

WHAT FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS DO

Student aid provides billions of dollars nationally for students to pursue postsecondary education in the form of grants, loans, and student employment. Financial aid administrators help students achieve their educational potential by helping award and disburse monetary resources. The typical financial aid administrator wears many hats and is a rich resource for the institution. What can they do for you?

FOR STUDENTS & FAMILIES

Know what aid is available, who qualifies for aid, how aid is equitably distributed, and the renewal requirements for subsequent years

Help students file applications accurately and verify their eligibility for aid

Assist students on a personal level by fostering financial literacy and debt management, and by mitigating unusual circumstances that might otherwise hinder a student's academic progress

Advocate for streamlining and simplifying the aid application process and for policies that ensure the federal financial aid programs are structured and implemented in a way to promote postsecondary access and success.

FOR THE INSTITUTION

Help enroll and retain students; many students could not attend or remain in school without financial assistance

Facilitate receipt of financial aid to help students meet institutional costs

Manage student employment; on-campus jobs help support academic departments, libraries, food service, and other facets of institutional operations

Ensure compliance with voluminous and detailed federal, state, and local statute and regulations, and often coordinate campuswide compliance

Maintain membership and participate in professional associations, such as NASFAA, which provides opportunities for advocacy and professional development

FOR THE COMMUNITY

Connect student employees with community service opportunities, literacy projects, and local businesses

Act as a resource for high school counselors and community-based college access programs and initiatives

Speak at college nights or other events to explain budgeting, financial literacy, and financing an education beyond high school

Serve as a resource for adults who may have an interest in attending or completing college

FOR POLICYMAKERS & STAFF

Offer feedback from an institutional perspective on student aid legislation and proposals

Provide financial aid success stories of students from your state or district

Explain the financial aid needs and challenges of students in your state or district

Supply statistics detailing the amount of aid that benefits students from your state or district

Illustrate how compliance with certain existing and proposed statutes can hinder opportunities to assist and counsel students



NASFAA

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS

WHAT NASFAA DOES

The National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) provides professional development 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. To foster relationships between federal policymakers and the approximately 3,000 postsecondary schools we represent, we offer a number of helpful resources.

RESOURCES WE CAN PROVIDE TO YOU:

- NASFAA's Higher Education Act (HEA) Reauthorization Positions: Recommendations to modernize the HEA so that it meets the needs of today's students and institutions. https://www.nasfaa.org/hea_positions
- NASFAA's Coronavirus (COVID-19) Web Center: Created to keep NASFAA members and the financial aid community updated on pertinent news related to the coronavirus. <https://www.nasfaa.org/covid19>
- NASFAA's Legislative Tracker: Provides a comprehensive look at legislation introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives and in the U.S. Senate during this session of Congress. http://www.nasfaa.org/legislative_tracker
- NASFAA's Original Research: Research and grant projects done in collaboration with other stakeholders to address pertinent issues in higher education. https://www.nasfaa.org/Student_Financial_Aid_Research_Project_Highlights
- NASFAA's "Off The Cuff" Podcast: Provides listeners with an unscripted view of hot financial aid and higher education-related topics. http://www.nasfaa.org/off_the_cuff
- NASFAA Issue Briefs: Focused on timely federal student aid policy issues, issue briefs provide background and recommendations for lawmakers. http://www.nasfaa.org/nasfaa_issue_briefs
- NASFAA's National Profile: Updated annually, provides detailed information about each of the programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA). <http://www.nasfaa.org/profile>
- NASFAA's National Conference: Offers training and opportunities to hear directly from financial aid administrators. <http://www.nasfaa.org/conference>
- NASFAA's Advocacy Pipeline: Connects financial aid administrators with congressional representatives and staff. http://www.nasfaa.org/advocacy_pipeline
- Financial aid information and training resources for students, parents and college counselors. http://www.nasfaa.org/students_parents_counselors
- Testimony and positions on current higher education funding issues. http://www.nasfaa.org/NASFAA_on_the_record
- Policy task force and working group reports exploring specific issues of concern to both lawmakers and NASFAA's membership. http://www.nasfaa.org/policy_task_forces
- Student Aid Reference Desk: Resources relating to the administration of student aid programs, federal regulation, legislative text, U.S. Department of Education guidance, as well as interpretation & analysis from policy organizations, institutions, researchers, and groups focused on student access and success in higher education. <https://www.studentaidrefdesk.org/>

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