



Coalition of Higher Education Assistance Organizations  
777 Sixth Street N.W., Suite 510  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3586

February 7, 2020

The Honorable Bobby Scott  
Chairman  
House Education and Labor Committee  
2176 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Virginia Foxx  
Ranking Member  
House Education and Labor Committee  
2101 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Scott and Ranking Member Foxx,

We are writing to ask you to include a local campus based servicing option in the new Direct Perkins Loans program created by the College Affordability Act (CAA). We believe a robust, restored, and improved Perkins Loan program is a vitally important component of the Higher Education Act. For 60 years, Perkins Loans proved to be one of the most effective and efficient public-private partnerships in the Federal government with local control, shared responsibility, and most importantly helping students most in need.

Unfortunately, the CAA takes away management of the new Perkins Loan program from campuses and instead puts the Direct Loan servicing contractors in charge of all loan servicing. The local school based servicing of Perkins Loans, a signature piece of the program for decades, has resulted in better repayment rates and improved financial literacy, and it allows schools to focus more on student and borrower well-being.

We believe a campus based servicing option with reasonable criteria for eligibility is critical for several reasons:

1. Schools provide counselling, mentoring, and support to students for student loans and other financial aid issues beyond Perkins.
2. Borrowers are much more likely to accept communications from their schools than from a third party vendor.
3. Borrowers are more trusting of their schools, and when having difficulties will work with their institutions to help get back on track.
4. Campus based servicing for Perkins Loans helps to create an infrastructure that allows schools, particularly large institutions, to service other types of loans as well.
5. Individual schools are uniquely able to understand their students' and former students' needs and can take a holistic approach, especially in helping students stay in school or return to complete their degree.

We greatly appreciate that the CAA contains a new Perkins Loan program, and we know how helpful it will be to ensuring all students have the resources they need to complete a post-secondary degree. As the HEA reauthorization process moves forward, we strongly urge you to include a provision that allows campus based servicing of Perkins Loans to remain an option for schools.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The Coalition of Higher Education Assistance Organizations (COHEAO)  
American Council on Education  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers  
American Dental Education Association  
Arkansas State University  
Arkansas State University  
Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges  
Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB)  
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities  
Augsburg University  
Augustana College  
Augustana University  
Baylor College of Medicine  
Benedictine University  
Biola University  
Boston College  
Butler University  
California Lutheran University  
Colorado State University  
Concordia College  
Coppin State University  
Council of Independent Colleges  
Delta State University  
D'Youville College  
Fairleigh Dickinson University  
Fashion Institute of Design and Marketing  
Fort Valley State University  
Franklin & Marshall College  
Hampton University  
Hobart and William Smith Colleges  
Illinois Institute of Technology  
John Carroll University  
Kansas City Art Institute  
La Roche University  
Lakeland University  
Los Angeles Department of Health Services

Manhattan.College  
Marist College  
Marquette University  
Maryville University  
Meharry Medical College  
Miami Dade College  
Minnesota Collection Network  
Minneapolis College of Art and Design  
Mohawk Valley Community College  
Monmouth University  
Morehead State University  
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA)  
NASPA-Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education  
National Association of College and University Business Officers  
Niagara University  
Point Loma Nazarene University  
Reed College  
Regis University  
Rider university  
School of the Art Institute of Chicago  
Seattle Pacific University  
Society for College and University Planning  
South Carolina State University  
South Dakota School of Mines & Technology  
Southern Adventist University  
St. Olaf College  
Temple University  
The Evergreen State College  
The Ohio State University  
Touro College and University System  
Trinity University  
Tulane University  
University of California Los Angeles  
University of Kansas Medical Center  
Universidad del Sagrado Corazon  
University of Dayton  
University of Denver  
University of Evansville  
University of Hartford  
University of Idaho  
University of Minnesota Duluth  
University of Nebraska Omaha  
University of Richmond  
University of South Alabama  
University of Utah  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
University of Wisconsin-Platteville

University of Health Science Center at San Antonio  
Valparaiso University  
Weber State University  
Wentworth Institute of Technology  
Western Kentucky University  
Western Michigan University  
Widener University  
Yeshiva University