

Friday, January 26, 2024, 8:30am-10:00am MT Fireside Chat: Federal Transcript Withholding Regulations

Contact information for the expert discussants, and suggested resources, from WICHE's informal discussion with institutions from the networks of <u>No Holding Back</u>, <u>Western Academic Leadership Forum</u>, and

Western Alliance of Community College Academic Leaders

on the topic of the federal regulation that will limit withholding of transcripts beginning July 1, 2024 (C.F.R. 668.14(b) 33 & 34).

Discussants

Experts close to the topic of state and federal regulations of transcript withholding that provided framing remarks welcomed attendees to contact them with questions.

- <u>Dr. Wendy Kilgore</u>, Senior Director of Research, American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officials (AACRAO), wendyk@aacrao.org
- Bryan Dickson, Director of Student Financial Services and Educational Programs, National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO), bdickson@nacubo.org
- Jared B. Abdirkin, Director, State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (SARA), New England Board of Higher Education, jabdirkin@nebhe.org
- Martin Kurzweil, Vice President, Educational Transformation, Ithaka S+R, martin.kurzweil@ithaka.org

Resources

Zoom meeting recording: Here (accessible through February 25, 2024)

Note: This was not a public webinar and the meeting recording will not be posted to the WICHE website. Attendees are welcome to share these resources and the link to the meeting recording with their colleagues. The Zoom recording will be

Resources provided during the meeting:

- This webinar recording from AACRAO and NACUBO provides a good overview of these regulations: <u>New Federal Regulations and Transcript Withholding. What does</u> <u>this mean to my Institution?</u> And this <u>summary of questions</u> that have been received about the regulations.
- And, here is the current guidance on the use of administrative and students success holds - please keep in mind that it has not been updated with the new regulation in mind. https://www.aacrao.org/research-publications/research/eye-on-researchblog/article/executive-director-update/2022/04/07/aacrao-and-nacubo-issue-jointstatement-on-institutional-holds-4-7-2022
- Evaluation Ithaka S+R published on the Georgia State Panther Retention grants: https://sr.ithaka.org/publications/the-impacts-of-emergency-micro-grants-on-student-success/
- ROI study of the Panther Retention grants: https://niss.gsu.edu/digital-library/roi-study-panther-retention-grants/
- Practical playbook published by the University Innovation Alliance on implementing completion grants: https://cg.theuia.org/
- @Wendy Kilgore you mentioned having hard conversations with students about taking on the load and I am wondering if you have seen a correlation between a push for FT enrollment and increased unpaid debt. Wendy Kilgore: Good question. We don't have any data on that yet. It think it is an excellent point for analysis at your institution.
- Question—How will former students know their rights to a transcript as a result of these new regulations? @Martin Kurzweil: These are great insights speaks to the importance of proactive coaching and advising for students who are not reading Inside Higher Ed and keeping track of transcript regulations!
- Question—What has been the financial impact on institutions that are not withholding transcripts for past due balances? It was acknowledged by discussants that this is an area that needs more data, research and attention. Several states that have limited transcript withholding (e.g., Washington and Colorado) may have data monitoring information forthcoming. @Martin Kurzweil: There is definitely a need for more research on the impact of the existing state prohibitions. If anyone here is interested in collaborating with Ithaka S+R on that research, please let me know. martin.kurzweil@ithaka.org
- WICHE welcomes you to use the toolkit we produced to help assess administrative
 holds at your institution https://www.wiche.edu/administrative-holds, including
 guides for compiling data to track the use and impact of holds, assessing codified
 policies, and some examples from the participating 12 institutions regarding the use
 of transcript holds. Several students also mentioned the practical implications of
 transcript holds for transferring, and other ideas, in a broadcast on this topic.