



**T**ennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) is a government entity whose purpose is to foster unity and coordination between the public state universities, community colleges, and technology institutes of the state of Tennessee. THEC oversees an array of financial, academic, research, and consumer protection initiatives that promote student success and support the State's agenda for postsecondary education. THEC actively seeks to improve higher education access and success for all Tennesseans.

### **What services or resources does this commission provide?**

THEC does not provide direct services to individuals or families, but focuses on working with colleges and universities on policy issues.

### **What areas of Tennessee do they serve?**

This entity works with all universities across the entire state of Tennessee.

### **For which students might this agency be appropriate?**

Students who are interested in how public policy affects their postsecondary education opportunities would be interested in the work of THEC.

### **What is the responsibility of an educator?**

This resource could be shared with families when there are concerns surrounding how public policies



are directly affecting their child's ability to receive funding and postsecondary education.

### **How (and when) do you involve them in the transition planning process?**

- Teachers should share this resource with families who want to learn more about funding and postsecondary education public policy in the state of TN.
- Students who are self-advocates could set up a meeting with representatives who serve on THEC to discuss policy issues.
- If there are questions about policy or guidelines, THEC can be contacted or consulted for the most accurate information.



### What questions should I ask of THEC?

- Does THEC directly provide any services for students with disabilities?
- Can parents attend THEC meetings?
- How are individuals elected to be on the commission?
- Are there any student members on the commission?
- What is THEC's stance on supporting individuals with disabilities who are seeking higher education?

### Where can I learn more?

Visit their website at:

<https://www.tn.gov/thecc>