COVID-19 Advocacy Letters

Charitable Giving

March 23, 2020
Letter in Support of Charitable Giving Amendment to the CARES Act
Letter to Sen. James Lankford in support of his amendment to the in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act that would create an above-the-line deduction for charitable giving for taxpayers not itemizing their deductions

Financial Relief for Institutions and Students

April 21, 2020
Letter to Congress on the Taxability of Emergency Student Financial Aid Grants
ACE and 41 other higher education associations wrote to the leadership of the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance asking that they take action in the Phase 4 COVID-19 response legislation to ensure that the emergency student financial aid grants authorized by the CARES Act are not subject to taxation.

April 20, 2020
Letters to House and Senate on Student Loan Borrower Relief
ACE and 31 other higher education associations called on Congress to provide relief to the 13.7 million students borrowing to finance their college education and to the 44 million borrowers already in repayment.

April 16, 2020
NACUBO Letter to IRS and Treasury on Student Emergency Grant Aid Taxability
Letter signed by NACUBO and the Six advocating that emergency grant aid appropriated to college and university students in Section 18004 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act be non-taxable.

April 9, 2020
Letter to House and Senate Committees on Higher Ed Tax Proposals
Letter to Ways and Means and Finance Committees on higher education tax proposals to support students and institutions during COVID-19 pandemic.

April 9, 2020
Letters to House and Senate Leadership Requesting Additional Support During the Pandemic
Requesting $46.6 billion, which would be divided equally between students and institutions, to be included in next supplemental legislation addressing the financial impacts of COVID-19.

April 2, 2020
Letter to Secretary DeVos on Distributing Funds in the CARES Act
Letter to Secretary Betsy DeVos on the need to distribute the higher education emergency relief funds included in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act as soon as possible.

March 20, 2020
Letters to House and Senate on Higher Education Priorities in Supplemental Spending Bill
Letter outlining how the federal government can assist students, educators, and institutions in recovering from the impact of COVID-19.

International Students

April 30, 2020
Letter to State, DHS, and Labor on Immigration Executive Order
Letter on behalf of ACE and 61 other organizations asking the secretaries of State, Homeland Security, and Labor for clarification on President Trump's executive order on immigration, specifically on the section that calls for an examination and recommendations regarding non-immigrant visas

April 8, 2020
Request to State Department for Guidance for International Students During the Pandemic
Letter to Secretary Mike Pompeo seeking further guidance from the Department of State guidance for international students and scholars during the COVID-19 pandemic.

March 16, 2020
Letter Requesting Additional Guidance on Coronavirus for International Students
Letter to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Homeland Security Secretary Chad Wolf requesting additional guidance for international students and scholars on U.S. campuses in light of the coronavirus pandemic.

Loans

April 23, 2020
Letter on the Main Street Lending Program
Letter to the leaders of the House Committee on Financial Services and Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs requesting changes to the CARES Act Main Street Lending program to help accommodate higher education institutions.
April 23, 2020
**Letter on the Small Business Administration Paycheck Protection Program**
Letter to the House and Senate Small Business Committees requesting changes to the Paycheck Protection Program and COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loan Emergency Program to help higher education institutions more easily apply for support.

April 16, 2020
**Comments on the Main Street Lending Program and Request for Meeting**
Letter from ACE and 48 other associations asking that the Federal Reserve update the guidance to clarify that nonprofit private and public institutions are eligible for the Main Street Lending program and that student employees be exempted for the purposes of the employee threshold.

April 2, 2020
**Letter on CARES Act Loan Provisions**
Letter to Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin and Administrator Jovita Carranza on Paycheck Protection Program and COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loans in the CARES Act economic stimulus bill.

March 20, 2020
**Letter Urging Student Loan Repayment Relief During COVID-19 Crisis**
Letter to Congress from ACE, the NASFAA, and TICAS urging Congress to provide immediate repayment relief to federal student loan borrowers amid the COVID-19 crisis.

**Regulations**

April 2, 2020
**Letter on Telemedicine Licensing Reciprocity**
Letter to the nation's governors urging them to provide reciprocity in licensing health care and mental health care professionals to enable them to practice across state lines during the COVID-19 pandemic.

March 24, 2020
**Letter Requesting a Delay on Title IX and Section 117 Rules**
Letter to Secretary Betsy DeVos requesting the department delay further action on the final Title IX rule and Section 117 foreign gifts and contracts information collection request until after the COVID-19 crisis has passed.

March 23, 2020
**Letter to Education Secretary Betsy DeVos on Waiving Financial Responsibility Standards**
Letter from NAICU and ACE to Secretary Betsy DeVos requesting the Department of Education use its authority under Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students (HEROES) Act to temporarily waive financial responsibility standards.

Prepared by the American Council on Education
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Research

April 7, 2020
Letter to Congressional Leadership on Support for Research During the Pandemic
A letter by ACE, AAU, APLU, and the Association of American Medical Colleges providing recommendations to support the U.S. research enterprise.

March 19, 2020
Letter to Congress in Support of Research During COVID-19 Pandemic
Letter from ACE, AAU, APLU, and AAMC outlining a four-point strategy to help U.S. universities continue leading in the battle against COVID-19 and ensure that research in other areas can continue.

Veterans

April 13, 2020
Letter to Senate Veterans Committee on Veteran Coronavirus Response Act
Letter sent to the leadership of the Senate Committee on Veterans in support of the Student Veterans Coronavirus Response Act of 2020.

March 18, 2020
Letter in Support of Ensuring GI Bill Benefits for Online Programs During COVID-19 Pandemic
Letter to Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy asking the House to approve a bill ensuring veterans continue to receive their GI bill benefits when campuses move courses online due to COVID-19.

March 12, 2020
Letters to House and Senate on Ensuring GI Bill Benefits Are Not Interrupted During Coronavirus Pandemic
Letters on behalf of the Six in strong support of legislation to ensure that veterans can continue to receive their GI bill benefits in situations where campuses are forced to move courses online due to the coronavirus.