

FY Testimony before 20 Senate Education Committee

March 20, 2018

Marilyn Cargill, VP for Financial Aid Programs, and Thomas A. Little, General Counsel Vermont Student Assistance Corporation

VŜAC

Free Tuition Model Community College of Vermont

Year in College	Tuition Scholarship	Number of Students	Total Cost	
Freshman	\$8,040	1,169	\$9,398,760	
Sophomore	\$8,040	623	\$5,008,920	
Totals		1,792	\$14,407,680	



Promise Scholarship Model Community College of Vermont

Year in College	Tuition Number of Scholarship Students		Total Cost	
Freshman	\$4,000	1,169	\$4,676,000	
Sophomore	\$4,000	623	\$2,492,000	
Totals		1,792	\$7,168,000	



Current Limitations

- Based on 2018 actual enrollment of Grant recipients
 - Students who are ineligible for VT Grants are not included
 - Does not account for increased enrollment based on the new program
 - Does not account for changes in enrollment based on population data



Model Options

- Increase the funding available
- Decrease pool of eligible students
 - Limit to Freshmen
 - Income cutoffs
 - Limit eligible schools
 - Age cutoffs
 - Other eligibility criteria Minimum GPA, Full-time enrollment, Proximity to high school graduation
- Cap Award Amounts Move from Free Tuition to Promise Scholarship



Financial Aid Definitions

- Awards based on First Dollar In: Regardless of any other aid received by the student, the award will still be received and applied towards the student's college expenses.
- Awards based on Last Dollar In: The students award will be reduced by the amount of identified aid, frequently Pell and/or State grant that the applicant receives.

Financial Aid Impact of First- and Last-Dollar-In Policies on the Financial Resources by Family Income

First- and Last-Dollar-In Award = \$10,000

First Dollar In

Last Dollar In

Total	Expected Family Contribution		Award Amount		Award Amount	Total Resources
\$30,000	\$0	\$9,100	\$10,000	\$19,100	\$900	\$10,000
\$50,000	\$2,910	\$6,200	\$10,000	\$19,100	\$3,800	\$12,910
\$80,000	\$9,830	\$0	\$10,000	\$19,830	\$10,000	\$19,830