Timeline & Commitment

**Start date:** November 2014  
**End date:** June 2015

The task force will exist from November 2014 through mid-June 2015. Throughout this period the group can expect to meet regularly by telephone and for one or two in-person meetings in Washington, DC.

Composition

- Chair, Kris A. Wright, University of Minnesota  
- Commission Director, David Page, Dillard University  
- Barbara L. Bickett, DeVry University  
- James Broscheit, University of Northern Colorado  
- Matt Falduto, Kirkwood Community College  
- Raymond M. Kimmel, Jr., University of Cincinnati  
- Melet Leafgreen, Texas Christian University  
- Tiffany D. Magee, Lone Star College System  
- Elaine Pimentel, City University of New York  
- Mayra Vazquez-Miller, Virginia Western Community College  
- Staff Liaison, Joan Berkes, NASFAA

Background & Purpose

When the Higher Education Act was reauthorized in 1998, Congress incorporated a proposal from the Department of Education, supported by NASFAA, that replaced the old refund and repayment requirements with a pro rata-based return of funds concept. The new “Return of Title IV Funds” (R2T4) approach took ED out of the business of regulating institutional refund policy, closed loopholes concerning aid that had been given to the student as cash disbursements, and greatly simplified the process of determining how much Title IV funding a student could keep if he or she did not complete the payment period.

Over the years since the R2T4 formula took effect in 2000, the return of funds process has become increasingly complicated as new and revised interpretations have been issued, and rules regarding modular program formats have been formulated. In response to the general view in the financial aid community that we have wandered too far afield from the original goals of R2T4, NASFAA’s Reauthorization Task Force proposed, and the Board of Directors approved, a number of changes to simplify the current rules. However, the treatment of modules remains unresolved.

The primary purpose of the NASFAA R2T4 Task Force is to:

- Further develop, clarify, and amplify the RTF’s broad proposal approved by the NASFAA Board.
- Formulate a treatment of nontraditional program formats, including modules.

Task Force Members’ Duties & Responsibilities

**Task-Force Specific Duties**

- Strive for a treatment of students who withdraw from their programs that is equitable and reasonable to the student, the school, and taxpayers.
- Develop a return policy that encourages and facilitates eventual completion of a higher educational program appropriate to the student’s ability and goals.
- Incorporate sufficient flexibility in the recommendations to accommodate development of new nontraditional program formats.
General Duties

• Attend all task force meetings and participate in the deliberations. Notify the committee Chair and the staff liaison if circumstances prevent attendance at a particular meeting;
• Adhere to deadlines for submission of committee assignments;
• Review all agenda items and background documents prior to each meeting and come prepared for the discussions;
• Serve as recording secretary for a committee meeting if requested by the task force chair; and
• Utilize the most economical means of transportation when attending a meeting and promptly file a travel reimbursement request.

Indicators of Success & Outcomes

The outcome of the task force is to produce a report and recommendations to the NASFAA Board of Directors on revisions to the current statutory provisions governing the Return of Title IV Funds process. These recommendations will be utilized in NASFAA’s reauthorization efforts.

A preliminary report is due to the NASFAA Board of Director by February 2015. A final report is due no later than June 2015.

Budget

Planned expenditures are $12,000.