



EDMUND J. ADAMS, CHAIRMAN
DONNA M. ALVARADO, VICE CHAIR
BRUCE R. BEEGHLY, SECRETARY
JEANETTE G. BROWN
ANTHONY D. HOUSTON
JAMES F. PATTERSON
WALTER A. REILING, JR.
JEROME F. TATAR
JAMES M. TUSCHMAN
SENATOR JOY PADGETT
REPRESENTATIVE ARLENE J. SETZER

RODERICK G. W. CHU, CHANCELLOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Jan. 17, 2006

Contacts: Jamie Abel, Assistant Director of Communications
614-644-1988, jabel@regents.state.oh.us, cell: 614-371-9454
Bret Crow, Assistant Director of Communications
614-752-9480, bcrow@regents.state.oh.us, cell: 614-783-8477

**NEW WEB-BASED SYSTEM EASES LOAN APPLICATION PROCESS
FOR NURSING EDUCATION STUDENTS**

COLUMBUS, Ohio – With the implementation of an automated, web-based reporting system, Ohio nursing education students applying for loan assistance now will enjoy an efficient system featuring sophisticated security and the ability to gain results in a real-time format.

Staff members of the Ohio Board of Regents have converted the former paper-based Nurse Education Assistance Loan Program (NEALP) reporting system with the new online system. With the assistance of the Regents Higher Education Information (HEI) system staff and the Ohio Board of Nursing (OBN), the new NEALP Online will provide financial assistance to selected Ohio students enrolled for at least half-time study (or accepted for enrollment) in an approved Ohio nurse education program.

NEALP Online will include a “frequently asked questions” section, along with the ability to submit specific questions via email. Once the application is submitted, applicants may return to the website to update application information, track loan status and renew their loan. In addition, HEI will receive applicant data from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), eliminating the need for applicants to submit the Student Aid Report to the NEALP administrator.

NEALP Online will include a licensure verification section. Nursing student data will be shipped electronically to HEI from OBN, including student degree information and licensure exam results. NEALP Online also will include alerts to notify the administrator when employment is not verified within a specific time frame or when the student no longer meets eligibility requirements for the loan.

For more information regarding NEALP online, contact a Regents NEALP administrator: toll-free (888-833-1133 ext 64818), direct (614-466-4818) or by email (nealp_admin@regents.state.oh.us).

To access the NEALP page at the Regents website, visit:

<http://www.regents.state.oh.us/sgs/nealp.htm> , or to access NEALP Online directly, visit: https://nealp.regents.state.oh.us/cgi-bin/nealp/nealp_welcome.cgi.

The Ohio Board of Regents is the coordinating body for higher education in the state. Created in 1963 by the General Assembly, the 11-member public board has a direct, non-governing relationship with all of Ohio's colleges and universities.

###