NASFAA Update

National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
NDASFAA Virtual Conference, April 15, 2021
About NASFAA

Who We Are
NASFAA member institutions serve 9 out of every 10 undergraduates in the US.

Our Mission
NASFAA provides professional development and services for financial aid administrators; advocates for public policies that increase student access and success; serves as a forum on student financial aid issues, and is committed to diversity throughout all activities.

Our Vision
Shaping the future by promoting student access and success in higher education.
NASFAA’s COVID Response
https://www.nasfaa.org/covid19
Coronavirus (COVID-19) Web Center

- NASFAA Articles and Statements
- NASFAA Webinars
- “Off the Cuff” Podcasts
- AskRegs Q & A
- HEERF Reference Page

*Many resources of this page are open to the public thanks to NASFAA member support.
NASFAA Compliance Tools
Why Use NASFAA Tools?

- Increase Collaboration
- Reduce Time
- Limit Risk
- Increase Efficiency
- Streamline Process
Use the terms and type boxes to the left to filter your results as needed. Dates reflected are the last updated date but are still applicable; content is reviewed on an ongoing basis.

**Search Results**

**Cost of Attendance**

2/19/2021

The cost of **attendance** (COA) is the estimation of what it will reasonably cost a student to attend a given institution for a given period of time, usually one academic year. COA is one element of need analysis, the other being expected family contribution (EFC). A student’s need for federal student aid is determined by subtracting EFC from COA. The law defines COA as the total of several categories of expenses (see subtopics). Related topics in this index: Need Analysis; Net Price

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**Cost of attendance**

Appears in: Consumer information, Institutional information

1/8/2020

**Failure to begin attendance**

Appears in: Direct Loans

2/16/2021

**Failure to begin attendance**

Appears in: Overpayments and Overpayments

12/22/2020

**Unscheduled break in attendance**

Appears in: Return of Title IV Funds; Applicability

12/22/2020
2021 Webinars

NASFAA Compliance Products: Utilizing your Member Benefits
April 6, 2021 (Free)

NASFAA Quiz Show – Test Your Financial Aid Knowledge
April 21, 2021

NASFAA Panel Discussion – Data Sharing & Security
April 28, 2021

NASFAA Recertification Insights: FAAC Recertification
May 5, 2021

NASFAA: Consortium Agreements, Written Arrangements, Study Abroad
May 19, 2021
2021-2022 Online Courses

- Consumer Information – April 6, 2021
- Fundamentals of EM – May 3, 2021
- Fundamentals of Financial Aid – July 6, 2021
- Return of Title IV Funds – August 24, 2021
- Academic Calendars Certificate – Sept 20, 2021
- Verification 2022-2023 – November 8, 2021
- Return of Title IV Funds – January 10, 2022
- Verification 2022-2023 – February 14, 2022
- Cash Management – March 15, 2022
Board of Directors Updates
Ethics

Statement of Ethical Principles

Code of Conduct

nasfaa.org/ethics
It takes 20 years to build a reputation and five minutes to ruin it. If you think about that, you'll do things differently.

— Warren Buffett —
Certified Financial Aid Administrator ® Program

The certification aims to:
• Advance and elevate the profession
• Inspire quality job performance
• Create a competitive edge for certificate holders
Scott Skaro
Director of Financial Aid
United Tribes Technical College, North Dakota
Higher Education Act Reauthorization

- HEA was last reauthorized in 2008. The current version of HEA technically expired in 2013.
- FAFSA Simplification Bill passed in December 2020 is as close we came to HEA reauthorization with the 116th Congress.
- We likely won’t see a full HEA reauthorization this 117th Congress.
- Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) is the new Chairman of the HELP Committee.
Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021

• Several major student aid policy provisions were attached to the 2021 Omnibus spending bill, through the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021
  • FAFSA simplification
  • Expanding Pell Grant eligibility to incarcerated students
  • Increasing the maximum Pell award
  • Repealing the limitation on lifetime subsidized loan eligibility (SULA)
  • Modifications to requirements for Cost of Attendance
  • Eliminates the suspension of federal student aid eligibility for applicants with drug-related convictions
  • Removes Selective Service Registration requirement

• With the exception of a few provisions who were granted early implementation status, the majority of changes from this bill may not be fully implemented until 7/1/23 (the 10/1/22 FAFSA).
FUTURE Act

• In December 2019, Congress passed and President Trump signed into law the FUTURE Act, which contained text from the FAFSA Act previously supported by NASFAA.

• In addition to providing $255 million in annual permanent funding for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other Minority-Serving Institutions, the bill allows for direct cross-agency data sharing between IRS and ED, and will:
  • Transfer all items currently brought over from the DRT and applicants’ filing status.
  • Eliminate up to 22 questions from the FAFSA.
  • Allow students currently unable to use the DRT, including both non-tax-filers and tax filers of all filing statuses, to experience a simpler FAFSA process.
  • Address verification burden
  • Permit sharing of taxpayer information between ED and IRS for the purpose of determining eligibility for income-driven repayment plans.

• NASFAA is currently working with ED on implementation of the bill’s FAFSA provisions, which is expected to take a couple of years. The changes may not be fully implemented until the AY 23-24 FAFSA.
FY21 Budget & Appropriations Final Numbers

• $73.5 billion in discretionary funding appropriated for the Department of Education
  • $785 million increase over FY2020
• $150 increase to the maximum Pell Grant award
  • New maximum for 2021-22 award year will be $6,495
• $25 million increase for campus-based aid programs
  • FWS - $1.19 billion ($10 million increase)
  • FSEOG - $880 million ($15 million increase)

• We should see President Biden’s FY22 budget in late March or April (usually expected in February)
COVID Relief

- We’ve seen two COVID relief bills that have included funding for students and institutions
  - CARES Act: $14 billion
  - CRRSAA Act: $23 billion

- On the Horizon: President Biden’s $1.9 trillion stimulus package called the *American Rescue Plan*
  - $35 billion for Higher Education
  - The Senate aims to approve the package and get it to the President’s desk before March 14
# Policy Task Forces & Working Groups

## Ongoing
- State Advocacy
- Advocacy Network
- Rapid Response Network
- Under Resourced School Working Group
- Diversity and Inclusion Working Group
- Pell for Incarcerated Students
- FAFSA Simplification Working Group

## Recently Published Report
- **November 2019** - Enhanced Loan Counseling Task Force
- **June 2020** - Administrative Capability Task Force
- **August 2020** - Updating FAFSA Proposal to Reflect New Tax Law Working Group
- **May 2020** - Examining Software Providers Compliance with NASFAA’s Code of Conduct Working Group

## Previous
- HEA Reauthorization
- Reimagining Aid Design & Delivery
- Student Indebtedness
- Public Service Loan Forgiveness
- Campus-Based Aid Allocations
- Consumer Information
- Loan Servicing
- R2T4
- FAFSA Working Group
- Innovative Learning Models
- Dynamic Loan Limit Working Group
- One Grant, One Loan
- Graduate-Specific Financial Aid Data
- Consumer Information & Law Student Indebtedness
- Tuition- and Debt-Free College
- PPD Implementation
- Graduate/Professional Loan Limits
- Cost of Attendance Working Group
- Campus-Based Aid in One Grant, One Loan
- Accountability in Higher Education
- Examining Competency Based Education
Policy Team Research & Surveys

2020 National Student Aid Profile

nasfaa.org/profile

2020 Administrative Burden Survey

nasfaa.org/Administrative_Burden
Online Resources

nasfaa.org/legislative_tracker
nasfaa.org/capitol_recap
nasfaa.org/otc
Advocacy Pipelines
Going Virtual in Fall 2020!

nasfaa.org/pipeline
NASFAA first published the State Advocacy Toolkit in August 2020 to provide resources and materials to support state-level advocacy for regions, states, institutions, and individuals interested in becoming more engaged in state-level student aid policy.

The Toolkit features the following resources:

- **User Guide**: The User Guide includes advocacy tips, instructions on how to contact your state representatives, and more!
- **Letter and Email Templates**: Letter and Email templates that can be customized with your information before sending to your state lawmakers.
- **Talking Points**: The talking points outline and give examples of the importance of state financial aid programs.
- **Student Advocacy Manual**: The Student Advocacy Manual provides resources for students to support their advocacy efforts.
- **State Legislation Activity Form**: The State Legislation Activity Form is for you to share any proposed, pending or recently passed legislation that could impact the financial aid community in your state, or to simply update us on percolating issues.

nasfaa.org/state_advocacy_toolkit
RELAX!
WE’VE GOT THE NEWS YOU NEED
www.nasfaa.org/todays-news