ODHE Updates on the State Budget & Higher Education Policy
Jim Bennett - Chief of Staff and Senior Policy Advisor
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• State resources and policy levers should be utilized, where possible and appropriate, to encourage and support certain outcomes
Key ODHE Policy Pillars

1. Access and Affordability

2. Student Success and Achievement

3. Workforce Relevance
Access and Affordability

• **College Credit Plus**
  - Statewide Innovative Waiver Pathways
  - Teacher Credentialing Grants ($3 million per fiscal year through ODE)

• **Work Ready Grants**
  - $10 million per fiscal year
  - Up to $3,000 for qualifying students in eligible programs

• **FAFSA Support Teams**
  - $1 million in FY25
Access and Affordability

- **Second Chance Grants**
  - $2 million per fiscal year ($3,000/student) – currently accepting applications
  - Focused on adults and those with some credits, but no degree

- **College Comeback**
  - In tandem with Second Chance Grants, may involve some level of debt forgiveness
  - All institutions are encouraged to develop a program or join a compact

- **Transcript Withholding**
  - Employment-related prohibition - BOT resolution due 12/1/23 on policy
Student Success and Achievement

- **State Share of Instruction**
  - 100% outcomes-based funding – core operating subsidy

- **Governor’s Merit Scholarship**
  - $20 million in FY25
  - $5,000 per student (top 5% of HS graduating class) for up to 4 years

- **Mental Health Supports**
  - $10 million per fiscal year
  - Award notifications sent 8/24/23
Workforce Relevance

• **Super RAPIDS**
  - $100 million in FY24 – focused on key industry sectors
  - RFP released 9/5/23 – responses due 10/5/23

• **Talent Ready Grants**
  - $10 million per fiscal year
  - Award notifications sent 9/13/23 – support for short-term certificates

• **Choose Ohio First**
  - $30 million in FY24 and $32 million in FY25
  - RFP released 7/17/23 – responses due 8/29/23 (currently under review)
Workforce Relevance

• **Teacher Apprenticeship**
  • Announced 8/11/23 – collaborative model between secondary and postsecondary partners

• **Grow Your Own Teacher Program**
  • $5 million in FY24 and $10 million in FY25
  • Scholarships of up to $7,500 per year for up to 4 years

• **Computer Science**
  • $4 million per fiscal year in the Teach CS program
Other Key Policy Items/Agency Initiatives

- **Intel Curriculum Collaboration**
  - Manufacturing foundations, semi-conductor 101 and vacuum systems

- **Science of Reading (ReadOhio)**
  - 12/31/23 deadline for initial survey evaluation
  - 1/1/25 new standards take effect and compliance audits begin
Other Key Policy Items/Agency Initiatives

• **Collegiate Purple Star Designation**
  • Next round of applications open today through 10/13/23
  • Not all public institutions have applied yet

• **Ohio Reach Postsecondary Designation**
  • First round of institutions announced 8/31/23
  • 10 community colleges designated in first round
Thank You For the Opportunity to Present

Any questions or concerns, you are always welcome to reach me at jbennett@highered.ohio.gov.