## **Student Debt Assistance Act**

<u>Public Act 103-0054</u> (previously known as Senate Bill **49**) amends the existing Student Debt Assistance Act. **Effective June 9, 2023**, the new law requires a higher education institution to provide a transcript to a student or former student, even if the person owes a debt to the institution, if the individual is seeking the transcript for a job application, college transfer, applying for financial aid, joining the military, or pursuing other postsecondary opportunities. This is an expansion from prior law, which applied only to individuals seeking employment.

LFGSM has adopted the following policy beginning with the 2023-2024 Academic year. A current or former student may obtain a transcript or diploma that has been withheld from the student because the individual owes a debt. To be eligible, one of the following exemptions may apply for the individual who is seeking the transcript for a:

- Job application
- College transfer
- Applying for financial aid
- Joining the military
- Pursuing other postsecondary opportunities

A student may be subject to a transcript, diploma, or registration hold when the debt is:

- Over 120 days from the invoice date and greater than \$300 at which time student accounts are placed on hold.
- The amount greater than \$300 at which LFGSM will assign debt to a third-party collection agency.

This policy will be posted to the LFGSM public website, Academic Catalog, and my.lfgsm. Students may file a formal complaint with the Attorney General's student loan ombudsperson and the LFGSM Chief Financial Officer.

Questions may be directed to the Registrar at <a href="Registrar@lfgsm.edu">Registrar@lfgsm.edu</a> and/or LFGSM Finance Department at <a href="finance@lfgsm.edu">finance@lfgsm.edu</a> .