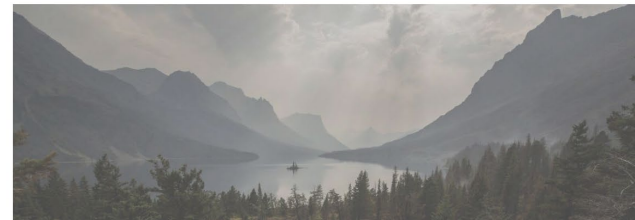
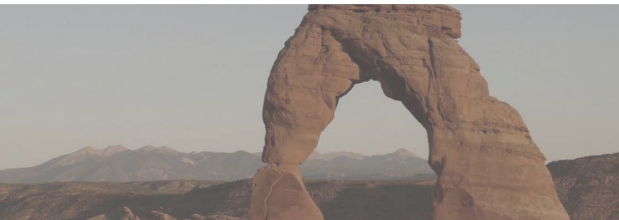
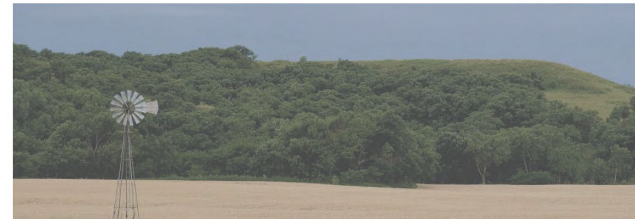


# RMASFAA

## RMASFAA Update

2026 NDASFAA Conference

Becky Pribyl, 25-26 RMASFAA Vice President



# Agenda

- RMASFAA Introduction
  - Introduction & Mission
  - Associations Structure
  - Strategic Long Range Plan (SLRP)
- RMASFAA Programs and Services
- Getting Involved with RMASFAA
- Recognition



**RMASFAA**

# What is RMASFAA?

RMASFAA is your regional professional association that is led by and serves eight Rocky Mountain states: Colorado, Kansas, Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.



CO · KS · MT · ND · NE · SD · UT · WY

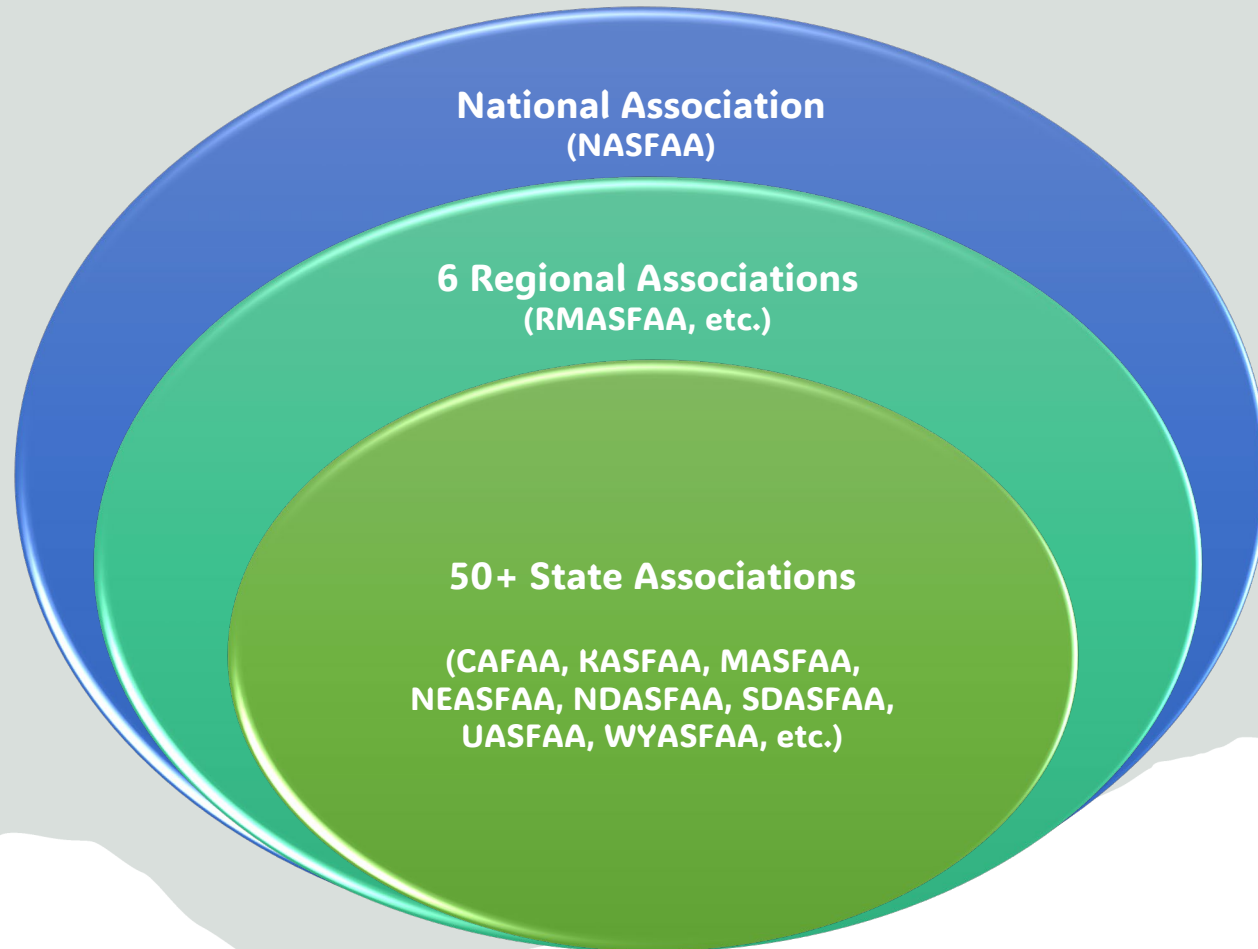
# RMASFAA

# What is RMASFAA?

**Our Mission:** The Rocky Mountain Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (RMASFAA) exists to promote professional preparation, leadership development, effectiveness, and mutual support among student financial aid professionals. We also aim to support and implement initiatives that improve student access to and success in higher education.

**RMASFAA**

# FA Association Structure



State, Regional, and National associations work as partners to support financial aid professionals as we endeavor to ensure our students have access to postsecondary education, no matter their socioeconomic background.

We are committed at every level to supporting and advancing the financial aid profession.

**RMASFAA**

# FA Association Structure



How does my voice get heard?

- State leaders represent you at the regional level
- Regional leaders represent you at the national level
- You are encouraged to engage with associations at every level!

**RMASFAA**

# RMASFAA's Current Strategic Long-Range Plan (SLRP)

## Guiding Values & Commitments

In all priorities, RMASFAA will maintain a spirit of collaboration, community, and innovation. We are committed to:

- Being responsive to the changing landscape of higher education and financial aid administration.
- Empowering financial aid professionals at all levels and institution types.
- Operating with transparency, sustainability, fiscal responsibility, and unwavering focus on our members and the students they serve.

# RMASFAA's Current Strategic Long-Range Plan (SLRP)



**TRAINING**



**COMMUNITY**



**INVOLVEMENT**



**IMPACT**

# Why RMASFAA? – Programs, Services, Benefits

- Summer Institute
- Annual Conference
- Leadership Pipeline
- Webinars, RMASFAA Roundtables, Training Resources
- Blog, Social Media, Slack
- Listserv, Job Postings
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion
- Membership Directory
- CFAA Exam Prep Workshops
- State Conference Swap
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Connection & Community
- Awards & Recognition

**RMASFAA**

# 2026 RMASFAA Summer Institute

- The premier, nationally recognized financial aid training program
- Comprehensive, week-long, immersive event
  - Learn about regulations, best practices, emerging trends, etc.
- Small classes each led by two experienced faculty
- Engaging co-curricular activities and networking
- Intensive training program with a financial aid summer camp twist!

**RMASFAA**

# 2026 RMASFAA Summer Institute

- June 7-11, 2026, in Wichita, Kansas at Wichita State University
- Registration available at [rmasfaa.org](https://rmasfaa.org) under Trainings & Events
- Member rate of \$800 includes meals, housing, and training
- Scholarships available! Applications deadline = May 9, 2026
  - Covers registration fee plus a travel stipend

[rmasfaa.org/summer\\_institute.php](https://rmasfaa.org/summer_institute.php)

**RMASFAA**



**Lights, Camera,**  
**FINANCIAL AID**

**RMASEAA Summer Institute 2026**

**RMASEFAA 2026**

SOMETHING  
*Magical*

**FARGO, ND**

**OCTOBER 11-14, 2026**

**SAVE THE DATE**



# 2026 Annual Fall Conference



- October 11-14, in Fargo, North Dakota
- Registration and more information will be live in May | stay tuned!
  - \$385 conference registration
- Scholarships available! Applications opening soon!

[www.rmasfaa.org/annual\\_conference.php](http://www.rmasfaa.org/annual_conference.php)

RMASFAA

# Leadership Pipeline

- An exceptional, award-winning professional development opportunity for individuals seeking advancement and leadership training within the financial aid profession.
- Each year, ~10 Mentees are each paired with a Mentor and join a cohort, devoting a year to engaging in leadership trainings, discussions, and exercises
- Kicks off at annual fall conference with program graduation the following year

**RMASFAA**

# Leadership Pipeline Mentees

- Apply online – [rmasfaa.org](https://rmasfaa.org) → Leadership Pipeline, Application Form
  - Due July 15<sup>th</sup>!
- Scholarships available to cover registration and travel costs
- Selection Considerations:
  - Minimum one year of FA experience
  - Commitment and desire to pursue involvement in the financial aid community including association work and professional development
  - Support from applicant's leader
  - Ability to meet time commitments and attend conferences – monthly mentor calls, monthly group training/discussions, attendance at 2026 and 2027 RMASFAA Fall Conferences

**RMASFAA**

# 2025-26 Leadership Pipeline Mentees



**Amy Stoltzfus, KS**  
(Mentor: Kelli Engelhardt, MT)



**Alauna Bates, UT**  
(Mentor: Mark Freeland, UT/NV)



**Alex Juarez, UT**  
(Mentor: Darcy Johnson, KS)



**Jordyn Garner, UT**  
(Mentor: Crystal Tangsrud, ND)



**Morgan Stadler, SD**  
(Mentor: Korri Risinger, NE)



**Lena Spencer, KS**  
(Mentor: Valerie Curtin, MT)



**Kaitlin Westerhaus, NE**  
(Mentor: Carol Will, MT)



**Ailey Ukkola, UT**  
(Mentor: Shannon Webber, CO)



**Alyssa Blake, SD**  
(Mentor: Melanie Martinez, CO)



**RMASFAA**

# Leadership Pipeline Mentors

- Mentors have just as much to gain from the program as Mentees!
- Volunteer online – [rmasfaa.org](http://rmasfaa.org) → Leadership Pipeline, Mentor Interest Form
- No specific requirements for Mentors in terms of years of experience or job title – most important consideration is willingness to mentor!

The logo for RMASFAA is located in the bottom right corner of the slide. It features the letters 'RMASFAA' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letters are slightly tilted upwards to the right. The background behind the text is a light blue and white graphic of a mountain range.

**RMASFAA**

# 2025-26 Leadership Pipeline Mentors



**Karrie Huber, Chair**



**Mark Freeland**  
(Mentee: Alauna Bates)



**Darcy Johnson**  
(Mentee: Alex Juarez)



**Crystal Tangsrud**  
(Mentee: Jordyn Garner)



**Korri Risinger**  
(Mentee: Morgan Stadler)



**Kelli Engelhardt,  
Vice-Chair**  
(Mentee: Amy Stoltzfus)



**Valerie Curtin**  
(Mentee: Lena Spencer)



**Carol Will**  
(Mentee: Kaitlin  
Westerhaus)



**Shannon Webber**  
(Mentee: Ailey Ukkola)



**Melanie Martinez**  
(Mentee: Alyssa Blake)

**RMASFAA**

# RMASFAA Training

- Webinars
  - OB3 Hot Topics: What We Know & Top AskRegs Questions (April 15, 2026)
- RMASFAA Roundtable Chats and Think Tanks
- Resources page
- FAAC Certification Workshops

*Keep an eye on the blog, listserv, and social media to find out about new resources added each month!*

[https://www.rmasfaa.org/training\\_committee.php](https://www.rmasfaa.org/training_committee.php)



**RMASFAA**

# RMASFAA Sponsored CFAA<sup>®</sup> Preparation

- We can help you get certified at a RMASFAA event!
- Limited capacity of 25 participants per event
- Full-day preparation course
- RMASFAA offers an excellent price of **only \$175** (\$225 for non-RMASFAA members), which includes the exam fee! **Savings valued over \$600!**
- 2026 events in Colorado (5/5), Nebraska (3/18), and Montana (4/1-2)



[https://rmasfaa.org/nasfaa\\_cfaa\\_program.php](https://rmasfaa.org/nasfaa_cfaa_program.php)

**RMASFAA**

# How To Stay Connected



- RMASFAA Exchange Blog: [rmasfaa.wordpress.com](https://rmasfaa.wordpress.com)
  - Always looking for great blog posts and ideas!
- Connect with us socially through our **Instagram** account
- Share employment listings through the **website**
- Explore the membership directory and connect with colleagues
- Utilize the **listserv** and daily digest so you never miss a post

**RMASFAA**

# How To Stay Connected

- With NASFAA Communities via Slack!
- RMASFAA Region has its own channel
- Messaging app on desktop or mobile
- Stay up-to-date with notifications and chat with colleagues across the region!



# State Swap

- Launched in 2023
  - Enhances cross-state collaboration
  - Each state chooses their participant
  - Connect and share!
- Kelcie McBride (NE) → Wyoming
  - **Brittany LaMoreaux (UT) → North Dakota**
  - Carol Will (MT) → Colorado
  - Ginger McBride (KS) → South Dakota
  - **Matt Lukach (ND) → Utah**
  - Sydney Chapman (SD) → Nebraska
  - (WY) → Montana
  - **Melanie Romero (CO) → Kansas**

RMASFAA



# GETTING INVOLVED WITH RMA SFAA

# Volunteer Opportunities - Committees

- Association News
- Conference Planning
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Electronic Initiatives
- Leadership Pipeline
- Membership
- Summer Institute
- Training



**RMASFAA**

# Volunteer Opportunities – Tasks & Duties

- Attending committee meetings
- Sending emails
- Planning activities and events – in person and/or virtual
- Writing blog posts, creating social media content
- Training, presenting, discussing
- Website maintenance and updates
- Representing the perspectives and needs of you and your colleagues



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# Volunteer Opportunities – Commitment

- Time required varies depending on the volunteer role, includes:
  - Very minimal, e.g. 1-2 hours/month
  - As needed, minimal
  - More involved, e.g. 5+ hours/month
  - Significant time commitment throughout the year (e.g. some board positions)
  - Regular time required throughout the year and especially heavy at particular times (e.g. Summer Institute)
- Most opportunities are for 1 year – e.g. serving on a committee, some board positions
- Some opportunities involve a longer commitment – e.g. Vice Chair then Chair of committees, board positions with an “-Elect” year
- More volunteers = better balancing of volunteer workloads!

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# Nominations & Elections



- Nominate your colleagues for leadership opportunities
- Consider running for office or self-nominating!

- President-Elect
- Vice-President Elect
- Treasurer-Elect
- Secretary
- Associate Member Delegate



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# How to Provide Feedback!

- RMASFAA Member Board Request/Feedback Form
- Available under Member Forms section on website
- Can be submitted anonymously (no login required)
- Share your insights, questions, and/or concerns



**RECOGNITION!**

# **RMASFAA Land Acknowledgement**

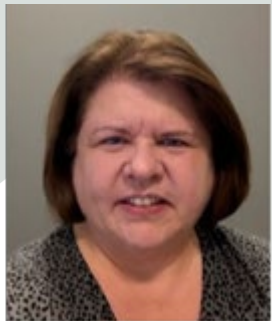
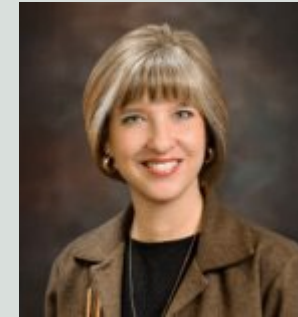
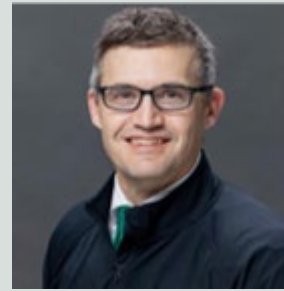
RMASFAA recognizes the Native American ancestral lands that exist within the states of our association. As an association, we commit to ensuring the membership recognizes the original stewards of the land we work and live on, as well as support and advance Native American students and administrators in Higher Education.

**RMASFAA**

# North Dakota Lands

- Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation (North Dakota and South Dakota)
- Spirit Lake Tribe
- Standing Rock Sioux Tribe (North Dakota and South Dakota)
- Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation (MHA Nation)
- Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians of North Dakota

# 2025-26 Board of Directors



**RMASFAA**

# 2025-26 Committee Chairs



**Jeremy McKinley,  
Association News**



**Karrie Huber,  
Leadership Pipeline**



**Matthew Hinze,  
Electronic Initiatives**



**Susan Collins,  
Membership**



**Susan Stephenson,  
Training**



**Daisha Holmes,  
Strategic Long-Range  
Plan Implementation**



**Crystal Tangsrud,  
Conference**



**Kelsey Walters,  
Conference**



**Chico Dimas,  
Diversity, Equity, &  
Inclusion**



**Brittany LaMoreaux,  
Summer Institute**

**RMASFAA**

# Thank you to our Associate Members!



# RMASFAA

## Thank You North Dakota!

Thank you for your engagement, for your contributions to RMASFAA,  
and for the amazing work you do for our students!

