



Tab 3

Northwest Missouri State University Statewide Mission

Coordinating Board for Higher Education
April 21, 2020

BACKGROUND

A statewide mission designation is integrally related to the Coordinating Board for Higher Education's (CBHE) responsibility for statewide planning, requiring first, identification of the needs of the state and an examination of the ways educational resources can best respond, and next, an examination of the mission and purpose of institutions in light of the identified state needs.

In 1995, the General Assembly passed Senate Bill 340, which provides the framework the CBHE currently uses for evaluating requests for statewide missions. Sections 173.030(8) and (9), RSMo, charge the CBHE with reviewing public institutions' missions, based upon "the needs of the citizens of the state as well as the requirements of business, industry, the professions and government...to ensure that Missouri's system of higher education is responsive to the state's needs and is focused, balanced, cost-effective, and characterized by programs of high quality as demonstrated by student performance and program outcomes." The statute defines two steps for institutions asking the CBHE to recommend a statewide mission designation: submission of an application based on criteria found in §173.030(9), RSMo, and completion of a mission implementation plan for CBHE approval (§173.030(8), RSMo).

Once the CBHE has approved of the institution's proposed statewide mission designation, the statute states, "no change of mission for an institution under this subdivision establishing a statewide mission shall become effective until the general assembly approves the proposed mission change by concurrent resolution, except for the institution defined pursuant to subdivision (1) of section 174.010, and has been approved by the coordinating board and the institutions for which the coordinating board has recommended a statewide mission prior to August 28, 1995."¹ DHEWD staff has identified the two institutions for which the CBHE has recommended a statewide mission prior to August 28, 1995 as being Missouri State University and Truman State University.

CURRENT STATUS

Northwest Missouri State University has notified the department that it intends to submit a statewide mission proposal in the near future. Staff will work with the university to ensure all application items are submitted as part of its proposal. This item will be brought to the CBHE at a future meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

This is an Information item only.

NO ATTACHMENTS

¹ Institutions requesting a statewide mission designation "shall be judged to have met the prerequisites for such a mission when they demonstrate to the coordinating board that they have met the criteria described in this subdivision." §174.450 RSMo provides an additional requirement that the board of regents for any institution designated as having a statewide mission according to §173.030(8)(9), RSMo shall be abolished on the effective date of the statutory mission change, and any appointed members of the board of regents serving as of the effective date of the statutory mission change will serve as members of the board of governors until the expiration of the term for which they were appointed.