THE FAFSA BOOTCAMP SERIES

FAFSA 201: After the FAFSA

11/9/2023

Today's Agenda

FAFSA Submission Summary

Next Steps

- Choose school(s) to proceed with admission and enrollment requirements
- Become familiar with each selected school's Student Portal
- Complete all to-do items in Student Portal
 - Resolve any noted conflicting information
 - Complete verification if selected
 - Complete other forms as required
- Review financial aid offer notices
 - Accept, decline, defer, appeal

The FAFSA Submission Summary (formerly Student Aid Report)

FAFSA Submission Summary

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NEXT STEPS: Choosing Schools

- FAFSA is only the first step
- Even if schools receive FAFSA results to determine student eligibility....
 - Student must follow through on admission and enrollment requirements for school(s) they are seriously considering
 - Financial aid offers may be delayed until requirements are met
 - The FAFSA does not award or disburse aid the college or university performs that function
 - FAFSA formula determines general eligibility and is standard
 - Financial aid awards are based on this eligibility but may vary by school, program of study, financial aid programs offered

Next Steps: Reviewing Student Portal(s)

- Students should be able to review their Student Portal for any school to which they have been admitted
- Student Portal sections typically include:
 - Admissions status and to-do items
 - Academics (course registration, grades, etc.)
 - Bursar's account (what is owed directly to the school)
 - Financial aid offers and to-do items
 - Room and board status

Next Steps: Completing To-Do Items

- To-Do examples
 - Final, official transcripts
 - Vaccination records
 - Housing plans
 - Resolve conflicting information
 - Complete required financial aid verification if selected

Next Steps: IF Selected for Verification

- 2024/25 Federal Verification Requirements
 - IRS Direct Data Exchange satisfies income verification requirements
 - If federal tax return(s) not found by IRS, FAFSA contributors must report and document income on verification worksheet provided by college
 - If no adjustment to family size was made from pre-calculated number on FAFSA, no further verification is needed; otherwise, must document family members on verification worksheet
 - Other verification selection MAY require additional identity verification
 - No disbursement of federal financial aid funds can be made until verification is complete for those selected in FSA process
 - Verification, if selected, applies to all schools, although students should respond only to schools they are seriously considering to avoid a lot of duplicative work

Next Steps: Weighing financing options/ comparing Financial Aid Letters

• Financial Aid Letter

- School's offer of federal, institutional, and other financial aid for one academic year (e.g. two semesters)
- May be updated periodically
- Final "awards" will not be made until student is admitted, and sometimes even registered for classes
- Financial Aid Letters often look different very little standard
- Even the names of these letters can be different
 - Financial Aid Offers
 - Financial aid Award Letter
 - Financial Aid Package

Next Steps: Financial Aid Letters

- Financial Aid Letters should contain at least this information:
 - Annual Cost of Attendance (COA) detailed by
 - Tuition & fees
 - Books, supplies, and equipment
 - Room and board (on campus, off campus, with parents)
 - Transportation
 - Miscellaneous personal expenses
 - Clearly defined "net price" to students
 - Annual cost of attendance "gift aid" = net price student is expected to pay with "self-help aid" or own funds
 - All schools which participate in federal financial aid must have a "net price calculator/estimator" on their web sites

Next Steps: Financial aid categories

- Financial Aid Letters should contain at least this information:
 - Clearly defined "gift aid"
 - Grants and scholarships that do not have to be repaid and should always be accepted!
 - Often renewable
 - Clearly defined self-help aid
 - Federal or private student loans
 - Federal Work-Study
 - Self-help = aid that must be borrowed or earned/student is helping themselves
 - Self-help aid can be declined or accepted in part if student can meet costs In another way; if declined, student should not expect replacement with gift aid

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SAMPLE UNIVERSITY

Total Awards Offered

Training Rollout

• **Nov 16th** FAFSA Data: Using student-level FAFSA data.

FAFSA Kick-Off & AzCAN Launch: ASU West Campus, December 1st 8:30 am-1pm



Advanced Topics or expanded Q & A

I think we might just want to do an expanded Q & A here since this is the last of the series before your data session.



Q&A Session

Resources

- <u>https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-</u> <u>center/topics/fafsa-simplification-information/2024-</u> <u>25-fafsa-roadmap</u>
- <u>https://www.nasfaa.org/fafsa_simplification</u>
- <u>https://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/Legislati</u> ve Changes to Federal Methodology Pell Program 2021.pdf

Contact Information

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THANK YOU!