Exploration on the Construction of Student Financial Aid System in Private Colleges and Universities

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Keywords: Private Colleges and Universities; Student Financial Aid; Funding System

Abstract. Financial assistance of college Students from poor family has become a common important issue in the country, society and universities. In recent years, although the national subsidy policy system has covered private universities, yet in contrast with state-owned universities, there is still a certain gap in terms of funding scope and funding effort. Therefore, how to build students funding system to fit the practical situation of private universities has become a thought-provoking question for student-funding workers. Combining the realistic situation of student-funding system in private universities and practical difficulties of funding work, the paper puts forward several suggestions on student-funding system construction in private universities.

Introduction

A complete student funding system should be implemented with the goal of comprehensive education, with the foundation of financial support, with the assistance of the spirit support. To perfect financial aid system of private colleges and universities, it is necessary to accurately define the financially difficult students and build a diversified financial aid system with a combination of "countries, school, society and self-help", mainly containing award, diligence, aid, loans, reduction, exemption, and postponing. Our school will explore the issue from the following specific aspects.

The Current Situation and Problems

The first problem is the low proportion of private college students enjoying the national subsidy policy. According to the document spirit based on “the State Council opinions on the establishment of the perfect student financial aid policy system aiming to financially difficult families in common universities, higher vocational schools and secondary vocational school, the central and local governments jointly set up the national encouragement scholarships, the financial aid scope of which accounts for about 3% of the national university student on average; the central and local governments jointly set up the state grants, whose scope accounts for about 20% of the total students in ordinary universities and higher vocational school. In recent years, the two funding policies have not reached the average funding level. As to some other funding policies, private colleges and universities have failed to enjoy them, such as the national student loan, awards for special funds, etc..

The second problem is the shortage of student aid fund in private colleges and universities. According to the document requirements about “the implementation opinions on the establishment of the perfect student financial aid policy system aiming to financially difficult families in ordinary universities and secondary vocational schools of Guangdong Province, all of the various colleges and universities must annually draw 5 % of the funds from the school business income for campus scholarships, risk compensation fund of national student loan, work-study program, campus interest-free loans, tuition waivers and special difficulties allowance, etc. In fact, private colleges and universities rarely accomplish it. Additionally, the subsidy funds of private colleges and universities is mainly dependent on the government. After all, the subsidy funds obtained from the society and schools themselves is still relatively little. This is mainly because most of the funds for running school construction in private colleges and universities is totally dependent on the students tuition. Moreover, most of the private colleges are in development stage, so most of the funds is used for infrastructure construction.
The last problem is the imperfect construction of student financial aid system in private colleges and universities. The student financial aid system construction in private universities generally refers to state-run universities, which is implemented through several forms of the award, diligence, help, loans, reducing, exempting and compensating. The implementation process is not long, and in the process of implementation, a lot of projects is flashy. The intensity, whether about relief, charity or awards is relatively low. What’s worse, work-study job positions is far from able to meet the students needs with family economic difficulties. The most embarrassing is that the awards and grants established in the private colleges and universities by the social enterprises are very few. Therefore, although student financial aid system construction of many private universities is very perfect, yet the real policy implementation has to be improved further.

Defining the Financially Difficult Students

The identification of family financially difficult students is an important and arduous task of college student financial assistance work. If this job can not be carried out scientifically, it will cause the unreasonable use of funding resources. For private colleges and universities. The implementation of defining family financially difficult students does not completely refer to the standards of state-run universities. According to the investigation and study, our school has established the identified system conforming to the actual situation, instead of just only relying on a proof of poverty to identify the family financially difficult students. To fulfill this job mainly sticks to the open, fair and just principles, sets a good standard, standardizes procedures, accurately verifies the family poor students' identification and implements the dynamic management.

The Diversified Student Financial Aid System

In view of the practical situation, national endowment should be served as the foundation, the student self – help as the dominant, the university and the social support as the assistance in order to establish the diversified economic aid system. Owing to the running school philosophy of school builders and the school current development stage, there are some differences in the actual process of carrying out the students financial aid jobs in private colleges and universities. About the problem of how to make the student financial aid system not limited by these factors, our hospital has made the following efforts:

Provide good service and make full use of state funding policies to establish a solid foundation for student financial aid system in private colleges and universities. Lay down standardized national encouragement scholarships and management approach of national grants in order to guarantee that the aid funding does help the students who need help. Meanwhile, the school strictly conforms to the implementation procedures to carry out the the funding program, and strengthen the work-study center’s supervision and audit of the faculty evaluation process and the evaluation result.Properly fulfill the propaganda work of the student-origin-based loans and the national student loan policy. Moreover, the school should fully develop the loan funding intensity to help all the qualified financially difficult students enjoy the loan. In view of the complexity of the loan work, a lot of private colleges and universities are more conservative in the loan work. The number of students who have loans can be a good reflection of this situation. To a certain extent, the credit file construction of college students promotes the development of national student loan work. However, the most important is still that the managers of private colleges and universities need the thought liberation and actively carry out the the student loan work.

Standardize management and strive to expand students ’ self-help ways to play the leading role in student financial aid system of private colleges and universities. There is an old saying “teaching one to fish is better than giving him fish”. It is the same way to family financially difficult students. The way of self-help for family financially difficult students mainly includes obtaining national scholarship through their own efforts and other awards, or obtaining labor income through the work-study program and so on.Add work-study posts and establish the school work-study base to promote the combination of the work-study and student entrepreneurship education. Our school
uses “Yunshan” mode of Guangdong University of Foreign Studies in campus work-study base construction for reference. Actively expand part-time market outside school and set up a team to regulate the management of part-time jobs, and actively guide students to participate in social practice, in order to obtain labor remuneration. We study the operation mode of the tutor service center in Hunan Normal University — develop the student team to expand a part-time market. Increase the intensity of school-enterprise cooperation, and together build a work-study base outside school. A lot of enterprises have the long-term need to part-time jobs during the holiday season. If the school can establish the long-term cooperative relation with such large enterprises, there is no doubt that students with family financial difficulties can obtain more work-study posts.

Increase the school scholarship and student grants, and also establish the aid funding in each college. To improve the students financial aid system in private colleges and universities, college scholarships, school grants, tuition remission and interest-free loans are very necessary. The school operators should extract aid expense to set up aid funds according to the relevant requirements. College investment company founded "Dongguan Charity Nambour special fund", a large part of which is used for college student financial assistance. In many private colleges and universities, interest-free loan aid policy is passively implemented, which becomes a headache problem for many school operators. That is because many students, whose families are far from poor, use the interest-free loan. Sometimes this kind of behaviors will become “malicious arrears”. Therefore, the school makes efforts to standardize the management of student tuition deferred payment and make the interest-free loan become an important policy of financial aid system.

Actively strive for social awards, grants and expand the special funding projects. It belongs to corporate responsibility and obligation that enterprises repay the society. Now many companies are willing to finance students. However, in the actual work, the enterprises would prefer to support state-run colleges and universities rather than private schools. Indeed, this gloomy situation is caused by certain realistic reasons. Although so, still student financial aid workers of private colleges and universities endeavour to fight for these student funding. Certainly, it will be even better that the schools and enterprises cooperate to run schools, implement order-form school-running type forms and other forms to strive for corporate funding for students.

The Spirit Support

Financial aid work of private colleges and universities not only provides financial support for family poor students, but also give them active help in psychology and study. In addition, there is urgent need to offer a broader and deeper adult talent-oriented education. Universities aim at educating people. In order to accomplish this goal, we are targeted to carry out special education for the family financially difficult students. Emphasis should be put on the integrity education, self-improvement education, self-cultivation education and grateful education, aiming to cultivate students’ perfect personality. Meanwhile, it is expected to advance student funding work smoothly—work-study for education, student grants for talents

Conclusion

Because funding work itself is a job with strong policy and the rigorous operation procedures, it needs a good and stable work team. However, due to the rapid movement of private college staff, it is necessary to pay more attention to the construction of the funding team. School regularly enhances policy learning and professional training of student financial aid work team. More important is to strengthen ideological education, avoiding the waste of support resources or unfair education owing to personal interests or temporary errors of the funding staff. The assessment of funding work is the guarantee of the implementation of the student financial aid system in private colleges, and it is also an effective measure to promote the funding work. However, the function of assessment depends on the evaluation form and the evaluation index system, so our school establishes quantified assessment system of funding work to refine funding work project index. Moreover, school adopts the combination of self-evaluation and unified assessment, qualitative and
quantitative assessment to promote funding work carried out more effectively and guarantee implementation of the subsidy system.

Acknowledgement
In this paper, the research was sponsored by scientific research project of Guangdong University of science and technology.(Project No.GKY-2016KYYBGLYJ-5)

References