NASFAA Update
NDASFAA Conference
March, 2023
About NASFAA

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

Our Vision
Shaping the future by creating by promoting student access and success in higher education.

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.
NASFAA Committees/Task Forces

Leadership & Legislative Conference – Strategic Enrollment Management
• Janelle Kilgore - University of North Dakota

Nominations & Elections Committee
• Scott Skaro - United Tribes Technical College

Rapid Response Network Task Force
• Scott Skaro - United Tribes Technical College
NASFAA’s Resources on Loan Cancellation and Fresh Start

Web Centers

https://www.nasfaa.org/debt_cancellation
https://www.nasfaa.org/fresh_start
NASFAA’s Student Loan Forgiveness Response

- NASFAA Articles and Statements
- NASFAA Webinars
- “Off the Cuff” Podcasts
- AskRegs Q & A
RECENT FAFSA SIMPLIFICATION ADVOCACY

Two Letters
MARCH 13, 2023 LETTER

- To Richard Cordray (COO for FSA)
- Copied FAFSA Implementation leaders at FSA
- Focus....timing
- Joint letter on behalf of eight national organizations representing college counselors, state administrators, institutions, admission officials, financial aid administrators, registrars, scholarship providers, advocates and others working directly with students to access financial aid.
1. **Commit to a specific FAFSA release date by May 1, 2023**

2. **Release a Pell lookup table by May 1, 2023** (FSA can create a table showing the thresholds for receiving a minimum or maximum Pell Grant based on household size and family income)

3. **Send the technical specifications to state agencies, vendors involved in coding state, college, and university systems, and Financial Aid Management Systems (FAMS) vendors at least 8 months in advance of the FAFSA release**

4. **Launch a communications plan about the FAFSA delay with messages for students, parents, counselors, institutions, states and other stakeholders by July 1, 2023**

5. **Produce training materials, including screen shots and details on the parent wizard, by July 1, 2023**

6. **Implement the new process for obtaining an FSA ID by July 1, 2023**
● **Better FAFSA Better Future Roadmap (Roadmap)**

● No specific dates provided, but general timeframes were given

● Roadmap includes three categories
  ○ Institutions and State Partners
  ○ Counselors and Advocates
  ○ Students and Families
EFC to SAI Tools – Spring 2023
Near final ISIR Record Layout – April 2023
Policy Guidance – Spring 2023 through Fall 2023
FAFSA Specifications Guide – Beginning March 2023
FA Training – Summer 2023
Sample ISIR Testing – July 2023
Final ISIR Layout – October 2023
FAFSA Demo Site – December 2023
2024-25 FAFSA Release - December 2023
GENERAL-23-17: Counselors and Advocates

- Financial Aid Estimator and Preview Tools – Summer 2023
- Counselor Training – Summer through Fall 2023
- Fact Sheets - Summer through Fall 2023
- 2024-25 FAFSA Release - December 2023
GENERAL-23-17: Students and Families

- Preparing for 2024-25 FAFSA Outreach Campaign – Summer 2023
- Financial Aid Estimator and Preview Tools – Summer through Fall 2023
- FAFSA Updates on StudentAid.gov – Summer through Fall 2023
- 2024-25 FAFSA Release - December 2023
To James Kvaal (Under Secretary of Education) and Richard Cordray (COO of FSA)
Formally expressed concerns about removal of the student housing choice question on the 2024-25 FAFSA.
New requirements in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, Section 472(a)(5) require financial aid administrators (FAAs) to develop different housing allowances in students’ cost of attendance (COA) based on student characteristics and housing choice.
We urge ED to work with Congress to ensure its interpretation falls within the spirit of the law and to explore how ED can comply with the law while continuing to collect student housing choice information on the 2024-25 FAFSA.
2024-25 Draft FAFSA Comment Period

- Comment Period through May 23, 2023
- Link to download a paper copy of the Draft 2024-25 and other documents about the FAFSA
- Docket ID: ED-2023-SCC-0053-0001 (https://www.regulations.gov/)
- Direct Link to NASFAA Housing Comment Letter
- Direct Link to submit a comment
- Action – Submit a comment supporting the inclusion of the Housing question on the 2024-25 FAFSA
NASFAA Compliance Tools

Helping you manage the administration of Title IV aid
NASFAA Compliance Tools

- Compliance Engine
- P&P Builder
- Self-Evaluation Checklists
- Student Aid Reference Desk
- AskRegs Knowledge Center
The Compliance Engine: Self-Evaluation Checklists

(Focused on prior year evaluation)
The Compliance Engine: P&P Builder
(Focused on building current P&P’s)
4.1 PRIVATE EDUCATION LOAN DISCLOSURES

Policies

601.3(b)
601.11(a)-(d)

If the institution or any of its institution-affiliated organizations provides information regarding a private education loan from a lender to a prospective borrower, the institution or institution-affiliated organization also must provide the following disclosures regardless of whether a preferred-lender arrangement exists:

- Information required under section 1238(a)(1) of the Truth in Lending Act (TILA) for private education loans
- The borrower may qualify for loans or other assistance under Title IV programs
- The terms and conditions of loans under the Title IV programs may be more favorable than those of private education loans

The financial aid office staff should be aware of institutional policies and practices for providing information about private education information to prospective borrowers. Identify any administrative office, academic office, and institution-affiliated organization that provide information about private education loans. Share your institution's policies for providing information about private education loans to prospective borrowers.
The Ref Desk

A comprehensive index developed by NASFAA and other education partners that has open access for aid professionals. Find it fast!

https://www.studentaidrefdesk.org/
Welcome to the Student Aid Reference Desk

The Student Aid Reference Desk (Ref Desk) was designed to provide trusted advisors and college access professionals with direct links to important financial aid regulations, legislation, research, and other key resources.

Explore Financial Aid Topics & Terms

Looking for something? Find it fast with the Student Aid Reference Desk.

To get started, check out the trending and suggested topics, select a term from the left to browse, or search for a term using the box above.

Trending Topics

- Direct Loans
- Return of Title IV Funds (R2T4)
- Verification
- Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
- Student Eligibility

Suggested Topics

- Cohort Default Rate (CDR)
- Cost of Attendance (COA)
- Direct Loans
- Pell Grant, Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant (IAGS), and Children of Fallen Heroes Scholarship (CFHS)
- Return of Title IV Funds (R2T4)
Narrow results or explore all facets of your topic.

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

Cost of attendance
Appears in Consumer information; Institutional information
1/8/2020

Failure to begin attendance
Appears in Direct Loans
2/1/2021

Failure to begin attendance
Appears in Overwards and Overpayments
12/23/2020

Unscheduled break in attendance
Appears in Return of Title IV Funds: Applicability
12/23/2020
ASKREGS

A searchable database of “real world” questions and answers.

Or

Ask a question of NASFAA’s Training & Regulatory Assistance Team
See what’s timely, most recent, or explore by categories.

**Timely**
- What FAFSA Simplification Provisions Are Effective For the 2023-24 Award Year?
- Which Cost Components Must Be Included Up Front When Constructing the Cost of Attendance?
- Are We Required To Have Separate COAs For Students In Different Living Arrangements?
- What Types Of Costs Can Be Included For Licensure, Certification, Or the First Professional Credential?
- Is the 2023-24 Tax Transcript Decoder Available?

**Most Recent**
- Can Sorority Or Fraternity Dues Be Included In the Cost Of Attendance?
- Can We Use a State's Digital Driver's License For Verification Of Identity?
- Must a School Report a Prison Education Program As an Additional Location?
- Will Schools Be Required To Report Federal Work-Study Earnings To COD?
- Can Our Professional Judgment Policy Only Allow For Certain Types Of Requests?

**Explore Categories**
- Administrative Capability
- Agreements Between Schools
- Application Processing
- Biden Loan Forgiveness
- Cash Management
- Consumer Information
- Cost of Attendance
- COVID-19
- Direct Loan/FFEL
- FAFSA Simplification
- Fresh Start
- FSEOG
- FWS
- Institutional Eligibility
- Need Analysis
- Non-Title IV Aid
- Overawards/Overpayments
- Packaging
- Pell & IASG
- Pell for Prisoners
- Perkins
- Professional Judgment
- Program Eligibility
- Recordkeeping
- Reporting
- Return of Title IV Funds
- SAP
- Student Eligibility
- Tax Issues
- TEACH Grant
- Verification

[VIEW MORE]
See what’s trending or search by topic.

**Trending**
- Which Cost Components Must Be Included Up Front When Constructing the Cost of Attendance?
- What FAFSA Simplification Provisions Are Effective For the 2023-24 Award Year?
- Will Schools Be Required To Report Federal Work-Study Earnings To COD?
- Is There a Deadline For Making a Dependency Status Determination Or Dependency Override For Certain Students?
- Is the 2023-24 Tax Transcript Decoder Available?

**Most Helpful**
- Are Schools Required To Increase a Pell Grant When an ISIR Is Received After the Student Is No Longer Enrolled?
- Can a Parent With a Loan In Default Receive a Parent PLUS Using an Endorser?
- Can a Student Switch Parent Of Record On the FAFSA?
- Does Holding a 15 Minute Coffee Break Mean We Do Not Meet the Minimum Definition Of a Clock Hour?
- How Are Transfer Credits Treated In Repeated Coursework?
NASFAA Training Opportunities

The 2022-23 Webinar Series

NASFAA U Online Courses
22-23 Webinar Schedule
(Through June 2023)
Live and On-Demand

- A FAFSA Simplification Conversation
- Knowledge Management that Fosters Creativity
- Graduate and Professional School Update
- Professional Development - Honing in on Your Emotional Intelligence
- NASFAA Quiz Show
- COA Exceptions and Adjustments
- NASFAA Policy Update
- FAFSA Simplification - Planning for the Future
NASFAAA U Online Courses

- In Depth Instruction
- Practicing Adjuncts
- Video Tutorials
- Live and On demand classes
- Downloadable Resources
- Active Assessment
- Complimentary Professional Credential Testing Access

https://www.nasfaa.org/Online_Courses

Remaining Topics for 22-23:

Verification (credential course) – Started February 13th

Return of Title IV Funds (credential course) – Started March 14th

Administrative Capability (credential course) – Starts April 17th

Cost of Attendance (credential course) – Starts May 16th

Fundamentals of Student Financial Aid (certificate course) – Starts July 11th
NASFAA Certified Financial Aid Administrator® Program

Get Certified!

- Advances and elevates the profession
- Inspires quality job performance
- Creates a competitive edge

FAAC Prep Workshop is coming!
Certified Financial Aid Administrator ® Program

It’s more than just an exam...

Make it part of your professional development ecosystem!

Credential Quality Standards achieved!

- Rigorous assessment against industry standards
- Affirms quality and defensibility of the certification program
Board Structure & Bylaws Update

3 Key Updates:

- Diversity Officer is now an appointed, voting member of the Board
- Secretary is now an appointed, voting member of the Board
- Remove the role of non-voting Commission Directors

"We must never become too busy sawing to take time to sharpen the saw." ~ Dr. Stephen R. Covey
Reputation
And
Character

Character is like a tree and reputation like a shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing.

Abraham Lincoln
We are committed!

Statement of Ethical Principles

Ethics

Code of Conduct

GAO Report on Aid Offers

nasfaa.org/ethics
Paying for College Transparency Initiative
Task Force

- Comprised of 10 higher education associations representing college presidents, financial aid offices, enrollment managers, admissions and school counselors
- Task Force will tackle the transparency issue by improving the clarity, accuracy, and consistency of student financial aid offers by producing a set of guiding principles and minimal standards to be used when developing aid offers.
- https://www.collegeprice.org/
- Compliance and Operational Reviews
- Policies and Procedures Assistance
- Interim Staffing
- Custom Training
- Financial Literacy
- Group and Executive Coaching

www.blueiconadvisors.com
NASFAA Update
The DLP Program

- Aligns with NASFAA’s commitment to diversity and inclusion.
- Creates a pipeline for support and access to mentors.
- Under-represented groups within the aid community gain access to leadership opportunities.
- Provides participants with important professional development.
Implicit Bias Toolkit

- NASFAA invites you to **reflect** and **consider** that as financial aid administrators, we directly **influence** the trajectory of our students' lives through our work.

- NASFAA, in conjunction with our member task force, created this **toolkit** to assist aid offices with awareness and suggestions to assist in eliminating bias from institutional policies and procedures.
At this time, federal trainers are not providing live or in-person training to state associations.

NASFAA has evaluated it’s ability to provide in-person training at state conferences in response to the numerous requests being received to do so:

- From May through mid-March, NASFAA received 75 speaking requests from regional and state associations for the 2022-23 year.
- In addition to state and regional conferences, during this same period, NASFAA received another 25 requests for non-financial aid conferences.
- How does NASFAA support the states when we know the resources on staff are not sufficient to sustain the number of requests being received for in-person training?
- How can states have confidence that NASFAA will be able to send someone to their conferences, versus submitting a request and hoping things will work out?
Playbook:
● Rolled out at the NASFAA Leadership Conference.
● Goes into effect during the 2023-24 year (July 1, 2023).
● Continue in person at regional conferences, as well as Texas, California, and New York (Top 2.5% of NASFAA member distribution).
● On a rotating basis that will be determined on a rolling five-year basis, NASFAA will identify 9-10 states to attend in-person.
● States will be provided the five-year rotation schedule, giving them ample notice of when NASFAA is available to conduct in-person training at their conferences (predictability for states when planning their events).
● Commit to doing as many live virtual conference presentations as available resources allow.
Advocacy Opportunities

VOLUNTEER
- Advocacy Pipeline 📣
- Policy Task Forces 📣
- Get Students Involved! 📣

Read NASFAA’s Today’s News and Policy and Advocacy pages on nasfaa.org

STAY INFORMED!

INTERACT WITH CONGRESS
- Share your advocacy efforts with NASFAA so we can support and assist you
- Every two years in Congress means new states in the mix!
## Policy Task Forces & Working Groups

### Ongoing
- Pell Restoration for Incarcerated Students Working Group Charter
- Evaluating Stimulus Emergency Grants Working Group
- Rapid Response Network
- FAFSA Simplification Implementation Working Group
- Resumption of Loan Repayment Task Force
- Examining Federal Work Study Task Force
- Advancing the Profession Task Force

### Recently Published Report
- **December 2022** - Pell for Incarcerated Students
- **August 2022** - National Student Aid Profile
- **May 2022** - Protecting Borrowers & Advancing Equity
- **January 2022** - Toward a More Equitable Future for Postsecondary Access
- **November 2021** - The Burden of Proof: Impact of and Solutions for FAFSA Verification

### 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
- PPY 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
In 2022, NASFAA hit the $3.7 million dollar mark in grant-funded projects

Recent grant work:

- A second report evaluating CARES Act funds
- Developing policy recommendations for student loan repayment and default
- Assisting our members in FAFSA simplification implementation
- A forthcoming report on means-tested benefits with Higher Learning Advocates
- Funding for NASFAA’s Task Force on College Price Transparency & Aid Offers
Recent Policy Work

Student Aid Index Modeling Tool

Protecting Borrowers & Advancing Equity

Pell for Incarcerated Students

nasfaa.org/sai_modeling_tool

https://www.nasfaa.org/protecting_borrowers_advancing_equity

Each fall, NASFAA staff provide an Annual Impact Report to the Board of Directors and members. These reports are based on the association's July 1 to June 30 fiscal year and summarize association activities and progress in a variety of service areas, which may include training, public policy and advocacy, membership services and outreach, conference and live-site events, communications, and fundraising.
Online Resources

- nasfaa.org/legislative_tracker
- nasfaa.org/capitol_recap
- nasfaa.org/otc
Advocacy Pipelines
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. NASFAA will continue to update the toolkit with new resources.

The toolkit features the following resources:

- **User Guide** that includes advocacy tips, instructions on how to contact your state representatives, and more!
- **Letter and email templates** that can be customized with your information before sending to your state lawmakers.
- **Talking points** that outline and give examples of the importance of state financial aid programs.
- **Student Advocacy Manual** that provides resources for students to support their advocacy efforts.

[ nasfaa.org/state_advocacy_toolkit ](https://nasfaa.org/state_advocacy_toolkit)