



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE 2019-2020

FINANCIAL AID ADVISING FOR STUDENT POSTSECONDARY SUCCESS

**Friday, September 13, 2019
East Academic Building 253
Webster University**

AGENDA

8:00 am Coffee, Light Breakfast and Conversation

8:30 am Welcome/Introductions

- Beth Bender, Associate Superintendent, College and Career Readiness, St. Louis Public Schools and Chair, St. Louis Graduates Professional Development Committee
- James Myers, Associate VP for Enrollment Management and Director of Financial Aid, Webster University
- Kayla Klein, Financial Aid Advisor, University of Missouri, Columbia and Chair, MASFAP Early Awareness Committee

8:45 am Components of Financial Aid

9:15 am FAFSA Overview and What Happens Next

We will run through the FAFSA in this session so you know how to approach common questions when helping students and families complete the FAFSA, and effectively support students after filing.

What comes next could include verification, special circumstances, additional paperwork, and other communication. The already complicated application process is further complicated by 30 percent of all completed FAFSA applications being selected for verification. Nearly 98% of those flagged come from a low-income household. Moreover, National College Access Network (NCAN) analyses of U.S. Education Department data suggest that not only do underrepresented students comprise virtually the entire verification pool, but 1 in 2 low-income students are affected.

Presenter: Teresa Steinkamp, Advising Director, The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis

9:45 am Financial Aid Packages: Interpreting and Comparing Financial Aid Awards-Offers

Not all offers are equal... we'll review offers from several institutions with financial aid officers and share insights from veteran counselors on how they advise students and families around financial fit.

Moderator: *Beth Bender, Associate Superintendent, College and Career Readiness, St. Louis Public Schools and Chair, St. Louis Graduates*

Presenters:

- James E. Green, Director of Financial Assistance/ Federal Work-Study, Harris Stowe State University
- Samantha Matchefts, Senior Associate Director of Financial Aid, UMSL

- Kayla Klein, Financial Aid Advisor, University of Missouri, Columbia and Chair, MASFAP Early Awareness Committee
- Alex Miller, Director of Financial Aid, Stephens College
- Jessica Key, Assistant Director of Financial Aid, Webster University
- Valerie Totso, Scholarship & Financial Aid Coordinator, Ranken Technical College

11:00 Break

11:15 am Funding and Financial Assistance: Loans and Scholarships

College counselors can fulfill a critical role to ensure that students can afford their postsecondary education without burdening their future with unmanageable debt. We will discuss strategies to help students access available scholarships and loans.

Presenters:

- Melissa Findley, Executive Director, Missouri Scholarship & Loan Foundation, MASFAP
- Ellen Vietor, Scholarship Central Manager, St. Louis Graduates
- Valerie Jensen, Assistant Director of Student Financial Services, Washington University

11:45 am Networking Lunch

12:20 pm Presentation: Updates, Tools and Resources from the Missouri Department of Higher Education (MDHEWD)

Learn more about MDHE's new initiatives and resources including the FAFSA Completion project, Journey to College programs and online tools, and the Department's recent reorganization.

Presenter: Ashley Heidbreder, Program Coordinator, MDHEWD

12:50 pm Closing Remarks, Evaluation and Adjournment to Optional FAFSA Workshop

FAFSA WORKSHOP

Delivered as a train-the-trainer session, this workshop provides a deep-dive into skills and resources for counselors seeking to learn more about changes to the FAFSA and strategies to support students and families navigating the application, documentation, and verification processes.

Presenters:

Valerie Jensen, Assistant Director of Student Financial Services, Washington University
 Alex Miller, Director of Financial Aid, Stephens College

1:00 – 1:45 FAFSA Completion

1:45 – 2:15 Test Your Knowledge – Case Studies & Q&A

Present questions and walk through common and complex pracsituations with discussion of tips and resources for addressing challenges (e.g. returning students, financially and ethically complex family situations, private scholarships, transfers, etc.)