

IRP@FHDA

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Re: MIS Financial Aid Report: Accounting for the Decline in BOG C Student Headcount between 2015-16 and 2016-2017 at Foothill and De Anza College

Summary

In this document, reasons for the significant decline in student headcount for BOG C tuitions waivers at Foothill College and De Anza College during the last two academic years are explored. The data suggest that the decline is most likely due to a decline in the number of students at each college who were eligible for financial aid and the decline in the headcount for \$0 BOG C awards reported at each college during the last two academic years. The data also show that, as expected, the student accounts table in Banner (FHDA information system) is the most reliable data source for BOG tuition waivers.

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to account or explain the significant decline in the number of students awarded BOG C¹ tuition waivers between the academic years of 2015-16 and 2016-17 at Foothill College and De Anza College. Preliminary figures for the MIS financial aid report show that the headcount for BOG C awards at Foothill College in 2016-17 declined by 13%, when compared to the number in 2015-16 (4,548 to 5,214). For De Anza College, the decline in headcount between these two academic years was 21% (10,342 to 8,183).

¹ Board of Governors enrollment fee waiver based on financial aid need

The research questions addressed here include:

1. Is the decline in the number of students awarded BOG C waivers between 20015-16 and 2016-17 related to a decline in the number of students who enrolled or applied for financial aid at each college during these academic years?
2. Besides Banner-students accounts,² do other sources for financial aid data show significantly different results regarding the number of students awarded BOG C waivers at each college during these academic years?
3. Is the decline in the number of students awarded BOG C waivers between 20015-16 and 2016-17 at Foothill and De Anza related to a decline in the number of students with \$0 reported for this financial aid award?³

Findings

Research question 1: Is the decline in the number of students awarded BOG C waivers between 20015-16 and 2016-17 related to a decline in the number of students who enrolled or applied for financial aid at each college during these academic years?

Data in Table 1 show that the number of students who enrolled in at least one credit course at Foothill College increased by 6% in 2016-17, when compared to the number for 2015-16. On the other hand, the data in this table show that the number of Foothill students who applied for federal financial aid declined 4% between these two years (18,624 to 17,809; 815 less students). The data also show that the percentage of the student population who applied for federal financial aid at Foothill declined by about 6 percentage points (62% in 2015-16; 56% in 2016-17).

For De Anza College, data for the last two academic years in Table 1 show a student headcount decline of 2% (32,936 to 32,256; 680 less students) and a decline of 7% (26,916 to 25,075; 1,841 less) in the number of students who applied for federal financial aid. The percentage of De Anza students who applied for federal financial aid declined 4 percentage points between the last two academic years (82% to 76%).

Because BOG C waivers are based on financial aid need, significant changes in the number of students who applied for financial aid applicants and had an EFC (expected family contribution to costs

² Data shown in Banner-Account Detail Query (TGIACCD)

³ \$0 BOG award headcount refers to students enrolled by census date with a BOG application processed, but no actual tuition waiver in their accounts.

for education) equal to \$0 were also explored. Data in Table 2 show that the number of students with EFC equal to \$0 declined 9% and 13% for Foothill and De Anza, respectively, during the last two academic years. Statistics in Table 3 show that EFC estimates increased in the last two years for most federal financial aid applicants at Foothill or De Anza. These findings suggest that there might have been a significant decline in the number and percentage of Foothill or De Anza students who qualify for financial aid.

Table 1. Headcount for Credit Students and Financial Aid Applicants by College and Academic Year

Credit Students			
Academic Year	Students	Fin Aid Applicants	Perc Fin Aid Applicants
Foothill College			
2015-16	30,082	18,624	62%
2016-17	31,780	17,809	56%
Change			
Count	1,698	(815)	
Percent	6%	-4%	
De Anza College			
2015-16	32,936	26,916	82%
2016-17	32,256	25,075	78%
Change			
Count	(680)	(1,841)	
Percent	-2%	-7%	

Notes

Data for students and Fin Aid applicants only include students with at least 0.5 attempted credit units at the college during the academic year.

Table 2. Headcount for Financial Aid Applicants with Zero EFC by College and Academic Year

Academic Year	Credit Students	Fin Aid Applicants	Zero EFC Headcount within Fin Aid Applicants	Percent Zero EFC within Fin Aid Applicants
Foothill College				
2015-16	30,082	18,624	2,648	14%
2016-17	31,780	17,809	2,398	13%
Change				
Count	1,698	(815)	(250)	
Percent	6%	-4%	-9%	
De Anza College				
2015-16	32,936	26,916	5,143	19%
2016-17	32,256	25,075	4,474	18%
Change				
Count	(680)	(1,841)	(669)	
Percent	-2%	-7%	-13%	

Notes

Data for students and Fin Aid applicants only include students with at least 0.5 attempted credit units at the college during the academic year.
 EFC: Expected family contribution to costs for education.

Table 3. Expected Family Contribution (EFC) Statistics for Financial Aid Applicants by College and Academic Year

Academic Year	Credit Students	Fin Aid Applicants	Mode	Median	Average
Foothill College					
2015-16	30,082	18,624	0	667	5,410
2016-17	31,780	17,809	0	1,075	5,472
Change					
Count or Amount	1,698	(815)		408	62
Percent	6%	-4%			
De Anza College					
2015-16	32,936	26,916	0	268	4,397
2016-17	32,256	25,075	0	499	4,821
Change					
Count or Amount	(680)	(1,841)		231	424
Percent	-2%	-7%			

Notes

Data for students and Fin Aid applicants only include students with at least 0.5 attempted credit units at the college during the academic year.

Mode: Most frequent EFC value in the group/distribution.

Median: Midpoint EFC value in the group/distribution.

Average: The mean or value used to represent the central point in the distribution, taking into account variability or distribution of all values within the group.

Mode, median, and average estimates are for EFC amounts.

Research Question 2. Besides Banner-students accounts, do other sources for financial aid data show significantly different results regarding the number of students awarded BOG C waivers at each college during these academic years?

Table 4 show data for the financial aid module of Banner (FHDA information system). According to figures in this table, the number of students who were offered a BOG C waiver in 2016-17 declined 4% and 21% at Foothill and De Anza, respectively, when compared to related figures for 2015-16. For Foothill College, preliminary figures for the MIS Financial Aid report, as shown in Table 5 of Appendix A, show a decline of 13%. Data for the MIS Financial Aid report are extracted from the student account tables in Banner, which keep track of all charges and payments related to tuition, including BOG tuition waivers.

However, actual BOG C headcounts for Foothill in Banner-financial aid are significantly smaller than those in Banner-student accounts for their respective academic years. In Table 4 (Banner-financial aid module), the BOG C data show 4,444 students for 2015-16, compared to 5,214 in Table 5 (student accounts tables) for the same academic year (17% or 770 more students in Table 5). For 2016-17, the BOG C headcount in Table 4 is 4,252, compared to 4,548 in Table 5 (7% or 296 more students).

These findings suggest that the BOG C student headcount figures in Table 4 (Banner-financial aid module) for Foothill College are significantly underestimated, especially the headcount for the 2015-16 academic year. Meaning, data for Foothill College in the Banner-financial aid module are not up-to-date and are unreliable for estimating changes in headcounts across years for the margin of error is inconsistent or not stable. Furthermore, the data suggest that the decline in headcount for the last two academic years in Table 4 (4%) for Foothill College would have been significantly higher and more in line with data from Banner-student accounts if it were not for the fact that the headcount for 2015-16 is underestimated to a much higher degree when compared to that for 2016-17.

Regarding De Anza College, percentage figures for BOG C headcount changes between 2015-16 and 2016-17 are similar to those in the preliminary figures for the MIS Financial Aid report: a decline of 21% to 22% between the last two academic years. Simply put, data for De Anza College in Table 4 and Table 5 show no significant differences in BOG C student headcount change across years (1% to 2% difference).

Table 4. Banner, Financial Aid: Student Headcount for BOG Awards by College and Academic Year

Bog Type	Headcount		Change	
	2016	2017	Count	Percent
Foothill College				
BOG Waiver A	68	58	(10)	-15%
BOG Waiver B	1,179	1,364	185	16%
BOG Waiver C	4,444	4,252	(192)	-4%
Total	5,332	5,637	305	6%
De Anza College				
BOG Waiver A	293	270	(23)	-8%
BOG Waiver B	1,835	1,769	(66)	-4%
BOG Waiver C	10,272	8,058	(2,214)	-22%
Total	11,824	10,073	(1,751)	-15%

Notes

Data for students enrolled by census date--with at least one class enrollment with apportionment flag at the college for the academic year.

Research Question 3. Is the decline in the number of students awarded BOG C waivers between 20015-16 and 2016-17 at Foothill and De Anza related to a decline in the number of students with \$0 reported for this financial aid award?

Data for Foothill College in Table 7 show that the number of students with \$0 BOG C awards declined significantly in 2016-15, when compared to the number for 2015-16 (-73%; 373 to 90). For De Anza College, figures in this table show an even larger decline in the headcount for \$0 BOG C awards between the last two academic years (-89%; 573 to 64). Findings suggest that if the ratio of “Greater than Zero” to “Zero Only” would have kept at the same in the last two years, the headcount for Foothill would have increased by 253; for De Anza, 412. Table 5 (Appendix A) and Table 6 (Appendix B) show numbers for all BOG awards with and without \$0 BOG awards, respectively.

Table 7. BOG C Award Headcount by Award Amount Classification, College and Academic Year

BOG C Award Classification	Academic Year		Change	
	2016	2017	Count	Percent
Foothill College				
Zero and Greater (All)	5,214	4,548	(666)	-13%
Greater than Zero Only	4,841	4,458	(383)	-8%
Zero Only	373	90	(283)	-76%
Ratio of Greater than Zero to Zero Only	13 : 1	50 : 1		
De Anza College				
Zero and Greater (All)	10,342	8,183	(2,159)	-21%
Greater than Zero Only	9,769	8,119	(1,650)	-17%
Zero Only	573	64	(509)	-89%
Ratio of Greater than Zero to Zero Only	17 : 1	127 : 1		

Notes

Data for students enrolled by census date--with at least one class enrollment with apportionment flag at the college for the academic year.
 Ratio figures provide an estimate of how many BOG C awards greater than \$0 took to produce one \$0 award.

Appendix A

Table 5

Banner, Student Accounts: Headcount for BOG Awards, Including Zero Amount, by College and Academic Year

BOG Type	FHDA Code	FHDA Description	Headcount				Amount			
			Academic Year		Headcount Change		Academic Year		Amount Change	
			2016	2017	Count	Percent	2016	2017	Amount	Percent
Foothill College										
B1	FBAA	FH BOG A (Tanf)	6	-	(6)	-100%	\$ 3,134	\$ -	(3,134)	-100%
B1	FBAD	FH BOG A - Tanf/CalW/SSI/SSP	11	3	(8)	-73%	\$ 7,797	\$ 2,496	(5,301)	-68%
B2	FBAS	FH BOG A (Ssi)	5	1	(4)	-80%	\$ 1,705	\$ 698	(1,008)	-59%
BB	FBGB	FH BOG B	1,225	1,370	145	12%	\$ 677,391	\$ 786,092	108,702	16%
BB	FBGI	FH BOG B - ISIR	3	7	4	133%	\$ -	\$ 6,510	6,510	
BC	FBGC	FH BOG C	5,214	4,548	(666)	-13%	\$ 3,603,160	\$ 3,340,300	(262,860)	-7%
F3	FBAV	FH BOG A - Veterans	46	54	8	17%	\$ 34,542	\$ 48,816	14,274	41%
Total			6,140	5,903	(237)	-4%	\$ 4,327,727	\$ 4,184,911	(142,816)	-3%
De Anza College										
B1	DBAA	De Anza BOG A TANF	31	13	(18)	-58%	\$ 14,687	\$ 4,546	(10,140)	-69%
B1	DBAD	DA BOGA-TANF/CalW/SSI/SSP	3	1	(2)	-67%	\$ 589	\$ 1,395	806	137%
B2	DBAS	De Anza BOG A - SSI	252	248	(4)	-2%	\$ 208,659	\$ 143,819	(64,841)	-31%
B3	DBAG	De Anza BOG A - General Asst.	1	2	1	100%	\$ 620	\$ 1,240	620	100%
BB	DBGB	De Anza BOG B	1,819	1,762	(57)	-3%	\$ 1,216,312	\$ 1,135,709	(80,603)	-7%
BB	DBGI	De Anza BOG B - ISIR	12	-	(12)	-100%	\$ 9,174	\$ -	(9,174)	-100%
BC	DBGC	De Anza BOG C	10,342	8,183	(2,159)	-21%	\$ 8,748,329	\$ 7,310,411	(1,437,918)	-16%
F3	DBAV	De Anza BOG A - Veterans	2	2	-	0%	\$ 124	\$ 1,271	1,147	925%
Total			11,889	10,177	(1,712)	-14%	\$ 10,198,494	\$ 8,598,391	(1,600,103)	-16%

Appendix B

Table 6

Banner, Student Accounts: Headcount for BOG Awards, Not Including Zero Amount, by College and Academic Year

BOG Type	FHDA Code	FHDA Description	Headcount				Amount			
			Academic Year		Headcount Change		Academic Year		Amount Change	
			2016	2017	Count	Percent	2016	2017	Count	Percent
			Foothill College							
B1	FBAA	FH BOG A (Tanf)	5.0	-	(5.0)	-100%	\$ 3,134	\$ -	\$ (3,134)	-100%
B1	FBAD	FH BOG A - Tanf/CalW/SSI/SSP	11.0	3.0	(8.0)	-73%	\$ 7,797	\$ 2,496	\$ (5,301)	-68%
B2	FBAS	FH BOG A (Ssi)	5.0	1.0	(4.0)	-80%	\$ 1,705	\$ 698	\$ (1,008)	-59%
BB	FBGB	FH BOG B	1,200.0	1,364.0	164.0	14%	\$ 677,391	\$ 786,092	\$ 108,702	16%
BB	FBGI	FH BOG B - ISIR	-	5.0	5.0		\$ -	\$ 6,510	\$ 6,510	
BC	FBGC	FH BOG C	4,841.0	4,458.0	(383.0)	-8%	\$ 3,603,160	\$ 3,340,300	\$ (262,860)	-7%
F3	FBAV	FH BOG A - Veterans	46.0	54.0	8.0	17%	\$ 34,542	\$ 48,816	\$ 14,274	41%
Total			6,091.0	5,880.0	(211.0)	-3%	\$ 4,327,727	\$ 4,184,911	\$ (142,816)	-3%

De Anza College										
B1	DBAA	De Anza BOG A TANF	18	10	(8)	-44%	\$ 14,687	\$ 4,546	\$ (10,140)	-69%
B1	DBAD	DA BOGA-TANF/CalW/SSI/SSP	1	1	-	0%	\$ 589	\$ 1,395	\$ 806	137%
B2	DBAS	De Anza BOG A - SSI	247	246	(1)	0%	\$ 208,659	\$ 143,819	\$ (64,841)	-31%
B3	DBAG	De Anza BOG A - General Asst.	1	2	1	100%	\$ 620	\$ 1,240	\$ 620	100%
BB	DBGB	De Anza BOG B	1,806	1,755	(51)	-3%	\$ 1,216,312	\$ 1,135,709	\$ (80,603)	-7%
BB	DBGI	De Anza BOG B - ISIR	8	-	(8)	-100%	\$ 9,174	\$ -	\$ (9,174)	-100%
BC	DBGC	De Anza BOG C	9,769	8,119	(1,650)	-17%	\$ 8,748,329	\$ 7,310,411	\$ (1,437,918)	-16%
F3	DBAV	De Anza BOG A - Veterans	1	2	1	100%	\$ 124	\$ 1,271	\$ 1,147	925%
Total			11,851	10,135	(1,716)	-14%	\$ 10,198,494	\$ 8,598,391	\$ (1,600,103)	-16%