**Council/WSSSC (*please select from list*)**

[ ] WSSSC [ ] ACC [ ] ARC [ ] CESC [ ] CUSP [ ] CWPC   
[ ] DSSC [ ] FAC [ ] MSSDC [ X ] Other: VMSC

**Meeting Date & Quarter** *Date(s) of Meeting*: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
*Quarter/Year*:   
[ ] Fall [ X ] Winter [ ] Spring [ ] Summer [ ] Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
[ ] 2017 [ ] 2018 [ ] 2019 [ ] 2020 [ X ] 2021

**Primary Focus Areas & Hot Topics***Bulleted list or brief description of top focus areas and scope of impact*

• The VA has suggested that there should be one certifying official for every 200 students using VA education benefits.

• Clarification from Scott Copeland about CH 35 vs running start fees; Gold star book stipends; tuition waivers- all fees required for student to participate in program. AG opinion on 100% disabled vs 100% total and permanent disabled for Washington state tuition waiver.

• National Guard- activation and college responsibility to work with the student, RCW 28B.10.270.

**Decisions and Recommendations***For any issues focusing on member voting, please include vote counts/results*

Chris Szarek will be the President Elect; Doug Zeno has agreed to remain the historian. The Secretary position is currently vacant.

**Questions or concerns to forward (please select from list)**

[ ] WSSSC [ ] ACC [ ] ARC [ ] CESC [ ] CUSP [ ] CWPC   
[ ] DSSC [ ] FAC [ ] MSSDC [ ] Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Description of question or concern. Please be specific, and state any desired outcomes or suggestions if applicable.*

• Upgrading School Certifying Officials (SCO) from program coordinators to Program Specialists. What would the process look like and how to start the conversation?

• Clarifying COVID rules around certifying remedial classes, best practices for collecting supporting documents for VA Compliance Surveys.

• The VA proposed a new interpretation of the 85/15 rule. Supported students vs non-supported students and which funding would count as “supported”. How do we collect that information? IR? Financial Aid? The VA is reconsidering the topic. The purpose is to insure that veteran funding isn’t solely targeted leaving no opportunity for non-veteran students to enroll in a class that has guaranteed VA funding and exploiting the VA funding source.

• New rules around in-state rate tuition for anyone using a VA education benefit, colleges being responsible for debt from student not the VA, and student initiated attendance verification calls before receiving living stipend and all new upcoming items in the VA trainings, but no exact processes are in place at this time.

**Other information to share**

• SCC has passed 2 remote audits in the last 5 months. We discussed best practices for submitting student files and documentation required. (i.e. catalogs, 85/15 compliance, finance docs for each student, ctcLink vs legacy)

-Military 101 training for faculty/staff has been posted to the VMSC canvas page under discussions

• National Guard Postsecondary Education Grant: Administration of the program is transferred to WSAC’s Office of Student Financial Assistance, coordinating with the Washington Military Department in selecting eligible participants, and developing rules related to repayment obligations.

**Compiled/Submitted by (liaison name, college)**: Glen Cosby, Spokane CC

**Submitted to WSSSC (date):** February 3, 2021