



## **Legislative Update Regarding GET Program June 23, 2015**

With a possible state government shutdown set to begin July 1<sup>st</sup> if the Washington State Legislature cannot reach a budget agreement; GET staff want to let our customers know that our office and contact center will continue to operate since the program is self-supporting and does not receive state general funds.

The GET Committee also continues to wait for the close of the legislative session in order to receive directives in regards to higher education tuition-setting policies. Currently there are two tuition-setting proposals the legislature is considering. One proposals calls for lowering tuition, while the other proposal calls for keeping tuition flat for two more years.

We are following the proposed higher education policies and budgets that are currently being discussed and are working closely with the State Actuary, Attorney General's office, legislative policy staff and 529 Plan consultants in order to implement any legislative plans as quickly and as effectively as possible.

It is important to remember that we are here to administer the GET program based on the decisions of the legislature. In carrying out the decisions set forth by the legislature, the GET Committee will be sure to implement any new policies with the best interests of our customers. The GET Committee's goal is to make decisions that support the program's mission of helping families save and prepare for college.

It is also important to note that these issues related to higher education are still under discussion and negotiation as the state's current legislative session continues. Details related to policy and budgets are still subject to change until they are approved by the House, Senate and Governor.

As more information becomes available we will be sure to share those details with you. In the meantime, we thank you for your patience and understanding. Moving forward, we will continue to do our best in providing our customers with the resources and tools to make the best decisions for their families.