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**WEST VIRGINIA CODE CHAPTER 18b**  
**ARTICLE 3**

WV Legislature

**§18B-3-1. Legislative findings, purpose; intent; definition.**

(a) The Legislature finds that an effective and efficient system of doctoral-level education is vital to providing for the economic well-being of the citizens of West Virginia and for accomplishing established state goals and objectives. As the institutions that focus on one or more of the following activities: research, masters-degree granting, doctoral-granting, medical doctoral-granting, or doctor of osteopathy doctor-granting; doctoral-granting medical doctoral-granting, or doctor of osteopathy doctor-granting public universities in the state, Marshall University, West Virginia University and the School of Osteopathic Medicine are major assets to the citizens of West Virginia and must be an integral part of any plan to strengthen and expand the economy and improve health outcomes for the citizenry.

(b) The Legislature further finds that these three institutions must compete in both a national and global environment that is rapidly changing, while they continue to provide high quality education that is both affordable and accessible and remain accountable to the people of West Virginia for the most efficient and effective use of scarce resources.

(c) The Legislature further finds that the exempted schools, under the direction of their respective governing boards, may manage operational governance of their institutions in an efficient and accountable manner and may best fulfill their public missions when their governing boards are given flexibility and autonomy sufficient to meet state goals, objectives and priorities established in this article, and in section one-a, article one and article one-d of this chapter.

(d) Therefore, the purposes of this article include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Enhancing the competitive position of the exempted schools in the current environment for research and medical professional development;

(2) Providing the governing boards of these institutions with operational flexibility and autonomy in certain areas, including tools to promote economic development and healthcare in West Virginia;

(3) Encouraging the development of research and medical expertise in areas directly beneficial to the state;

(4) Focusing the attention and resources of the governing boards on state goals, objectives and priorities to enhance the competitive position of the state and the economic, social, health, and cultural well-being of its citizens; and

(5) Providing additional autonomy and operational flexibility and assigning certain additional responsibilities to governing boards of other state institutions of higher education.

(e) The governing boards of the exempted schools each have the power and the obligation to perform functions, tasks and duties as prescribed by law.

(f) While the governing boards may choose to delegate powers and duties to their respective presidents pursuant to subsection(s), section four, article two-a of this chapter, ultimately, it is they who are accountable to the Legislature, the Governor and the citizens of West Virginia for meeting the established state goals, objectives and priorities set forth in this article, and in section one-a, article one and article one-d of this chapter. Therefore, grants of operational flexibility and autonomy are made directly to the governing boards and are not grants of operational flexibility and autonomy to the president of an institution.

**§18B-3-2. Computer and computer equipment donation program.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this code to the contrary, the governing boards are authorized to create a program to donate surplus computers and computer-related equipment to education facilities, nonprofit organizations, juvenile detention centers, municipal and county public safety offices and other public, charitable or educational enterprises or organizations in this state.

(a) Only equipment which otherwise would be transferred to the Surplus Property Unit of the Purchasing Division may be donated;

(b) The governing boards shall keep records and accounts that clearly identify the equipment donated, the age of the equipment, the reasons for declaring it obsolete and the name of the education facility, nonprofit organization, juvenile detention center, municipal or county public safety office or other public, charitable or educational enterprise or organization to which the equipment was donated;

(c) Each governing board shall promulgate a rule in accordance with the provisions of section six, article one of this chapter to implement the donation program. The rules shall specify the procedures to be used for record keeping and shall provide for fair and impartial selection of equipment recipients.

**§18B-3-3. Relationship of governing boards to the commission and the council.**

(a) Relationship between the commission and the governing boards. --

(1) The commission functions as a state-level coordinating board exercising its powers and duties in relation to the governing boards as prescribed by law;

(2) The primary responsibility of the commission is to work collaboratively with the governing boards to research, develop and propose policy that will achieve the established goals, objectives, and priorities set forth in this chapter and chapter eighteen-c of this code; and

(3) The commission has specific powers and duties which include, but are not limited to, the following:

(A) Advocating for public higher education at the state level;

(B) Jointly with the council, implementing the classification and compensation system established by articles seven, eight, nine and nine-a of this chapter; and

(C) Collecting and analyzing data, researching, developing recommendations, and advising the Legislature and the Governor on broad policy initiatives, use of incentive funding, national and regional trends in higher education and issues of resource allocation involving multiple governing boards.

(b) Relationship between the council and the governing boards. -- (1) The council maintains all powers and duties assigned to it by law or rule relating to community and technical colleges as defined in section two, article one of this chapter;

(2) The council functions as a coordinating board for the institutions under its jurisdiction which make up the statewide network of independently-accredited community and technical colleges. In addition to recognizing the authority assigned by law to the council and abiding by rules duly promulgated by the council relating to the community and technical colleges, the governing boards shall exercise their authority and carry out their responsibilities in a manner that is consistent with and complementary to the powers and duties assigned by law or rule to the community and technical colleges or to the council;

(c) The governing boards shall work collaboratively with the commission, the council and their staff to provide all information requested by the commission or the council in an appropriate format and in a timely manner.

**§18B-3-3a.**

Repealed.

Acts, 2000 Reg. Sess., Ch. 100.

WV Legislature

**§18B-3-4. Duty of governing boards to address state priorities.**

[Repealed].

WV Legislature

**§18B-3-5.**

Repealed.

Acts, 2005 Reg. Sess., Ch. 86.

WV Legislature

**§18B-3-6.**

Repealed.

Acts, 2000 Reg. Sess., Ch. 100.

WV Legislature

**§18B-3-7.**

Repealed.

Acts, 2005 Reg. Sess., Ch. 86.

WV Legislature