



# SHEEO

STATE HIGHER EDUCATION EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

## MHEC Annual Meeting Zoom Call

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11/10/20

Thomas L. Harnisch, Ed.D.  
Vice President for Government Relations  
SHEEO

# Agenda

- Federal Election Results
- Immediate Issues
- Biden's Agenda and the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress
- Discussion

## Pre-Election Balance of Power

### Senate:

**Republicans: 53**

**Democrats: 47 (w/2 ind.)**

### House:

**Republicans: 197**

**Democrats: 232**

**Libertarians: 1**

**Vacant: 5**



## Post-Election Balance of Power

### Senate:

**Republicans: 50-52**

**Democrats: 48-50**

### House:

**Republicans: Minority (w/ net gains)**

**Democrats: Majority (w/ net losses)**

## Immediate Issues

- ***RELIEF PACKAGE WITH AID TO STATES AND INSTITUTIONS***
- Student visas and H1-B visas
- FAFSA Simplification
- Diversity training/critical race theory executive order
- Budget expiring on December 11<sup>th</sup>

## Outlook on the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress

- If the Senate is controlled by the GOP, it is likely to be gridlock between the Democratic House, GOP Senate, and Biden White House
- Areas of possible bipartisan support are community colleges, workforce
- President Biden will likely use regulatory powers to the extent possible to further his agenda, including in higher education. Trump-era executive actions and regulations will likely be replaced
- Biden's ambitious higher education platform and HEA reauthorization is unlikely to be considered in GOP-controlled Senate
- Control of the Senate HELP Committee remains unknown at this time, but Sen. Richard Burr (R-NC) is frontrunner

## Reversal of Trump-era Executive Actions

- DACA restoration
- Diversity/Critical Race Theory Executive Order
- Section 117 implementation
- Title IX
- Gainful employment rule
- Borrower defense
- H1 visas
- Lawsuits/investigations against universities
- International students attending college online

# Biden's Higher Education Agenda

## Debt-Free Community College



- No tuition for up to two years of community college, including training programs with good track records
- First-dollar program
- Encourage collaboration with community orgs, wrap-around services and emergency grants
- Part-timers, adults, and DREAMers included
- Students are welcome to transfer to a 4-year college afterwards
- The federal gov't pay 75%, states do the rest

Source: Biden Campaign

## Biden's Higher Education Agenda

### Invest in Community College Capacity and Success



- Provide grants to community colleges to help with retention and completion and scale successes
- Invest in reforms, including dual enrollment, transfer, faculty professional development, remediation.
- Invest \$8 billion in community college facilities and technology

Source: Biden Campaign

# Biden's Higher Education Agenda

## Invest in Workforce Training Programs



- Invest \$50 billion in high-quality training programs
- Support partnerships between universities and industries
- Boost number of apprenticeships and partnerships with unions

Source: Biden Campaign

# Biden's Higher Education Agenda

## 4-Year College Affordability



- Tuition-Free Public Colleges (below \$125K)
- Double the maximum Pell Grant
- Ensure DREAMers are eligible for financial aid
- Restore Pell for the incarcerated

Source: Biden Campaign

# Biden's Higher Education Agenda

## University Capacity and Transfer (4-Year Colleges)



- Create a “Title I” program for under-resourced four-year universities
- Investments in wraparound services and emergency funding for students
- Grants for states for accelerating educational attainment
- Prioritize work-study for job-related and public service roles
- Crack down on predatory colleges

Source: Biden Campaign

# Biden's Higher Education Agenda

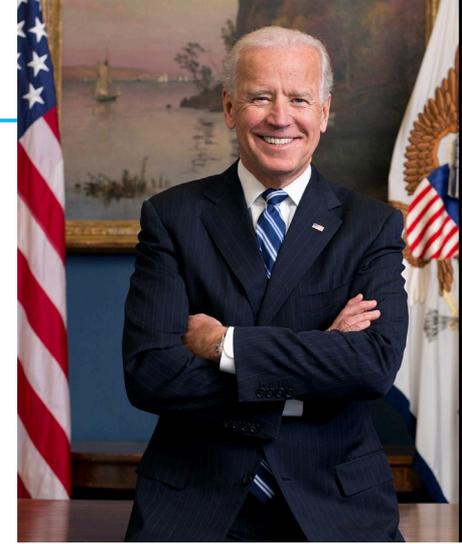


## Student Debt Repayment

- No payment, no interest accrue for those making less than \$25K
- For those beyond \$25K, pay 5% of for 20 years, everything else forgiven
- Opt-out of income-based repayment, not opt-in
- No taxes on debt forgiveness
- Forgive \$10k in student debt due to the pandemic.
- \$10k of student debt relief for public service, up to \$50k. Income-based repayment for 5 more years, then total forgiveness. Automatic opt-in for those in public service, those with prior service will qualify
- Fix the current PSLF program
- Bring back borrower defense rule

Source: Biden Campaign

# Biden's Higher Education Agenda



## HBCUs/TCUs/MSIs

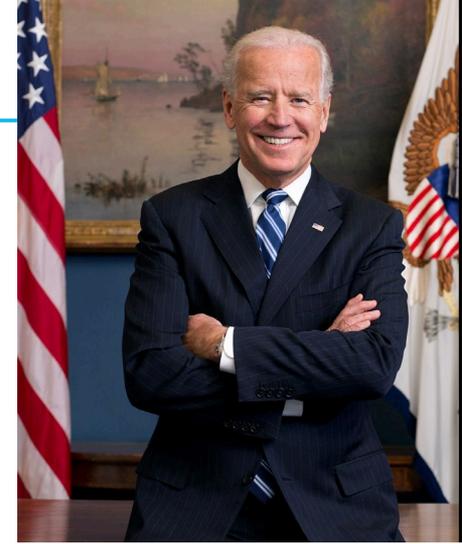
- Make sure that MSIs, including private HBCUs, are not undermined by the tuition-free public university plan
- Invest in centers for excellence in research and connect students at these institutions to learning and career opportunities
- Invest in high-tech labs and facilities at HBCUs/TCUs/MSIs
- Invest in increasing enrollment/retention/completion/employment
- Invest in Title III and Title V of the HEA
- Reduce funding disparities for these institutions

Source: Biden Campaign

# Biden's Higher Education Agenda

## Others

- Permit bankruptcy for private student loans
- Protect the GI Bill
- Access to aid for undocumented/international students in the CARES Act



Source: Biden Campaign

## Discussion

- What are your thoughts on Biden's higher education agenda?
- Do you see areas of possible compromise between Democrats and Republicans on higher education?
- Are there other ideas you'd like to see from the federal government regarding higher education?

# SHEEO Emails

- We have a daily higher education policy email
- The latest reports, government documents, and news clippings
- Both state and federal policy
- Available at <https://sheeo.org/sheeo-newsletter-signups/>



Tuesday, March 31, 2020

[\*3/25 SHEEO Statement on Bipartisan Stimulus Deal\*](#)

#### **National Policy Update**

[Report: Do College Applicants Respond to Changes in Sticker Prices Even When They Don't Matter?](#)

*NBER* (Date posted: March 2020)

[Report: Preliminary Simulation of Distribution of Funds under the CARES Act](#)  
*American Council on Education* (Date posted: March 25, 2020)

[Pelosi Floats New Stimulus Plan: Rolling Back SALT Cap](#)  
*The New York Times* (Date posted: March 30, 2020)

[After Three Coronavirus Stimulus Packages, Congress Is Already Prepping Phase Four](#)  
*The Wall Street Journal*-subscription required (Date posted: March 29, 2020)

[More Stimulus? Here's the Case for Adding On](#)  
*The Wall Street Journal* (Date posted: March 30, 2020)

# Questions?

Tom Harnisch

Vice President for Government Relations

[tharnisch@sheeo.org](mailto:tharnisch@sheeo.org)

@tlharnisch