

TICUA Policy Update
March 17, 2006

THEC Releases Annual Report on Lottery Scholarships

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission has released the 2004-05 Annual Report for the Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Programs. The report summarizes the overall distribution of the lottery scholarship programs among institutions and student demographics.

The report is accompanied by a more up-to-date PowerPoint presentation given by Dr. Brian Noland, Associate Executive Director of THEC. The presentation was recently given to both Senate and House Committees.

Both reports are available at www.ticua.org

Student Emails Make a Difference

Nearly 500 emails have been sent to Tennessee's Capitol Hill on behalf of the Tennessee Student Assistance Award and the lottery scholarship programs. It is estimated that nearly 9,000 students attending TICUA member institutions are benefiting from these programs. It is critical that legislators understand the importance of these student financial aid programs to our families as the state's budget continues to be deliberated.

TSAA recipients can write their notes by going to www.tnsaa.org and clicking on Action Center.

TELS recipients can write their notes by going to www.ticua.org/action_center

Frist and Alexander Vote to Restore Federal Aid

Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, MD and Senator Lamar Alexander voted yesterday to restore \$7 billion in support for education, health and labor programs. The funds are expected to restore the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education program, and Gear Up, a program that helps low-income middle-school students prepare for college. The additional funds, however, will not increase the Pell Grant above the current \$4,050 level.