

September 25, 2020

Notes from 2020 MASFAP and St. Louis Graduates Professional Development Institute for High School Counselors & Access Adviser

FINANCIAL AID CONSIDERATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCE & SUPPORTING STUDENTS IMPACTED BY COVID-19

Presented by Becca Diskin and Buddy Mayfield 91 Attendees

Kayla Klein welcomed everyone and went over the agenda and then some housekeeping information. Deep breathing exercise took place then breakout rooms took place so the attendees could introduce themselves to their group.

The presentation started and Becca and Buddy introduced themselves to the group. They then went over feedback they received from counselors when who registered for this event on how comfortable they felt in giving financial aid information to students and families. They also covered some of the questions that have been asked on special circumstances. (See PPT)

Becca and Buddy went over the agenda and what they would be covering today:

- Less common independent student criteria
- Determining the FASFA parent
- Dependency overrides
- Income changes
- Covid updates

See video for their presentation.

Ashley Richardson from Webster University had the following question: Are other schools giving more lenience to counselors to make decisions for students (on behalf of students) or is the thinking more towards the directors to ensure consistency?

Buddy answered that at Northwest MO State University they tried something new and took funds from their need based scholarship account and gave to each of his counselors to distribute as they saw fit. Kayla also said that each school does this differently based on the structure of their school and the funding available.

Buddy mentioned that Northwest MO State University has given him the authority to travel 60 miles to do High School Financial Aid Nights. Unfortunately at this time he cannot travel any further.

Kayla thanked everyone for attending today's session and encouraged everyone to follow St Louis Graduates and MASFAP on twitter. She then went over information on recourses and contact information.