

July 19, 2007

Sent via email to CBA Smith

Re: LUMINA Recession funds

Dear Ms. Smith:

The National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs (NASSGAP) was a participant (sub-grantee) in the Lumina funded project of Recession, Retrenchment, and Recovery: State Higher Education Funding and Student Financial Aid (Grant #2932) - a three year project conducted by Illinois State University's Center for the Study of Education Policy. On February 27, 2007, NASSGAP submitted to the University a final Grantee Budget Report which itemized NASSGAP expenditures related to the project. As the project neared its end, NASSGAP budgeted the final \$10,361.22 in the following manner: \$6345 for improvements to the NASSGAP website, which would allow for enhanced research capabilities; \$1500 for the printing and distribution of the project report; \$1000 for travel to the 2008 Research Conference; and \$1000 for improvements to the NASSGAP survey instrument, leaving a balance of \$516.22.

The \$6345 improvements to the website have been completed while the remainder of the funds has been encumbered. We have found that there have been few requests for printed copies of the report, since it can be downloaded from the Internet. We would therefore like to use the \$1500 originally encumbered for printing to further enhance our website. We have found that continued improvements to our website strengthen our ability to conduct research that is frequently shared with researchers and other interested parties in the financial aid field.

Since our Grantee Budget Report has already been submitted, we are seeking approval to use funds originally encumbered for the printing of reports for expenses incurred in the enhancement of our website.

Please let me know if you have any concern with our proposed new use of the grant funds originally encumbered for printing. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

Mary Ann Welch, NASSGAP President
Director of Program Administration
Rhode Island Higher Education
Assistance Authority
560 Jefferson Blvd.
Warwick, RI 02886
(401) 736-1171
FAX: (401) 736-1178