



Higher Education Services Corporation



Annual High School Counselor Workshop
*Co-sponsored by New York State Higher Education Services Corporation and
New York State Financial Aid Administrator's Association*
SUNY Plattsburgh
Angell College Center- Alumni Room
Tuesday, November 10, 2015

New York State Higher Education Services Corporation (HESC) is the state student financial aid agency that helps students and their families pay for college. HESC administers the State's Federal College Access Challenge Grant (CACG). CACG funds are aimed at increasing the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. This professional development training is supported by a CACG grant and jointly hosted by HESC and NYSFAAA.

New York State Financial Aid Administrators Association (NYSFAAA) is a charitable volunteer association of financial aid professionals advocating for, and promoting equal access to post secondary education for all students.

Agenda

8:30am - 9:00am **Registration and Full Breakfast Buffet**

9:00am - 9:05am **Welcome and Introductions**

9:05am - 10:15am **State and Federal Updates**

Learn what changes are expected to federal and state financial aid programs for the 2016-2017 award year. Get information on the recently created NYS Achievement and Investment in Merit Scholarship (NY-AIMS) and see what changes to anticipate to the 2016-2017 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) including the new FSA ID which provides access to Federal Student Aid's online system and serves as a legal signature for the FAFSA.

10:15am - 10:30am **Break**

10:30am - 11:00am **Helpful Website to Guide Students through the Financial Aid Process**

Do you have students at risk of not attending college because they are not getting the right information on how to pay for college? Do you have parents who struggle to make it to financial aid nights? This session will provide helpful websites that students and families can use to assist them with the financial aid process. You'll learn how to help your students apply for student financial aid, next steps after your student applies, and much more. This session will provide you with helpful resources that will ensure your college bound students take the important step toward success.

11:00am - 11:45am **HEOP/EOP/Additional Access Programs**

There are a number of special programs designed to improve access and retention of low-income and educationally disadvantaged students. In addition to financial support these programs offer academic support services. Most colleges have dedicated staff that work with this population. Learn more about these programs, how students apply and the benefits offered.

11:45am - 12:45pm **Special Circumstances and Financial Aid**

Learn how to advise students and families that don't fit into the usual financial aid circumstances. Undocumented students, homeless students, youth in care, and same-sex parents all have options under federal and state financial aid programs. Make sure you are providing meaningful guidance and know where to find additional support and answers for these populations.

12:45pm **Ask the Experts and Closing Remarks**

Financial aid experts will be available for any additional questions. Thank you for participating in today's professional development workshop.