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.



MARCH 13, 2023 LETTER CONTENT

- 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



GENERAL-23-17: Implementing the 2024-25 FAFSA Process (March 21, 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

GENERAL-23-17: Institutions and State Partners

- 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

MARCH 16, 2023 LETTER

- 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
- <u>Link</u> to download a paper copy of the Draft 2024-25 and other documents about the FAFSA
- (APP-23-03) Notice of the Draft 2024–25 Federal Student Aid Application Materials
- Docket ID: ED-2023-SCC-0053-0001 (https://www.regulations.gov/)
- Direct <u>Link</u> 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

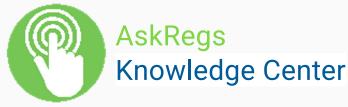
NASFAA Compliance Tools











The Compliance Engine: Self-Evaluation Checklists

(Focused on prior year evaluation)



Unsure where to start?

Choose compliance goals below to view applicable checklists.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO?

- Assess our administrative capability
- ☐ Evaluate our federal grant programs
- Evaluate our federal loan programs
- □ Evaluate our campus-based programs
- Assess student eligibility requirements
- Assess needs of special populations
- Review supporting compliance-related materials

GET STARTED

The Compliance Engine: P&P Builder

(Focused on building current P&P's)



Welcome, Tiffany

LOGOUT

GO TO COMPLIANCE ENGINE

MY MANUALS

ASSIGNMENTS

START A NEW MANUAL

Start A New Manual

When naming your manual, we suggest including the academic year in your manual name, such as "University of School's 2016-17 Policies & Procedures." Proceed to enter your manual content. After you've selected "Save" or "Save and Proceed" in any section, your manual will be available in your My Manuals dashboard. Once saved, P&P manual components can be assigned to staff on your institution/organization roster and, across departments. We welcome your feedback and suggestions via the Compliance Engine Feedback Form.

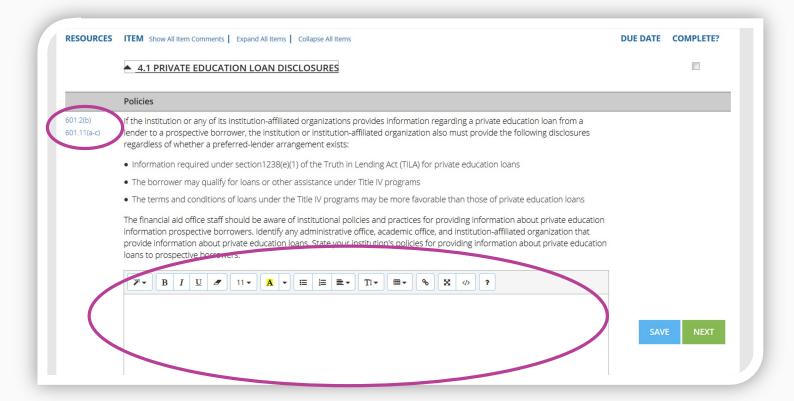
NASFAA is pleased to offer an option for schools that want help with this work from experienced professionals. Financial Aid Services (FAS), NASFAA's preferred provider for P&P conversions, has tenured consultants with deep financial aid knowledge who can do the heavy lifting for you.

Enter a custom name for your institution's Policies & Procedures Manual:

Custom Name

- Limit access of this manual to owner and assignees, only. Other users in your organization will not be able to view this item, but the manual will still appear in organization lists. Owners and Primary Contacts are able to transfer ownership of items with this setting.
- Allow anyone from my organization read-only access to this manual. Owner and assignees can make changes, owners and Primary Contacts can transfer ownership.

CREATE A NEW MANUA





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/



Partners

About

Search

Q

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.

Academic Year Administrative Capability Audit and Program Review Cash Management Cohort Default Rate (CDR) Consumer Information Cost of Attendance (COA) Direct Loans Disbursement Enrollment Status Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

Explore Financial Aid Topics & Terms

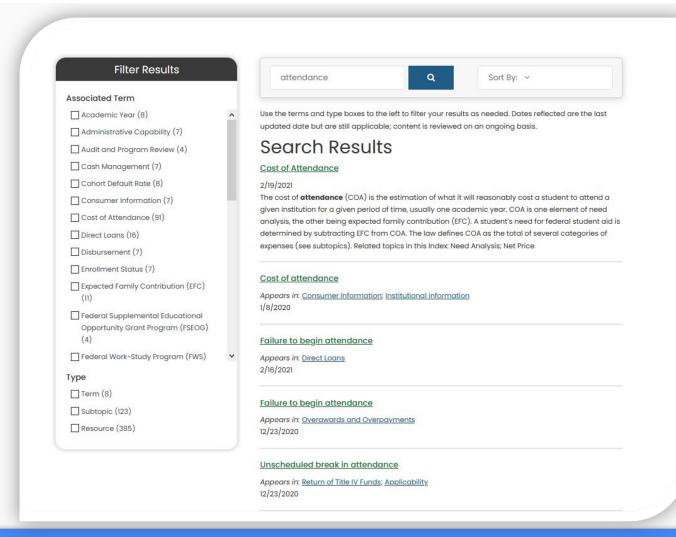
Looking for something? Find it fast with the Student Aid Reference Desk.

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
Inst Screenshot ility

Suggested Topics
Cohort Default Rate (CDR)
Cost of Attendance (COA)
Direct Loans
Pell Grant, Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant (IASG), and Children of Fallen
Heroes Scholarship (CFHS)
Datum of Title IV Funda (DOTA)

Search for your topic.



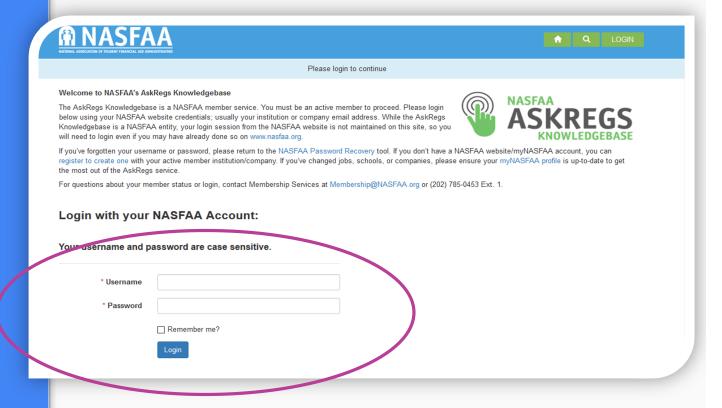
Narrow results or explore all facets of your topic.

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?

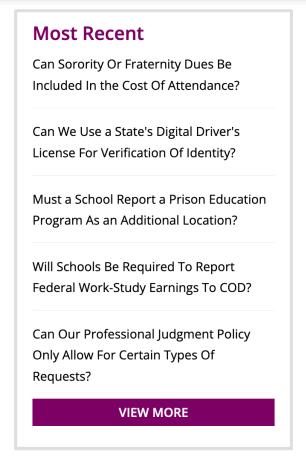
Which Cost Components Must Be Included Up Front When Constructing the Cost of Attendance?

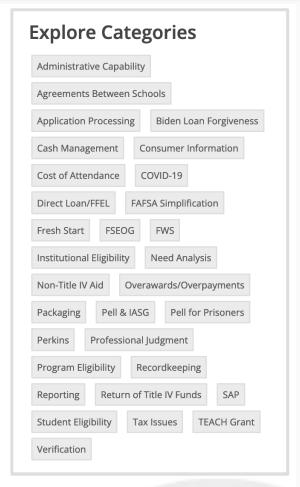
Are We Required To Have Separate COAs For Students In Different Living Arrangements?

What Types Of Costs Can Be Included For Licensure, Certification, Or the First Professional Credential?

Is the 2023-24 Tax Transcript Decoder Available?

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?

VIEW MORE

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?

VIEW MORE



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

NASFAA 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!





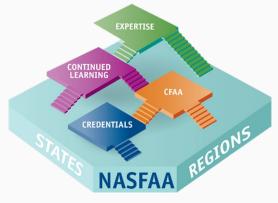
- Advances and elevates the profession
- Inspires quality job performance
- Creates a competitive edge

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





NASFAA Board of Directors

Update

Board Structure & Bylaws Update

3 Key Updates:

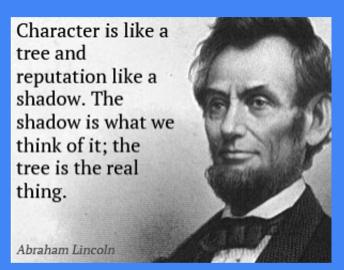
- Diversity Officer is now an appointed, voting member of the Board
- Secretary is now an appointed, voting member of the Board
- Remove the role of non-voting Commission Directors



Reputation

And

Character



We are committed!





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/



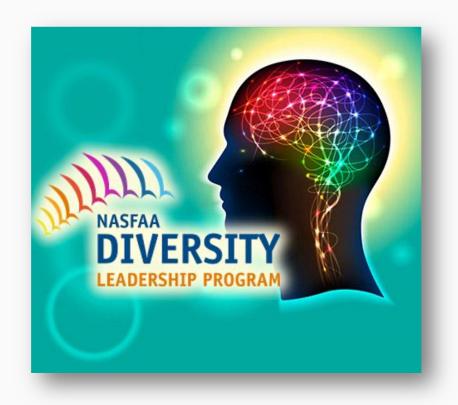
www.blueiconadvisors.com

- Compliance and Operational Reviews
- Policies and Procedures
 Assistance
- Interim Staffing
- Custom Training
- Financial Literacy
- Group and Executive Coaching

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
 <u>toolkit</u> to assist aid offices with awareness and suggestions to
 assist in eliminating bias from institutional policies and procedures.



NASFAA Annual Conference



NASFAA Playbook - Challenge

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?

NASFAA Playbook - Solution

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.

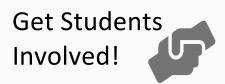
Advocacy Opportunities

VOLUNTEER

Advocacy Pipeline

Policy Task

Forces



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



Policy Grant-funded Work

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

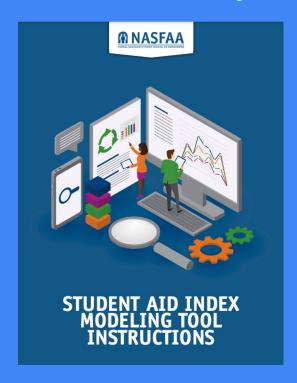
Recent grant work:

- 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



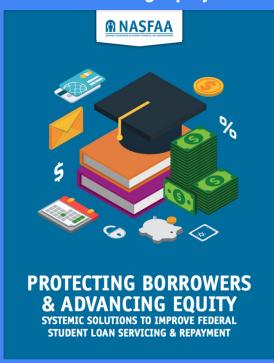
Recent Policy Work

Student Aid Index Modeling Tool



nasfaa.org/sai_modeling_tool

Protecting Borrowers & Advancing Equity



https://www.nasfaa.org/protecting_borrowers_ad vancing_equity

Pell for Incarcerated Students



https://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/Pell_for_Incarcerated_Students_Report.pdf

2021-22 NASFAA Annual Report

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









Advocacy Pipelines









State Advocacy Toolkit

- 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:
 - O **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.
 - O **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.

