

Higher Education

North Carolina Community College System

	Concern	Description	NCGA Action Needed?	Statute	Possible Approach
1	Will youth apprentices who were laid off due to COVID-19 still be eligible for tuition waivers?	Some youth apprentices have lost their positions in apprenticeships due to COVID-19. The statute requires that they be participating in an apprenticeship in order for NCCCS to give them a tuition waiver. NCCCS would like to extend ability to receive the waiver until December 2020, to recapture those students who might be continuing their apprenticeship in the Fall semester.	Yes, if current students are to complete their plan after returning to work in the fall.	G.S. 115D-5(b)(16)	Allow students who lost their apprenticeship due to COVID-19 to keep the status they were in as of March 13 until December 21, 2020, which would extend eligibility for a tuition waiver until the end of the Fall 2020 semester.

UNC System

	Concern	Description	NCGA Action Needed?	Statute	Possible Approach
2	Will interest and penalties be charged on unpaid student bills?	UNC is required by law to charge interest and penalties on unpaid student bills. There is a good cause exception that would allow penalties to be waived, but not interest.	Yes, to waive the interest.	G.S. 147-86.23	Waive the interest on unpaid student bills by creating a good cause exception related to COVID-19.
	Concern	Description	NCGA Action Needed?	Statute	Possible Approach
3	Will reports due to JLEOC be delayed?	UNC would like an extension on any reports due in the next three months.	Yes.		Allow extensions on reporting requirements from March through September to September 30, 2020.

North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority (SEAA)

	Concern	Description	NCGA Action Needed?	Statute	Possible Approach
4	Will disbursement of Spring 2020 Opportunity Scholarship funds be delayed?	<p>SEAA is required to remit funds to participating nonpublic schools at least two times a year. Before processing payment of scholarship funds, the statute requires that a parent or guardian endorses the funds, which has been difficult while schools are closed. Scholarship grants are forfeited if a parent or guardian does not endorse the grant.</p> <p>SEAA will also need an extension to allow scholarship payments for Spring 2020 to go out after the close of the fiscal year due to delayed endorsement.</p>	Yes.	G.S. 115C-562.6	<p>Notwithstanding statutory language that would require scholarship funds to be forfeited for Spring 2020.</p> <p>Allow SEAA to carryforward funds to pay Spring 2020 scholarship grants after the close of the fiscal year.</p>
5	Will annual reports on Disability Grant Program and Opportunity Scholarship Program be delayed?	SEAA would like a one-month extension on the due dates for the reports until November 15, 2020.	Yes.	G.S. 115C-562.7 G.S. 115C-112.8	Set the due dates for November 15, 2020.

Transforming Principal Preparation Program (TP3)

	Concern	Description	NCGA Action Needed?	Statute	Possible Approach
6	<p>Will grantees continue to require completion of the 750 hours of internship this year, even if it's not practicable?</p> <p>Will grantees lose grant funds due to noncompliance if principal candidates do not complete 750 hours of internship?</p>	<p>To be eligible to receive a TP3 grant, an institution must require principal candidates to complete a full-time administrative internship of at least 5 months and 750 hours. If the institution does not comply with the terms of the grant, the grant funds can be pulled back.</p>	<p>Yes, institutions receiving grants (grantees) could (i) lose their grant for not requiring the 750 hour internship, or (ii) choose to require the 750 hour internship this year out of fear of losing the grant funds.</p>	<p>G.S. 116-208.72(a)(2)e.</p> <p>G.S. 116-209.73(c)</p>	<p>Require grantees to modify the 750 hour internship requirement for this year so that principal candidates complete only as many hours as practicable.</p> <p>Prohibit SEAA from terminating the grant for failure to meet the 750 hour requirement if the TP3 principal candidates meet the same internship requirements as other principal candidates this year.</p>