Principles of Accreditation

Compliance Report

Chipola College Compliance Audit Report

SACS Federal Requirement 4.7

4.7 - Title IV Program Responsibilities

The Institution is in compliance with its program responsibility under Title IV of the 1998 Higher Education Amendments. (In reviewing the institution's compliance with these program responsibilities, the Commission relies on documentation forwarded to it by the U.S. Secretary of Education).

Judgment of Compliance

☑ In Compliance

Statement of Rationale for Judgment of Compliance

Chipola College is in full compliance with its program responsibilities under Title IV of the 1998 Higher Education Amendments. During fiscal year 2005-2006 Chipola College awarded a total of $4,454,944 in financial assistance to 1342 students. This amount included $1,735,050 in Title IV federal aid in Federal Pell Grants, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG), Federal Work-Study Program awards, Federal Subsidized Stafford Loans, Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loan, and Federal Parent Loan for undergraduate Student (PLUS) awards. The remainder was in state awards and scholarships.

Chipola College meets all audit and review standards for administration of Title IV student aid in accordance with the Program Participation Agreement (1) signed with the U.S. Department of Education and approved through 2009. The United States Department of Education has determined that the college satisfies the definition of an eligible institution under the Higher Education Act of 1965, (2) providing further verification of the college’s compliance with this requirement. Due to the college’s proper administration of federal funds, Chipola has not been placed on Federal Pell Grant reimbursement payment method. Chipola College is noted as an Advance Payment Institution for Federal Pell Grant Program with the USDOE.

For the 2006-2007 academic year, Chipola College was initially allocated $983,062 in advance funding (3) from the Department of Education for the Federal Pell Grant Program. Once all of the initial advanced allocation is expended, the college will request additional Federal Pell Grant Funds. The college was not required to obtain a letter of credit in favor of the USDOE.
Chipola College was also allocated funding for Federal Campus-based programs. For the 2006-2007 academic year, the USDOE allocated Chipola College $74,939 for the Federal Supplemental Educational Grant and $74,875 for the Federal Work-Study program (4). The initial allocation is typically the total amount the college receives from USDOE for each academic year.

The Annual Fiscal Operation Report and Application to Participate (FISAP) (5) was submitted by the September 2006 due date as required. The completion and filing of the FISAP is a USDOE requirement for the school to continue receiving Title IV funding. In addition, the FISAP is a compliance requirement under the Participation Agreement, General Terms and Condition, 34 CFR part 668, paragraph 4 (6).

Chipola College fully complies with its responsibility for disseminating financial aid and consumer information to students. The sources for providing this information to students are as follows:

- Chipola College website – Financial Aid (7)
- Chipola College 2006-2007 Catalog (8)
- Chipola College Financial Aid Brochure (9)
- 2006-2007 Chipola College Student Handbook/Planner (10; 11)

The official Federal Cohort Default Rate (12) for Chipola College for fiscal year 2004 was 3.2%. This rate is the percentage of a school’s student borrowers entering repayment on student loans during a particular federal fiscal year but defaulting during the same or following fiscal year. The federal fiscal year extends from October 1 to September 30. Colleges which have a default rate above 20% must develop default prevention measures that are aimed to lower the default rate. Chipola College continuously monitors the quality of the administration and delivery of student aid. The cohort default rates for Chipola College are as follows: For year 2002 – 2.5%, for year 2003 -10.0%, and for year 2004 – 3.2%.

Chipola College has not experienced any adverse communications that will impact its ability to participate in the Title IV Financial Aid Programs. There are no litigation issues or complaints regarding the college that have been filed with the USDOE. Additionally, the college is not aware of infractions which may jeopardize Title IV funding.

Chipola College Financial Aid Programs are audited annually by the State of Florida Auditor General’s Office. The Compliance and Internal Controls over Financial Reporting and Federal Awards Audit Report for 2004-2005 (13) revealed neither adverse nor non-compliance findings or issues in Title IV programs administered by Chipola College. Also, Chipola College did not have any questioned costs and did not receive any improvement recommendations.
Chipola College is currently awaiting the results of its 2005-2006 Financial Aid Audit Review. At this time, Chipola is not aware of any significant noncompliance issues related to the review.

Documentation:

[1] Program Participation Agreement


[6] Participation Agreement, General Terms and Condition, 34 CFR part 668, paragraph 4

[7] Chipola College website - Financial Aid


[12] 2004 Official Cohort Default Rate