



# DAILY BRIEFING

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

## In Today's Edition

- NCHER Legislative and Leadership Conference – Preview of “Enrollment Trends in Postsecondary Education” Session, Still Time to Register!
- White House Announces Budget Request to be Released on March 9
- President Biden Announces End of Pandemic Declaration, Administration Officials Say No Impact on Federal Student Loan Policies
- House Education and the Workforce Committee Holds Organizational Meeting, Releases Subcommittee Assignments
- NCAN Report Finds Nearly \$3.6 Billion Left Unclaimed in Pell Grants
- U.S. Department of Education News
- Member News
- General News

---

## NCHER Legislative and Leadership Conference – Preview of “Enrollment Trends in Postsecondary Education” Session, Still Time to Register!

The NCHER Legislative and Leadership Conference, which will be held on February 6-8, 2023 at the Westin Washington, DC City Center, is a week away! This popular conference will be the first opportunity to hear about federal and state developments impacting the higher education finance industry and to meet with the House and Senate Education Committee leadership, Biden Administration officials, and your Congressional delegation

on your organization's advocacy priorities. [So Register Today!](#)

The NCHER Board of Directors and staff have been hard at work putting together the [program agenda](#) geared toward providing important and timely sessions on the political and policy environment in the U.S. House of Representatives, the U.S. Senate, and the Biden Administration. But the conference also includes several sessions geared toward fostering discussions on those important issues for the membership. One session that is a 'can't-miss' for the NCHER membership is a presentation by the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center examining enrollment trends in postsecondary education. Here's a preview of the session:

### **Tuesday, February 7, 2023**

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Enrollment Trends in Postsecondary Education

Preliminary data from the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center saw higher education enrollment decline 1.1 percent in the fall of 2022, following a 2.1 percent drop in the preceding fall. These enrollment losses, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, represents a two-year decline of 3.2 percent since the fall of 2020. Both undergraduate and graduate enrollment decreased by 1.1 and 1.0 percent, respectively, while freshmen enrollment declined this fall by 1.5 percent after last year's increase of 2.2 percent. This session will review recent research and reports on postsecondary education enrollment and discuss current and anticipated trends at the public and private institutional level.

### **Introduction**

Nathan Hench, Senior Vice President of Strategy and Public Affairs  
Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency

### **Speaker**

Aaron Pevitz, Research Analyst  
National Student Clearinghouse Research Center

The program agenda also includes:

- An important session with government relations experts who will provide a federal update on recent developments impacting the higher education finance industry and the outlook as we begin 2023.
- House Education and the Workforce Committee Chairwoman Virginia Foxx will speak about her priorities for higher education, including ideas to improve federal

and private student loan programs and college access and success initiatives.

- U.S. Department of Education Deputy Under Secretary Ben Miller will speak about the agency's policies and priorities, including reforms to the federal student loan program.
- A Congressional staff panel where House and Senate Republican and Democratic staff will discuss the priorities of the Democratic and Republican leadership in the 118th Congress and whether there are consensus areas for enactment of improvements to federal and private student aid programs.
- A timely session from college and university leaders that will provide perspectives on a range of topics such as learner access, affordability, accountability, student outcomes, and value measures.
- Engaging sessions examining state policies impacting higher education finance and examining recent proposals impacting private student loan programs, and how the higher education financing industry is managing Board and staff through the current period of ongoing uncertainty and change as a result of the federal student loan forgiveness program, Fresh Start, and new income-driven repayment plans.
- Multiple opportunities to meet with your Congressional delegation on Capitol Hill, and a bootcamp session to review NCHER's Advocacy Priorities for the 2023 in advance of Congressional and agency visits.

[So Register Today!](#) Once you're doing registering, be sure that you make your hotel reservations at the Westin. NCHER has secured a room rate of \$199 per room, per night. You can call the hotel at 202-429-1700 or click [here](#) to make online reservations.

We look forward to seeing you in-person in Washington, DC!

## White House Announces Budget Request to be Released on March 9

Today, the White House announced that the President's budget request for Fiscal Year 2024 will be released on March 9, 2023. The release is about a month later than required under law, though few administrations actually meet the statutory deadline of releasing its budget to Congress the first Monday in February. In a memorandum, White House Office of Management and Budget Director Shalanda Young and National Economic Council Director Brian Deese wrote, "The budget will show how the President plans to invest in America, continue to lower costs for families, protect and strengthen Social Security and Medicare, and reduce the deficit – with tables and numbers showing exactly

how his economic and fiscal policies add up to achieve these goals.” For additional coverage, see this article from [The Hill](#).

## President Biden Announces End of Pandemic Declaration, Administration Officials Say No Impact on Federal Student Loan Policies

On Monday, President Joe Biden [announced](#) that he plans to end the national emergency declaration for COVID-19 on May 11, 2023. The national emergency status has been in effect since it was first declared by former President Donald Trump on March 13, 2020. As part of the announcement, Biden Administration officials said that the end of the pandemic declaration would not affect the ongoing federal student loan policies that are currently tied to the national emergency status. “Providing debt relief and pausing loan payments can continue after the formal end of the national emergency,” an administration official said in an email to Politico. The emergency declaration has been the legal basis for a range of U.S. Department of Education policies and programs, including the authority cited by the administration to implement the federal student loan forgiveness program, which will be the subject of oral arguments at the U.S. Supreme Court at the end of next month. In court filings, administration officials have previously argued that the HEROES Act empowered the Secretary of Education to help borrowers who were affected by the national emergency. They have also argued that the emergency declaration need not be in effect at the time that borrowers receive the relief.

For further coverage, see these articles from [Forbes](#), [USA Today](#), and [Business Insider](#).

## House Education and the Workforce Committee Holds Organizational Meeting, Releases Subcommittee Assignments

Today, the House Education and the Workforce Committee held an organizing meeting to approve the committee’s rules, oversight plan, and subcommittee assignments. In her [Opening Remarks](#), Chairwoman Virginia Foxx (R-NC) thanked the members for attending the organizational session and said that she hopes to work with all committee members, but Republicans were committed to addressing the “broken student loan system.” On the rules package, Chairwoman Foxx said that it reflects the change in the committee’s name from the Committee on Education and Labor to the Committee on Education and the Workforce. She also said that the committee will return to regular order with no remote hearings or remote markups. On the oversight plan, Chairwoman Foxx said that oversight

will be a major priority for the committee in the 118th Congress. “The executive branch has gotten too comfortable bypassing the legislative process set up by the Constitution,” she said. “As the people’s representatives, we should all be willing to guard the authority granted to us by the Constitution, regardless of which party is in the Oval Office. As elected officials, we should be focused on ensuring that government agencies are run as efficiently as possible and in accord with congressional intent. Federal agency heads might as well get comfortable with this hearing room—they are going to be here a lot.” Both the rules package and oversight plan passed by voice vote.

During the organizational meeting, both Chairwoman Foxx and Ranking Member Bobby Scott (D-VA) released the subcommittee leaders and members. The following members may be of interest to the NCHER membership:

#### Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development

Chair: Rep. Burgess Owens (R-UT)

Ranking Member: Rep. Frederica Wilson (D-FL)

Republicans: Rep. G.T. Thompson (R-PA), Rep. [Glenn Grothman](#) (R-WI) Rep. [Elise Stefanik](#) (R-NY), Rep. [Jim Banks](#) (R-IN), Rep. Lloyd Smucker (R-PA), Rep. [Bob Good](#) (R-VA), Rep. Nathaniel Moran (R-TX), Rep. [John James](#) (R-MI), Rep. [Lori Chavez-DeRemer](#) (R-OR), Rep. [Erin Houchin](#) (R-IN), Rep. [Brandon Williams](#) (R-NY) and Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC).

Democrats: Rep. [Mark Takano](#) (D-CA), Rep. [Pramila Jayapal](#) (D-WA), Rep. [Teresa Leger Fernández](#) (D-NM), Rep. [Kathy Manning](#) (D-NC), Rep. Lucy McBath (D-GA), Rep. Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ), Rep. [Joe Courtney](#) (D-CT), Del. Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (D-NMI), Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), and Rep. [Alma Adams](#) (D-NC).

For further coverage, including an archived webcast of the markup session, visit the committee [website](#).

## NCAN Report Finds Nearly \$3.6 Billion Left Unclaimed in Pell Grants

The National College Attainment Network (NCAN) released a [analysis](#) that found nearly \$3.6 billion in Pell Grant funds were unclaimed by students in the high school class of 2022. According to the report, approximately 44 percent of high school graduates in 2022 did not fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid or FAFSA despite 47 percent of the class being eligible for Pell Grants. For the 2022-2023 school year, the average award was \$4,686 and the maximum award was \$6,895. This is the second year

that NCAN has conducted an analysis of unclaimed Pell Grants. Combining the results of both years of analysis, the organization found that between the graduating classes of 2021 and 2022, more than \$7.3 billion in Pell Grants have gone unclaimed - approximately 14 percent of the annual funds available. The analysis found that students in California, Florida, New York, and Texas left the most Pell Grant money unclaimed. NCAN Senior Director of Data and Strategic Initiatives Bill DeBaun explained that there is not one reason for the unclaimed funds but speculated that it could be due to the lack of visibility for the grants and an imbalance in the messaging around college affordability. “We talk a lot about needing more students to pursue educational pathways after high school,” said Mr. DeBaun “This shows that there are a lot of students who could receive a Pell Grant – that could make college or a credential possible – who are not pursuing that.”

## U.S. Department of Education News

For today's *Federal Register*, click [here](#).

The following announcements were posted to the Federal Student Aid's Knowledge Center Website:

- [\(LOANS-23-02\) Loan Servicing Information - Temporary Closures of Federal Loan Servicing Centers Due to Hazardous Weather Conditions](#)
- [\(LOANS-23-01\) Loan Servicing Information - Reporting Student Loan Interest Payments for 2022](#)
- [Comment Request: Student Assistance General Provisions-Subpart E-Verification Student Aid Application Information](#)
- [Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties for Inflation](#)

---

## Member News



The Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) sent out a [press release](#) reminding students of the importance of submitting their Free Application for Federal Student Aid or FAFSA if they have not done so already.

The Board of Directors of the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) and Kentucky Higher Education Student Loan Corporation (KHESLC) [announced](#) that they are seeking a dynamic leader to fill the position of Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director. KHEAA/KHESLC are sister organizations created by state statute, whose joint mission is to enable Kentuckians to achieve their education goals beyond high school. The CEO/Executive Director will serve as one of the Commonwealth's

advocates for financial access to and successful completion of postsecondary education, representing the interests of prospective and enrolled Kentucky students and their families. To apply, submit a cover letter and resume via email in PDF format to [ceosearch@kheaa.com](mailto:ceosearch@kheaa.com) by 4:30 PM EST Tuesday, January 31, 2023. For more information, click [here](#).

---

## General News

[Higher Ed Dive](#) publishes an op-ed by House Appropriations Committee Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) who writes that for-profit online program management companies are the new predators in higher education.

[CNN](#) reports that the federal student loan case being heard by the U.S. Supreme Court is about much more than student loans.

[CNBC](#) reports that some student loan borrowers may qualify for an interest deduction, despite the pause in federal student loan repayment.

[Forbes](#) reports on the student loan refinance rates in January.

[Inside Higher Education](#) reports that the federal student loan system is in need of 'robust interventions.'

An online version of this Daily Briefing is available to view and print from the [Daily Briefing Section](#) of the [NCHER e-Library](#).

***Do not forward this email with this link included.***

***Anyone clicking on this link will unsubscribe you from the Daily Briefing distribution.***

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Manage subscription](#)

**Copyright © 2022**

**National Council of Higher Education Resources**

1050 Connecticut Ave NW #65793

Washington, DC 20035

Phone: **(202) 822-2106**

Fax: (202) 822-2142

MailPoet