

Programs & Policies Track

Financial Aid PASSWORD

Presenter: Karen Ash, Director of Financial Aid and Veterans, Linn-Benton Community College

Description: This session will model the gameshow PASSWORD. Two teams of two individuals, one being a 'celebrity' or in our case, a very seasoned FAA (maybe our OASFAA President?) and the other a random conference attendee. Utilizing the FSA Handbook Glossary, terms are selected as the secret password. The password is then shared with the audience and with one member of the two teams. The team member with the password attempts to describe the password with one word and they can not use the password. The other team member attempts to guess the password. If one team fails at the attempt, the other team is provided the opportunity to guess the password. Teams take turns attempting to guess the password with a limit of 9 attempts. If a team guesses the password with the number of attempts, that team earns points. The team with the most points at the end of the session wins.

Army Federal Tuition Assistance & ArmyIgnitED

Presenter: Ann Browning, Education Services Specialist, Oregon Army National Guard

Description: Learn more about the Army Federal Tuition Assistance Program (Fed TA), a military education benefit for Soldiers in the Active Army, Army National Guard and US Army Reserves. The platform changes from GoArmyEd to ArmyIgnitED in 2021 – learn more about how the process works for BOTH the Soldiers and the Education Institute.

OSAC Update

Presenters: Shannon Donovan Johns, Deputy Director, OSAC
Kyra King, Grant Administrator, HECC/OSAC
Erin Rau, Operations and Policy Analyst, HECC/OSAC
Bob Small, Operations and Policy Analyst, HECC/OSAC
Michelle Slay, Grant Administrator, HECC/OSAC
Anne Shearer, Grant Administrator, HECC/OSAC

Description: OSAC staff will cover key administrative, policy and operational changes pertaining to large and small programs such as the Oregon Opportunity Grant, Oregon Promise, Chafee and others. OSAC's efforts on FAFASA/ORSAA completion, the transformation of the FAMIS system, and any potential changes from the 2022 Legislative session. This is an opportunity to learn about the details behind various transformations, and ask questions.

Preparing for the End of the COVID-19 Forbearance and Avoiding a CDR Disaster

Presenter: Greg Kerr, School Relations Director, ECMC

Description: As we move back into repayment, how prepared are you to answer questions from your students and administration? How prepared are your students to enter repayment? So much information is distributed in the news and on social media, it's confusing. In addition, what can you expect from your cohort default rate? In this session, we will break down these talking points with the goal of leaving you better informed to assist your institution and students.

Oregon Promise Grant – Myth Busting and Legislative Updates

Presenters: Kyra King and Anne Shearer, State Grant Administrators, OSAC – Office of Student Access and Completion

Description: Join professionals from state and campus levels as we delve into common myths about the Oregon Promise Grant. Learn more about student eligibility, deadlines, waivers, and what the Oregon Promise Grant “is not”. Our journey will continue to visit recent riveting changes to the grant along with a rousing Q&A.

Uniquely Odd Sites along the Oregon Opportunity Grant Roadmap

Presenter: Erin Rau, Operations and Policy Analyst, Office of Student Access and Completion- HECC

Description: Going beyond the Oregon Opportunity Grant typical awarding processes, we go over some of the nuances and intricacies around special populations including:

- Late disbursements and awarding
- Members of Federally Recognized Tribes of Oregon
- Tuition Equity students
- COFA Islanders, Refugees, and Special Immigrant Visa Holders
- Incarcerated Students

Internal and External Threats Facing Title IV Institutions

Presenter: Adam Shanedling, Special Agent in Charge, US Department of Education Office of Inspector General

Description: Special agents from the Office of Inspector General (OIG) will discuss internal and external financial aid fraud and cyber security threats currently facing institutions of higher education. The presenters will discuss real case examples of these threats, and how OIG's investigative mission to combat fraud and abuse in federal student aid programs can help your organization safeguard those programs by identifying and detecting fraud. The presenters will illustrate complex and common fraud schemes, brief you on indicators that can help you detect internal and external fraud, discuss the criminal and civil remedies sought by the OIG, and inform you concerning how to report potential fraud to the OIG. A question-and-answer period is planned as part of this presentation.

Road Map to ONGSTA Updates

Presenter: Bob Small, Policy Advisor/Oregon National Guard State Tuition Assistance (ONGSTA) Program Administrator, HECC/Office of Student Access and Completion

Description: This will provide an overview and update on the awarding changes to the ONGSTA program for Institution Financial Aid and Veteran Services staff.

Federal Session: Professional Judgement

Presenter: Virginia Hagins, Training Officer, Federal Student Aid

Description: This session will provide an overview of the statutory ability to make case-by-case adjustments based on special circumstances, commonly known as professional judgment (PJ). The session will include information on the use of PJ during the declaration of a national emergency related to COVID-19.

Federal Session: Return of Title IV (R2T4) Essentials

Presenter: Virginia Hagins, Training Officer, Federal Student Aid

Description: Whether you are new to R2T4 or have performed calculations for years, if you are interested in the R2T4 process, this session is for you. This presentation will discuss key definitions, provide a high-level overview of the actual R2T4 steps, and address important concepts and time frames that take place throughout the R2T4 calculation. Topics to be covered include withdrawal dates, dates of determination, post-withdrawal disbursements, and grant overpayments. This session will also address some of the most popular R2T4 topics, including modules, institutional charges, aid that could have been disbursed, and more!

Federal Session: Verification 2021-22 and 2022-23

Presenter: Virginia Hagins, Training Officer, Federal Student Aid

Description: This session will include a discussion of the verification requirements for the 2022–23 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) cycle and review verification issues related to the 2021–22 FAFSA cycle. We will discuss acceptable documentation for the various verification groups as well as guidance on items such as Verification of Non-Filing and amended returns.