a petition submitted pursuant to this section, the petitioner may appeal to the commissioners by submitting a request for an appeal in writing not later than 10 days after his or her receipt of the notice of denial.

(Added to NAC by Interstate Comm'n for Higher Education by R047-14, eff. 12-22-2014)

NAC 397.050 Petition for extension for repayment of loan or stipend because of hardship. (NRS 397.020, 397.040, 397.069)

- 1. To apply for an extension of the period for the repayment of a loan or stipend as authorized by <u>NRS 397.069</u>, a person must submit a petition to the commissioners in writing not later than 120 days after the date on which default on the repayment occurs. The petition must contain the reasons for requesting the extension.
 - 2. The commissioners will grant an extension for good cause, including, without limitation:
 - (a) Military service;
 - (b) Service in the Peace Corps or the AmeriCorps VISTA program;
 - (c) Participation in the National Health Service Corps Scholarship Program;
 - (d) Continuation of education in the petitioner's field of study or specialization;
 - (e) Interruption of study due to financial hardship;
 - (f) Illness:
 - (g) Failure to fulfill any professional licensing requirement; or
 - (h) Any other circumstance deemed appropriate by the commissioners.
- 3. An extension granted pursuant to paragraph (g) of subsection 2 must be for not longer than 2 years after the date on which the first professional examination was administered after the graduation of the petitioner from the program for which he or she received state contributions for loans or stipends, except that the person may apply for an additional extension for good cause. Any additional extension must be for not longer than 2 years after the expiration of the prior extension.
- 4. If the commissioners deny a petition submitted pursuant to this section, the petitioner may appeal to the commissioners by submitting a request for an appeal in writing not later than 10 days after his or her receipt of the notice of denial.

(Added to NAC by Interstate Comm'n for Higher Education by R047-14, eff. 12-22-2014)

NAC 397.060 Petition for reduction of principal balance of loan or stipend because of hardship. (NRS

<u>397.020</u>, <u>397.040</u>, <u>397.0655</u>)

- 1. To apply for a reduction of the principal balance of a loan or stipend because of hardship, a person must submit a petition to the commissioners in writing. The petition must contain the reasons for requesting the reduction.
- 2. If the commissioners deny a petition submitted pursuant to this section, the petitioner may appeal to the commissioners by submitting a request for an appeal in writing not later than 10 days after his or her receipt of the notice of denial.

(Added to NAC by Interstate Comm'n for Higher Education by R047-14, eff. 12-22-2014)

NAC 397.070 Director authorized to negotiate terms of repayment of loan or stipend; collection of debt. (NRS 397.020, 397.040, 397.0655)

- 1. Pursuant to NRS 397.0655, the Director of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education may negotiate the terms of repayment of a loan or stipend, including, without limitation, how and when a recipient of a loan or stipend who is in default will be required to make payments.
- 2. If a recipient of a loan or stipend is in default of payment for 120 days or more, the Director may coordinate debt collection efforts as the Director deems necessary.

(Added to NAC by Interstate Comm'n for Higher Education by R047-14, eff. 12-22-2014)