



2021 Summer Financial Aid Training

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Agenda

9:00 – 9:10 ***Welcome and fun stuff***

9:10 – 9:40 ***What You Need to Know About FAFSA Simplification***

The FAFSA is always changing! Some recent FAFSA changes are immediate, while others won't be implemented for a bit. In this session, we'll review the immediate updates, as well as highlight a few of the most significant future changes. The multiple ways in which Pell Grant eligibility will be determined is one of the most substantial changes, so we'll focus on those pathways, and then touch on the other changes that will impact students the most. Early knowledge of these updates will help with planning so that the benefits of FAFSA simplification can be maximized.

9:45 – 10:15 ***COVID-19 Student Loan Waivers Are Ending - What Borrowers Need to Know***

The significant disruption to work, school, and health caused by the COVID-19 pandemic created a whole new set of challenges for student loan borrowers. COVID-19-related relief—including the temporary suspension of loan payments and collections for most borrowers—is coming to an end. As a result, many student loan borrowers will need to take action. In this session we'll cover what students need to know about their repayment options and how to access them, as well as Public Service Loan Forgiveness best practices to help ensure that eligible students receive this forgiveness.

10:30 – 11:30 ***Supporting Students with Unique Challenges***

In this two-part session, we'll first review some of the unique challenges that students face when applying for financial aid and share general information to guide these students. Challenges to be discussed will include those with special circumstances (homelessness, legal guardianship, foster care, etc.), ineligibility for federal financial aid, parents unwilling to provide info on the FAFSA, and parents who don't have an SSN. In part two, we'll move to break out rooms for deeper discussions including ways to support and offer options to students as they navigate the financial aid process.

11:30 – 12:00 ***FAME Updates and wrap up***

We'll wrap up the training with updates from FAME, including the extension of the Maine State Grant deadline, plans for the fall, and resources to support you and your students. And of course, there will be some prizes so we hope you'll be able to join us for the entire three hours ☺!