RE-2 Employee Post Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Date/Time Stamp
RECEIVED
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
PUBLIC RECORDS
2026 MAY -1 PM 12:31

Post Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within 30 days of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 144 Hart Building. **This form is a public disclosure. The form and all attachments will be made publicly available.**

Certification: *In compliance with the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel, Senate Rule 35, and the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007, I certify that I accepted the following gift of privately sponsored travel:*

Private Sponsor(s):
Postsecondary National Policy Institute

Travel Dates:
03/31/2026 to 04/02/2026

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Relationship to Traveler:

Expenses

Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meals Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
$75.12	$264.00	$94.61	$33.00

I also certify that attached to this form are all required documents for post travel disclosure, including:

- **The final Employee Pre-Travel Authorization** (Form RE-1)
- The final **Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form** with all attachments
- The final invitation
- The final approved itinerary

Finally, I certify that all trip information reflected in the attachments above accurately reflects the travel that I accepted. If there were any changes to the trip after I received approval from the Committee, the changes are described in ATTACHMENT 1.

4/28/26
Date

ALAURA ERVIN
Printed Name of Traveler

Alaura M. Ervin
Signature of Traveler

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the Employee Pre-Travel Authorization form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

5/1/26
Date

Bill Cassidy, M.D.
Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

ATTACHMENT 1 – CHANGES FROM APPROVED PRE-TRAVEL

Note: Material changes to a trip that occur after the Committee has issued an approval letter may invalidate the Committee's approval. Please contact the Committee with any questions regarding changes to an approved trip.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved travel expenses? (Transportation, Meals, Lodging, Other)?

● Yes ○ No

Expense Change	Revised Amount	Explanation
Meals	$94.61	meals were less expensive than anticipated.
Transportation	$75.12	Alaura only rode the shuttle one way so her costs are adjusted.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved itinerary?

● Yes ○ No

Explanation: The agenda is slightly revised- including timing and name adjustments for panels on the second day in particular. Revised itineray below. Workforce Pell Seminar March 31-April 2, 2026 Location: Virginia Community College System, Richmond, VA AGENDA Tuesday, March 31, 2026 6:45-8:30 pm Travel from Washington, D.C. to Richmond, VA 8:30-9:00 pm Check In at Hotel & Registration Wednesday, April 1, 2026 8:00-8:30 am Breakfast at Hotel 8:30-9:00 am Travel to Virginia Community College System (VCCS) 9:00-10:30 am Welcome & Overview of Workforce Pell Speakers: David Doré, Virginia Community College System (VCCS); MaryEllen McGuire, Postsecondary National Policy Institute (PNPI); Betsy Prueter, PNPI; Carrie Warick-Smith, Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT); & Wesley Whistle, New America This session will provide an overview of Workforce Pell. 10:30-10:45 am Break 10:45 am-12:00 pm Workforce Interactions Speakers: Kermit Kaleba, Lumina Foundation & Caroline Treschitta, National Skills Coalition (NSC) This session will explore how Workforce Pell intersects with existing workforce policy, funding, and delivery systems, including WIOA and Perkins. 12:00-1:00 pm Working Lunch This session will provide participants with an opportunity to ask additional questions of the morning's presenters. 1:00-2:15 pm Operationalizing Workforce Pell: Roles & Capacity Speakers: Corey Gheesling, State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO); Jeff Strohl, Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce; & Jessica Thompson, Education Strategy Group This session will examine the roles and capacity needed to implement Workforce Pell, including governors, workforce boards, federal agencies, accreditors, and states. 2:15-2:30 pm Break 2:30-3:45 pm Data & Accountability Speakers: Mark D'Amico, UNC-Charlotte & Kate Tromble, Data Quality Campaign (DQC) This session will assess what data systems states already have, where gaps exist, and how new measures may interact with existing accountability frameworks. The session will also address federal and state data access and privacy, and implementation considerations. 3:45-5:00 pm Return to Hotel & Break 5:00-7:00 pm Working Dinner & Negotiated Rulemaking Recap Speakers: Ben Cecil, Third Way; Preston Cooper, American Enterprise Institute (AEI); & Kristin Hultquist, HCM Strategists This session will be a recap of the most recent Workforce Pell negotiated rulemaking discussions, highlighting key issues debated and unresolved questions. Thursday, April 2, 2026 8:00-9:00 am Breakfast 9:00-10:30 am State & IHE Perspectives on Workforce Pell Speakers: Andrea DeSantis, North Carolina Department of Commerce; Robert Matthews, Mott Community College; & Rachael Stephens Parker, Governor's Workforce Development Board (Maryland) This roundtable will bring together representatives from states, institutions, and workforce systems to share how Workforce Pell is being interpreted and planned for on the ground. 10:30-11:00 am Travel to Virginia Community College System/Brightpoint Community College Campus 11:00-12:30 pm Overview Workforce Development Programs at VCCS & Virginia's FastForward Program Speakers: Tara Atkins-Brady, Brightpoint Community College; Elizabeth Creamer, Community College Workforce Alliance (CCWA); Bill Fiege, Brightpoint Community College; Dana Newcomer, CCWA; Paula Pando, Reynolds Community College; & Randy Stamper, Virginia Community College System (VCCS) This session will provide an overview of workforce development programs at VCCS as well as Virginia's FastForward Program and its current short-term credential offerings. 12:30-1:30 pm Lunch & Student & Employer Panel Speakers: Porsha Bennett, VCU-Health; Sheryl Garland, VCU-Health; Keith Harkins, Southside Virginia Community College; Kwanza Jackson, FastForward Program Completer; Jason Loehr, Southside Electric Cooperative; & Patrick Robbins, FastForward Program Completer Moderator: Elizabeth Creamer, CCWA Participants will hear directly from students who are enrolled in or have completed short-term credentials, along with their employers, to learn about their experiences. 1:30-3:45 pm Tour of Workforce Center & Overview of Biotech and Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Programs Speakers: Tara Atkins-Brady, Brightpoint Community College; Kendra Brinkley, Reynolds Community College; Grace Festa,

Were there any additional changes to the pre-approved trip?

○ Yes ● No

Explanation: There were no additional changes to the pre-approved trip.

RE-2 Employee Post Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Date/Time Stamp

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Postsecondary National Policy Institute

Travel Dates:
03/31/2026 to 04/02/2026

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Relationship to Traveler:

Expenses

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$75.12	$264.00	$94.61	$33.00

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- **The final Employee Pre-Travel Authorization** (Form RE-1)
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- The final invitation
- The final approved itinerary

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4/28/26
Date

ALAURA ERVIN
Printed Name of Traveler

Alaura M. Ervin
Signature of Traveler

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the Employee Pre-Travel Authorization form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

Date

Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

Virginia Economic Development Partnerships (VEDP); Cynthia Finley, VEDP; Drexel Harris, Brightpoint Community College; Brian Mathis, Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing (CCAM); Dana Newcomer, CCWA; Nancy Sévère-Barnett, Brightpoint Community College; & Bridget Wilson, Brightpoint Community College This will be a tour of Virginia's FastForward Workforce Center, concluding with a panel reviewing the biotech and pharmaceutical manufacturing programs. 3:45-4:00 pm Wrap Up & Close Speakers: Betsy Prueter, PNPI & MaryEllen McGuire, PNPI This session will provide an opportunity for staff to formally debrief on all sessions, share their final takeaways, and ask any remaining questions they have about Workforce Pell. 4:00-7:00 pm Travel back to Washington, D.C. 7:00 pm Arrive in Washington, D.C.

PNPI
POSTSECONDARY NATIONAL POLICY INSTITUTE

February 2026

Dear Alaura-

We are writing to invite you to participate in the Postsecondary National Policy Institute's (PNPI) Workforce Pell Seminar March 31-April 2, 2026. This event is designed to deepen your understanding of Workforce Pell. Included with this invitation are the forms necessary for compliance with congressional ethics rules. **By Sunday, March 1, 2026, you must submit the necessary forms and documents directly through the Senate Travel Ethics Portal.**

After receiving the completed travel package, the Ethics Committee will review it and issue an approval for travel to you or your sponsoring Member. The Ethics Committee advises all Senate employees to maintain copies of all submitted forms for their own records. After the trip, we will provide you with a post-travel form that you must complete and submit. **If you do not submit the required paperwork by the Committee's deadline of March 1st, you will not have the option to participate. Paperwork submitted to the Ethics Committee after the deadline will not be considered.**

Attendance is by invitation only, with no outside observers or lobbyists. Funding is provided solely by grants from established foundations. No government, individual, foreign, corporate or special interest money is accepted. The foundations supporting this programming are the Gates Foundation, Lumina Foundation, and the Kresge Foundation. No funding from these foundations has been earmarked for this specific trip, and PNPI is the trip's sole sponsor, planner, and executor. PNPI maintains autonomy over the agenda, invitations, and event materials.

We will depart for the seminar at 6:45pm on Tuesday, March 31st from Union Station. If you have any questions about the trip, please do not hesitate to email or call us directly. PNPI's Workforce Pell Seminar promises to be both educational and productive. We look forward to your participation!

Sincerely,

MaryEllen McGuire

MaryEllen McGuire, President
Postsecondary National Policy Institute (PNPI)
mcguire@pnpi.org

RE-1 Employee Pre-Travel Authorization

Date/Time Stamp

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220.** Incomplete and late travel submissions will not be considered or approved.

Name of Traveler:
ALAURA ERVIN

Employing Office/Committee:
HEALTH, EDUC, LAB, AND PENSIONS - REP

Private Sponsor(s):
Postsecondary National Policy Institute

Destination(s):
Richmond, Virginia

Travel Dates:
03/31/2026 to 04/02/2026
NOTE: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you must notify the Committee.

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties.

As the Education Policy Director for the HELP committee, it is integral to understand and evaluate best practices conducted by community college systems across the United States. The committee is currently reviewing how community college systems leverage federal dollars to integrate more citizens into workforce development programs.

Do you have an accompanying family member or spouse on this trip?
No

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
N/A

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.

2/27/2026
Date

Signature of Employee

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER
(President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain)

I Senator Bill Cassidy
(Print Senator's/Officer's Name)

hereby authorize Alaura Ervin
(Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate.

☐ (signify "yes" by checking box)

2/27/2026
Date

Bill Cassidy, M.D.
Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

Postsecondary National Policy Institute: Workforce Pell Seminar

ALAURA ERVIN

Title:
Ms

Employing Office/Committee:
HEALTH, EDUC, LAB, AND PENSIONS - REP

Duty Station:
WASHINGTON,DC

Destination(s):

Richmond, Virginia

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

As the Education Policy Director for the HELP committee, it is integral to understand and evaluate best practices conducted by community college systems across the United States. The committee is currently reviewing how community college systems leverage federal dollars to integrate more citizens into workforce development programs.

Name of accompanying family member (if any):
Not Entered

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
None

Organization Information

Organization Name
Postsecondary National Policy Institute

Is your organization classified as a §501(c)(3)?
(●) Yes ( ) No

§501(c)(3) Organization Type
Public Charity

Address
1828 L Street NW

Address 2 (Optional)
400-E

City, State Zip
Washington, District Of Columbia 20036 United States

Phone Number
4402235844

Organization URL
pnpi.org

History of Congressional Travel

Since 2012, PNPI has sponsored twenty-eight congressional staff seminars on postsecondary topics, including federal student aid, postsecondary data, and minority-serving institutions.

Educational Activities

In addition to multi-day seminars, PNPI sponsors briefings and boot camps for larger audiences. PNPI also hosts a postsecondary data tool, the PNPI Explorer.

Lobbyist and Foreign Agent Registration Information

Lobbyist Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not a federally registered lobbyist and does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyists.*

Foreign Agent Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not an agent of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ an agent of a foreign principal.*

Foreign Government Involvement

Foreign Agent Registration Status:

- ☑ I certify that the sponsor is not a foreign government.
- ☑ I certify that the sponsor is not an entity that is owned or operated by a foreign government.
- ☑ I certify that the sponsor does not receive funding from a foreign government.

Comments

Signature Page

The signature page is below.

Purpose and Details

Provide a brief description of the trip.

This trip is designed to increase participants' understanding of Workforce Pell—its purpose, design, and implications for higher education policy. This trip will: 1) provide an overview of Workforce Pell; 2) examine how Workforce Pell may interact with workforce and postsecondary systems; 3) explain the roles of the federal government, governors, workforce boards, and others in carrying out Workforce Pell policies and programs; and 4) review federal negotiated rulemaking related to the topic. A detailed agenda is attached.

Explain how the purpose of the trip relates to your organization's mission.

PNPI provides professional development to current and prospective policymakers who work on higher education issues. This event is designed to increase congressional staff's knowledge of policies related to Workforce Pell.

Is your organization the only sponsor for this trip?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Grantmaking Organizations (Optional)

1. Gates Foundation
2. Kresge Foundation
3. Lumina Foundation

With or Without Regard for Congressional Participation

The trip is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Involvement in Planning, Organizing, Requesting or Arranging

- [x] The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal, other than de minimis involvement.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Financing

- [x] The trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
- [x] No funds or in-kind contributions were earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Accompaniment

Complete if all sponsors are §501(c)(3) organizations

- [x] The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Complete if any of the sponsors is not a §501(c)(3) organizations.

- [ ] The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Certification of No Recreational Activity and No Alcohol

- Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for recreational activities.
- Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for alcohol, except as permitted by the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel.

Invitees

- Members and staff from the House of Representatives **will** receive invitations.

The list of invitees is below.

Travel Details

Trip Start Date/Time:
03/31/2026 @ 06:45 PM

Trip End Date/Time:
04/02/2026 @ 06:00 PM

Will the traveler be accompanied by a family member for whom the sponsor will pay travel expenses?

○ Yes ● No

Itinerary

The itinerary is below.

Transportation (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $99.00 | Accompanying Family Member: $0.00)

Transportation Type	Class	Amount
Ground Transportation	Coach	$99.00

Note
round trip shuttle bus

Lodging (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $264.00)

Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country	Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem
03/31/2026	04/02/2026	Hyatt Place Arboretum Richmond	Richmond	Virginia	United States	2	$132.00	No

Meals (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $132.00)

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
03/31/2026	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$5.00	**$5.00**	Richmond	Virginia	United States	No
04/01/2026	$20.00	$22.00	$33.00	$5.00	**$80.00**	Richmond	Virginia	United States	No
04/02/2026	$20.00	$22.00	$0.00	$5.00	**$47.00**	Richmond	Virginia	United States	No

Reasonable Miscellaneous Expenses (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $33.00)

Expense Type	Amount	Notes
Conference Fees	$33.00	meeting room rental/AV

Additional Attachments All additional attachments are below.

Document Name
Updated Itinerary

Docusign Envelope ID: 31F75614-4714-4EF5-8B52-ED17C05BC061

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL

SPONSOR SIGNATURE PAGE

I hereby certify that the information submitted in connection with the trip listed below is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Trip Name: Workforce Pell Seminar

Travel Date(s): March 31, 2026- April 2, 2026

Travel Destination(s): Richmond, VA

Sponsor: The Postsecondary National Policy Institute (PNPI)

MaryEllen McGuire — *(printed name of sponsor representative)*

President — *(title)*

DocuSigned by: MaryEllen McGuire 4E6B30068EBF41E... — *(signature of sponsor representative)*

2/11/2026 — *(date)*

Docusign Envelope ID: B5EE0E20-66AF-4B2F-B011-A19C19C66651

Grantmaking Organization Certification Form

Instructions: If a sponsor receives funds from a grantmaking organization, the sponsor must disclose this on the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form*, and the grantmaking organization must complete the *Grantmaking Organization Certification Form.* The completed *Grantmaking Organization Certification Form* must be submitted to the Senate Select Committee on Ethics by the trip sponsor at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date.

Grantmaking Organization: Lumina Foundation

Private Sponsor: The Postsecondary National Policy Institute

Trip Name: Workforce Pell Seminar

Travel Date(s): March 31, 2026- April 2, 2026

Destination(s): Richmond, VA

In compliance with the *Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel*, I certify the following:

- [x] The grantmaking organization is a § 501(c)(3) organization.
- [x] The grantmaking organization is not a lobbyist, lobbying firm, or foreign agent, nor an entity that retains or employs a lobbyist or foreign agent.
- [x] The grantmaking organization provides funds under an established grant program, or in a manner that is otherwise consistent with the mission and practices of the organization.
- [x] The grantmaking organization is not involved, directly or indirectly, in organizing and conducting the trip. This includes selecting participants for a trip.
- [x] The grantmaking organization does not directly pay or reimburse travel expenses for any Senate Member, officer, or employee.

Michelle Asha Cooper — *(Printed name of grantmaking organization representative)*

VP of Public Policy and Executive Director o — *(Title)*

DocuSigned by: Michelle Asha Cooper 1EECB5201DD441D... — *(Signature of grantmaking organization representative)*

2/6/2026 — *(Date)*

Docusign Envelope ID: 628F5711-BADA-4324-BBF1-FA679E364CFE

Grantmaking Organization Certification Form

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Grantmaking Organization: The Gates Foundation

Private Sponsor: The Postsecondary National Policy Institute

Trip Name: Workforce Pell Seminar

Travel Date(s): March 31, 2026- April 2, 2026

Destination(s): Richmond, VA

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Kathryn Young	Senior Program Officer
(Printed name of grantmaking organization representative)	*(Title)*
DocuSigned by: Kathryn Young 724D86038FA044D...	2/3/2026
(Signature of grantmaking organization representative)	*(Date)*

Docusign Envelope ID: BCDF27B6-CE57-4529-AF8F-5FCA90DDF2BC

Grantmaking Organization Certification Form

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Grantmaking Organization: Kresge Foundation

Private Sponsor: The Postsecondary National Policy Institute

Trip Name: Workforce Pell Seminar

Travel Date(s): March 31, 2026- April 2, 2026

Destination(s): Richmond, VA

In compliance with the *Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel*, I certify the following:

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Reuben Kapp — *(Printed name of grantmaking organization representative)*

Program Officer — *(Title)*

DocuSigned by: Reuben Kapp 9E947876F16746E... — *(Signature of grantmaking organization representative)*

2/6/2026 — *(Date)*

List of Senate Invitees

Amanda Beaumont

Jules Collado

Alaura Ervin

Amy Jones

Rebecca Howard

Alicia Porile

Emily Slack

POSTSECONDARY NATIONAL POLICY INSTITUTE

Workforce Pell Seminar

March 31-April 2, 2026

Location: Virginia Community College System, Richmond, VA

AGENDA

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

6:45-8:30 pm **Travel from Washington, D.C. to Richmond, VA**

8:30-9:00 pm **Check In at Hotel & Registration**

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

8:00-8:30 am **Breakfast at Hotel**

8:30-9:00 am **Travel to Virginia Community College System (VCCS)**

9:00-10:30 am **Welcome & Overview of Workforce Pell**
Speakers: David Dore, Virginia Community College System; MaryEllen McGuire, Postsecondary National Policy Institute (PNPI); Betsy Prueter, PNPI; Carrie Warick-Smith, Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT); & Wesley Whistle, New America

This session will provide an overview of Workforce Pell.

10:30-10:45 am **Break**

10:45 am-12:00 pm **Workforce Interactions**
Speaker: Kermit Kaleba, Lumina Foundation

This session will explore how Workforce Pell intersects with existing workforce policy, funding, and delivery systems, including WIOA and Perkins.

12:00-1:00 pm **Working Lunch**

This session will provide participants with an opportunity to ask additional questions of the morning's presenters.

1:00-2:15 pm **Operationalizing Workforce Pell: Roles & Capacity**
Speaker: Corey Gheesling, State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO) & Iris Palmer, New America

This session will examine the distinct roles various actors play in Workforce Pell implementation, including governors, workforce boards, federal agencies, accreditors, and states.

2:15-2:30 pm **Break**

2:30-3:45 pm **Data & Accountability**
Speakers: Mark D'Amico, UNC-Charlotte & Kate Tromble, Data Quality Campaign

This session will assess what data systems states already have, where gaps exist, and how new measures may interact with existing accountability frameworks. The session will also address federal and state data access and privacy and implementation considerations.

3:45-5:00 pm **Return to Hotel & Break**

5:00-7:00 pm **Working Dinner & Negotiated Rulemaking Recap**
Speaker: Ben Cecil, Third Way; Preston Cooper, American Enterprise Institute (AEI); & Kristin Hulquist, HCM Strategists

This session will be a recap of the most recent Workforce Pell negotiated rulemaking discussions, highlighting key issues debated and unresolved questions.

Thursday, April 2, 2026

8:00-9:00 am **Breakfast**

9:00-10:30 am **State Perspectives on Workforce Pell**
Speakers: Andrea DeSantis, North Carolina Department of Commerce & Rachel Parker, Governor's Workforce Development Board (Maryland)

This roundtable will bring together representatives from states, institutions, and workforce systems to share how Workforce Pell is being interpreted and planned for on the ground.

10:30-11:00 am **Travel to Virginia Community College System**

11:00-1:00 pm **Overview of Virginia's FastForward Program**
Speakers: Elizabeth Creamer, Community College Workforce Alliance; Bill Fiege, Brightpoint Community College; Dana Newcomer, Community College Workforce Alliance; Paula Pando, Reynolds Community College; & Randy Stamper, Virginia Community College System

This session will provide an overview of Virginia's FastForward Program and its current short-term credential offerings.

1:00-2:00 pm **Lunch & Student Panel**
Speakers: Virginia Community College Students
Moderator: Betsy Prueter, PNPI

Participants will hear directly from students who are enrolled in or have completed short-term credentials to learn about their experiences and discuss how access to Workforce Pell might have affected their decisions, timing, and outcomes.

2:00-3:30 pm **Tour of Virginia's FastForward Workforce Center**
Speaker: Tara Reid, Brightpoint Community College; Nancy Severe-Barnett, Brightpoint Community College; & Bridget Wilson, Brightpoint Community College

This will be a tour of Virginia's FastForward Workforce Center.

3:30-4:00 pm **Wrap Up & Close**
Speakers: Betsy Prueter, PNPI & MaryEllen McGuire, PNPI

This session will provide an opportunity for staff to formally debrief on all sessions, share their final takeaways, and ask any remaining questions they have about Workforce Pell.

4:00-6:00 pm **Travel back to Washington, D.C.**

6:00 pm **Arrive in Washington, D.C.**

POSTSECONDARY NATIONAL POLICY INSTITUTE

Workforce Pell Seminar

March 31-April 2, 2026

Location: Virginia Community College System, Richmond, VA

AGENDA

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

6:45-8:30 pm **Travel from Washington, D.C. to Richmond, VA**

8:30-9:00 pm **Check In at Hotel & Registration**

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

8:00-8:30 am **Breakfast at Hotel**

8:30-9:00 am **Travel to Virginia Community College System (VCCS)**

9:00-10:30 am **Welcome & Overview of Workforce Pell**
Speakers: David Dore, Virginia Community College System; MaryEllen McGuire, Postsecondary National Policy Institute (PNPI); Betsy Prueter, PNPI; Carrie Warick-Smith, Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT); & Wesley Whistle, New America

This session will provide an overview of Workforce Pell.

10:30-10:45 am **Break**

10:45 am-12:00 pm **Workforce Interactions**
Speaker: Kermit Kaleba, Lumina Foundation

This session will explore how Workforce Pell intersects with existing workforce policy, funding, and delivery systems, including WIOA and Perkins.

12:00-1:00 pm **Working Lunch**

This session will provide participants with an opportunity to ask additional questions of the morning's presenters.

1:00-2:15 pm **Operationalizing Workforce Pell: Roles & Capacity**
Speaker: Corey Gheesling, State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO) & Iris Palmer, New America

This session will examine the distinct roles various actors play in Workforce Pell implementation, including governors, workforce boards, federal agencies, accreditors, and states.

2:15-2:30 pm **Break**

2:30-3:45 pm **Data & Accountability**
Speakers: Mark D'Amico, UNC-Charlotte & Kate Tromble, Data Quality Campaign

This session will assess what data systems states already have, where gaps exist, and how new measures may interact with existing accountability frameworks. The session will also address federal and state data access and privacy and implementation considerations.

3:45-5:00 pm **Return to Hotel & Break**

5:00-7:00 pm **Working Dinner & Negotiated Rulemaking Recap**
Speaker: Ben Cecil, Third Way; Preston Cooper, American Enterprise Institute (AEI); & Kristin Hulquist, HCM Strategists

This session will be a recap of the most recent Workforce Pell negotiated rulemaking discussions, highlighting key issues debated and unresolved questions.

Thursday, April 2, 2026

8:00-9:00 am **Breakfast**

9:00-10:30 am **State Perspectives on Workforce Pell**
Speakers: Andrea DeSantis, North Carolina Department of Commerce & Rachel Parker, Governor's Workforce Development Board (Maryland)

This roundtable will bring together representatives from states, institutions, and workforce systems to share how Workforce Pell is being interpreted and planned for on the ground.

10:30-11:00 am **Travel to Virginia Community College System**

11:00-1:00 pm **Overview of Virginia's FastForward Program**
Speakers: Elizabeth Creamer, Community College Workforce Alliance; Bill Fiege, Brightpoint Community College; Dana Newcomer, Community College Workforce Alliance; Paula Pando, Reynolds Community College; & Randy Stamper, Virginia Community College System

This session will provide an overview of Virginia's FastForward Program and its current short-term credential offerings.

1:00-2:00 pm **Lunch & Student Panel**
Speakers: Virginia Community College Students
Moderator: Betsy Prueter, PNPI

Participants will hear directly from students who are enrolled in or have completed short-term credentials to learn about their experiences and discuss how access to Workforce Pell might have affected their decisions, timing, and outcomes.

2:00-3:30 pm **Tour of Virginia's FastForward Workforce Center**
Speaker: Tara Reid, Brightpoint Community College; Nancy Severe-Barnett, Brightpoint Community College; & Bridget Wilson, Brightpoint Community College

This will be a tour of Virginia's FastForward Workforce Center.

3:30-4:00 pm **Wrap Up & Close**
Speakers: Betsy Prueter, PNPI & MaryEllen McGuire, PNPI

This session will provide an opportunity for staff to formally debrief on all sessions, share their final takeaways, and ask any remaining questions they have about Workforce Pell.

4:00-6:00 pm **Travel back to Washington, D.C.**

6:00 pm **Arrive in Washington, D.C.**