#### National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators Presents ...

# What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

Dan Robinson
Pace University
Campus Director - Pleasantville



### Topics We Will Discuss

- Cost of attendance (COA)
- Student aid index (SAI)
- Financial need
- Categories, types, and sources of financial aid
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)
- New York State Aid
- CSS Profile
- Special and unusual circumstances
- Award Package



# What Is Cost of Attendance (COA)?



Tuition and fees – Direct Expense



Housing and food – Direct Expenses



Books and supplies - Indirect Expenses



Transportation – Indirect Expense



Miscellaneous and personal – Indirect



# What Is the new Student Aid Index (SAI)?

Number resulting from the evaluation of a student's (and family's) approximate financial resources for a student's postsecondary education

Student contribution

Parent contribution

(for dependent students)



#### What Is Financial Need?

Cost of attendance (COA)

- Student aid index (SAI)
- = Financial need

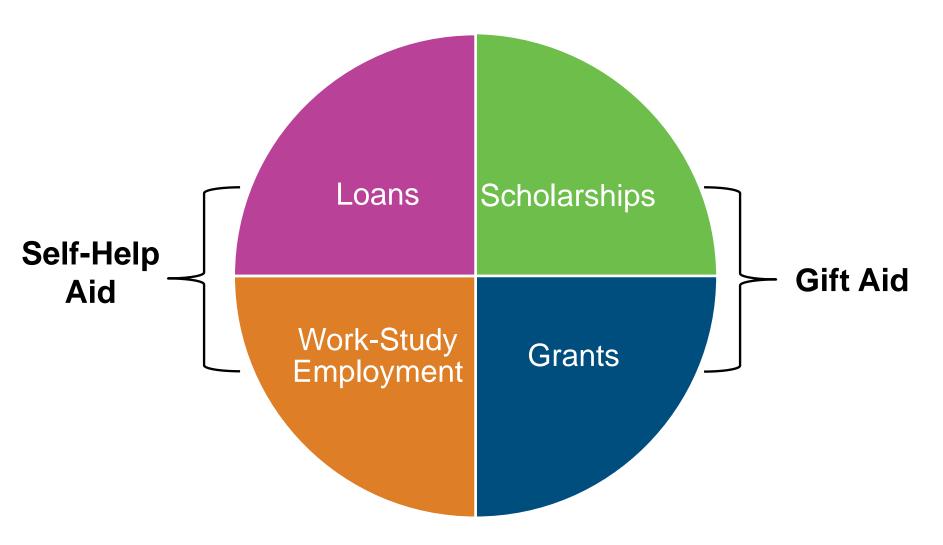


# Samples Of Financial Need

	Community College	State School	Private College
COA	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
- SAI	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
= Need	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 70,000.00

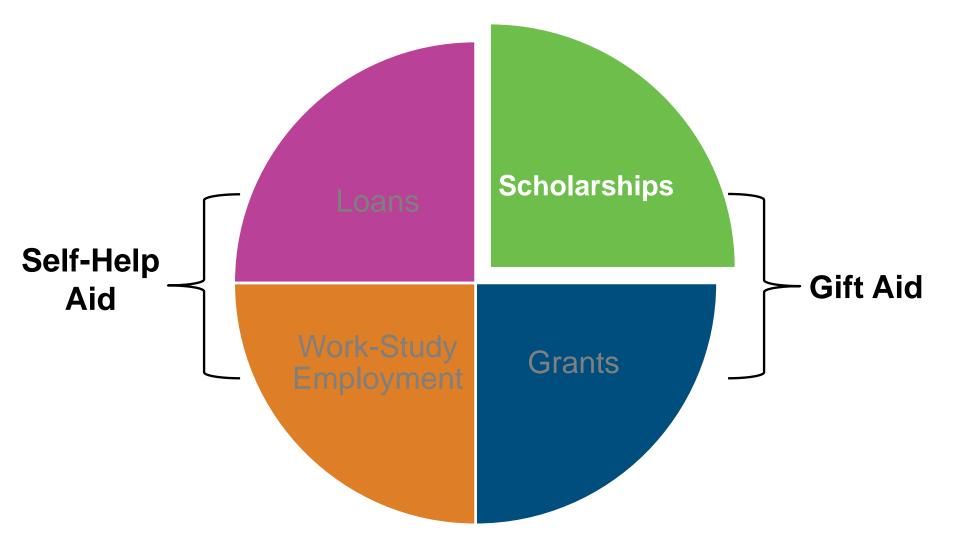


# Types of Financial Aid



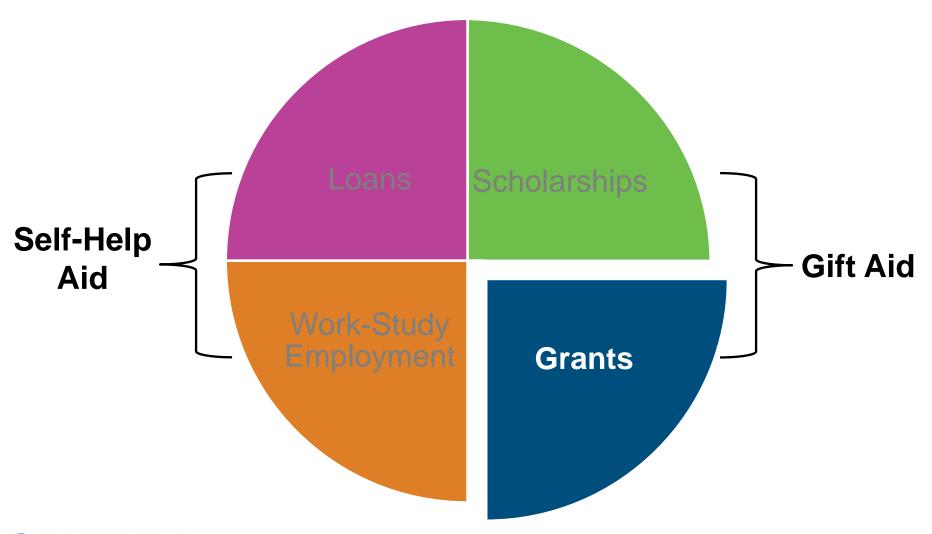


# Scholarships



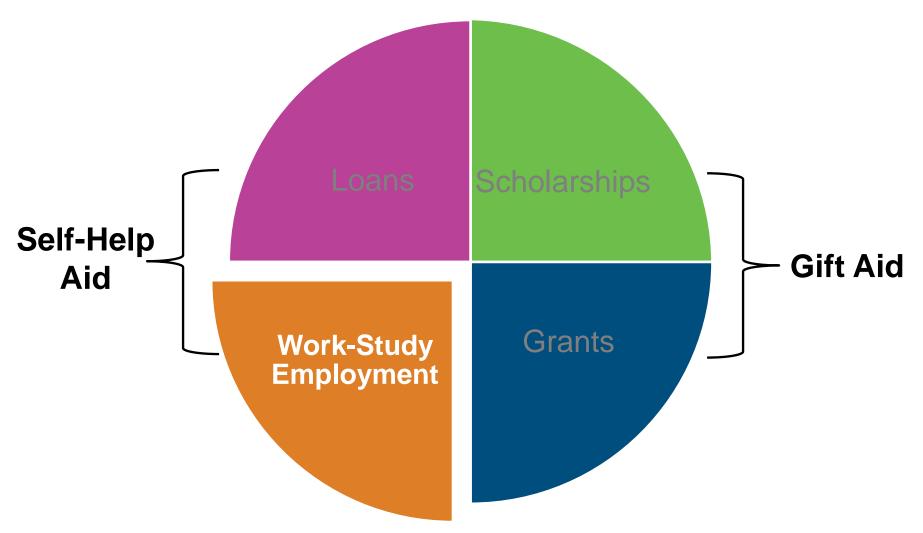


#### **Grants**



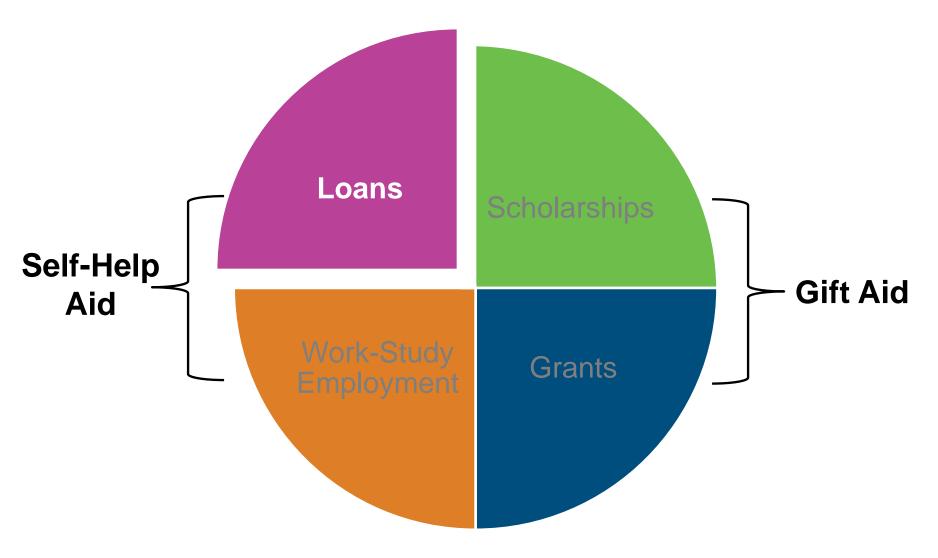


# Work-Study Employment



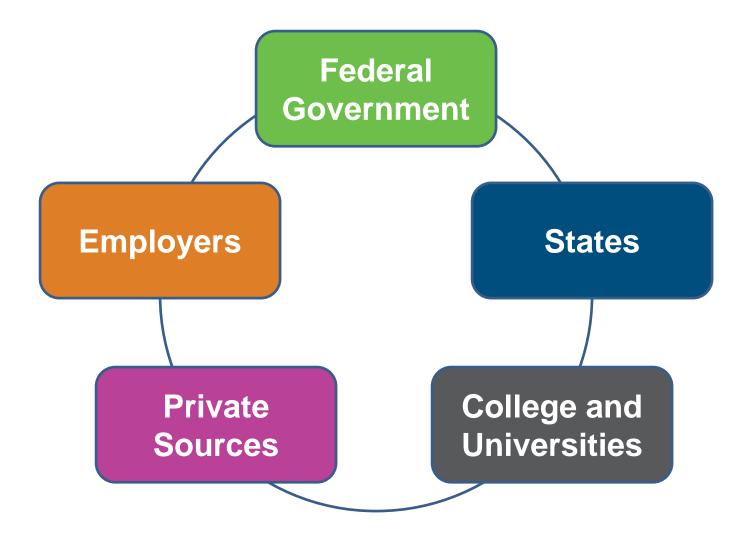


#### Loans





#### Sources of Financial Aid





# Federal Student Aid Programs

Federal Pell Grant

Federal Supplemental
Educational
Opportunity Grant
(FSEOG)

Teacher Education
Assistance for College
and Higher Education
(TEACH) Grant

Federal Work-Study (FWS)

Federal Direct Student Loans (Direct Loans)

Federal PLUS Loans



#### **States**

Residency requirements usually apply

Aid may be provided based on both merit and need

Use information from the FAFSA and/or state aid applications

Deadlines vary by state



# Colleges and Universities

Aid provided based on both merit and financial need

Aid may be gift aid or self-help aid

Use information from the FAFSA and/or institutional applications

Deadlines and application requirements vary by institution



#### **Private Sources**

Foundations, businesses, churches, civic, and charitable organizations

Deadlines and applications procedures vary

Begin researching private sources early



# **Employers**

May have scholarships available to the children of employees

May have educational benefits for their employees



#### Federal Student Aid Estimator

- Early estimation regarding SAI and possible Title IV aid available
- Requires
   demographic,
   income, and asset
   information



https://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator



# Account Username and Password (FSA ID)

- Used for FAFSA completion and access to certain U.S.
   Department of Education websites
- Student and parent must create own FSA ID
- May be used throughout financial aid process, including subsequent school years
- Only the owner should create an FSA ID

#### Create an Account

Whether you're a student, parent, or borrower, you'll need to create your own account to manage the student loan journey.

**Get Started** 

Already have an account? Log In

#### What You Can Use Your Account For

- Filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form
- Signing your Master Promissory Note (MPN)
- · Applying for repayment plans
- · Completing loan counseling
- Using the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Help Tool

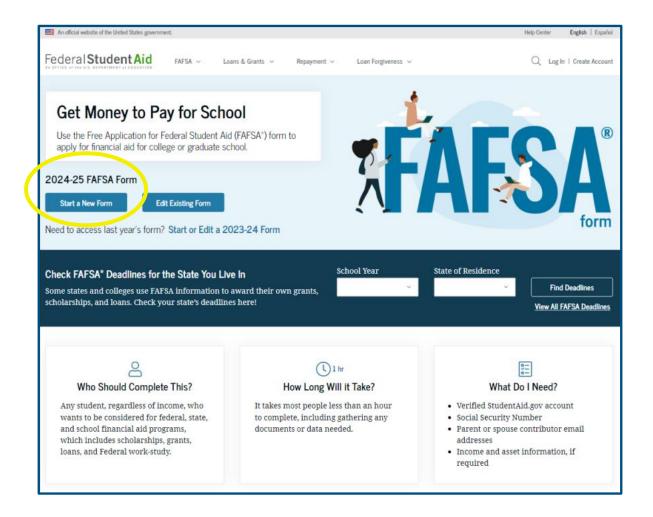
#### What You'll Need

- Social Security number
- Your own mobile phone number and/or email address



Apply at https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch

#### Online FAFSA



Note: Online FAFSA screenshots from U.S. Department of Education's 2024-25 FAFSA Form Preview Presentation, July 2023



# Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)

- Collects demographic and financial information
- Information used to calculate the student aid index (SAI)
- Colleges use SAI to offer financial aid
- Available in English and Spanish



# Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)

- May be filed at any time during an academic year, but typically no earlier than October 1<sup>st</sup> prior to the academic year for which the student requests aid
- For the 2024-25 academic year, the FAFSA may be filed starting in December 2023 (exact date to be determined)
- Colleges may set FAFSA priority dates



# FUTURE Act Direct Data Exchange (FA-DDX)

- Allows for an individual's federal tax information (FTI) to be directly transferred from the IRS to the FAFSA
- Consent is required by all contributors on FAFSA
- IRS transfers information to populate FAFSA income questions for most tax filers
- Eliminates manual entry of tax and income information



### Student Information

- Identity and contact information
- Consent for FTI transfer from IRS
- Marital status
- College plans
- Personal and unusual circumstances

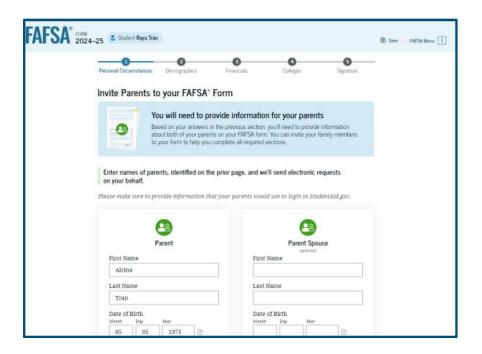


#### **Unusual Circumstances**

- Conditions that justify an institution making an adjustment to a student's dependency status
- Student does not provide parental data on FAFSA
  - Considered provisionally independent
- Student follows institution's process for dependency override determination



#### Student Invites Parents to FAFSA



 Student provides personal information about parents to invite them to complete parent portion of the FAFSA



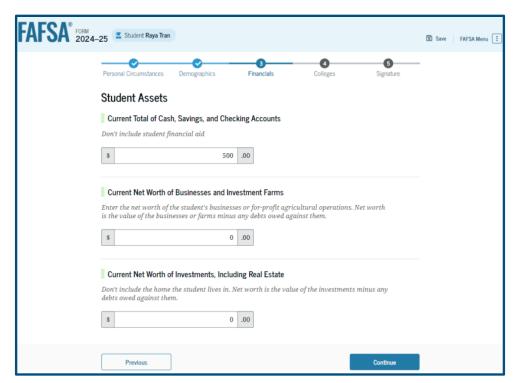
#### Student Information

- Demographic information
- Citizenship status
- Parents' education status
- Parent killed in line of duty
- High school information



#### Student Financial Information

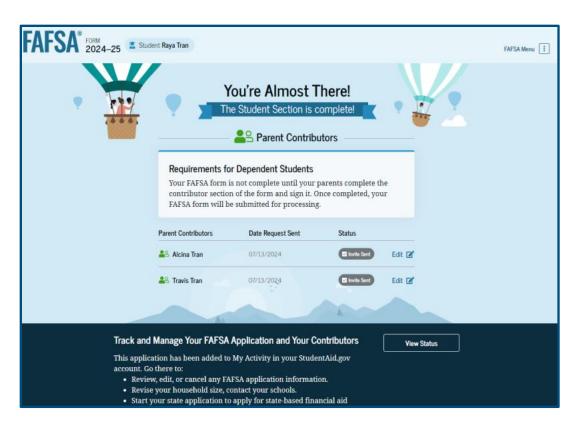
- Tax return information
  - Minimal questions if FTI transferred from IRS
- Asset information





# Student Section Completion

- College selection
- Review of information
- Signature





#### Parent Invitation

- Email invitation to complete parent portion of student's FAFSA
- Parents must use FSA ID to access FAFSA





#### Parent Information

- Identity and contact information
- Consent for FTI transfer from IRS
- Marital status
- State of legal residence



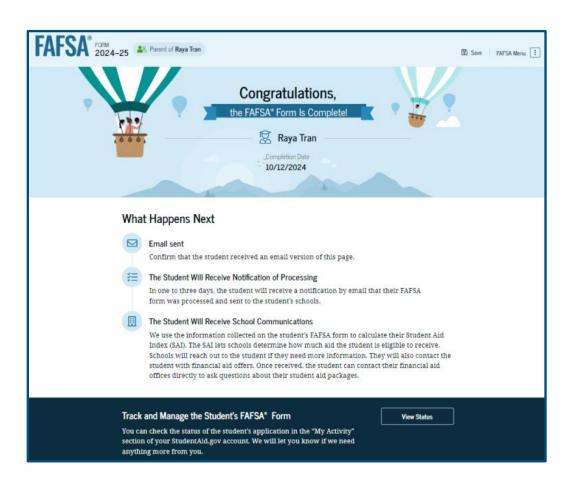
#### Parent Financial Information

- Receipt of means-tested federal benefits in the previous two years
- Tax filing status
- Family size and number in college
- Tax return information
  - Minimal questions if FTI transferred from IRS
- Assets
- Other parent information



# Parent Section Completion

- Review of information
- Signature and submission of FAFSA





#### Other Considerations

- If independent student is married, spouse information is required as well
- Consent to transfer FTI from the IRS is required for ALL contributors
  - Including student, student's spouse (if applicable), parent, and other parent (if applicable)
- Students, parents may start, complete, and submit a FAFSA



# Who Is Included in Family Size?

### Dependent Filers

- Student
- Parent (and spouse)
- Parent's dependent children, even if they live apart from the parent because of college enrollment\*
- Other people if they live with the parent\*

### Independent Filers

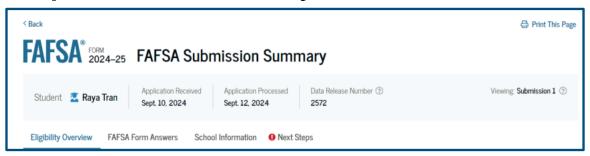
- Student (and spouse)
- Student's dependent children, even if they live apart from the student because of college enrollment\*
- Other people if they live with the student\*



\* Included only if providing more than half of their support between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025

# FAFSA Submission Summary

- Four sections:
  - Eligibility Overview
  - FAFSA Form Answers
  - School Information
  - Next Steps
- Ability to print summary



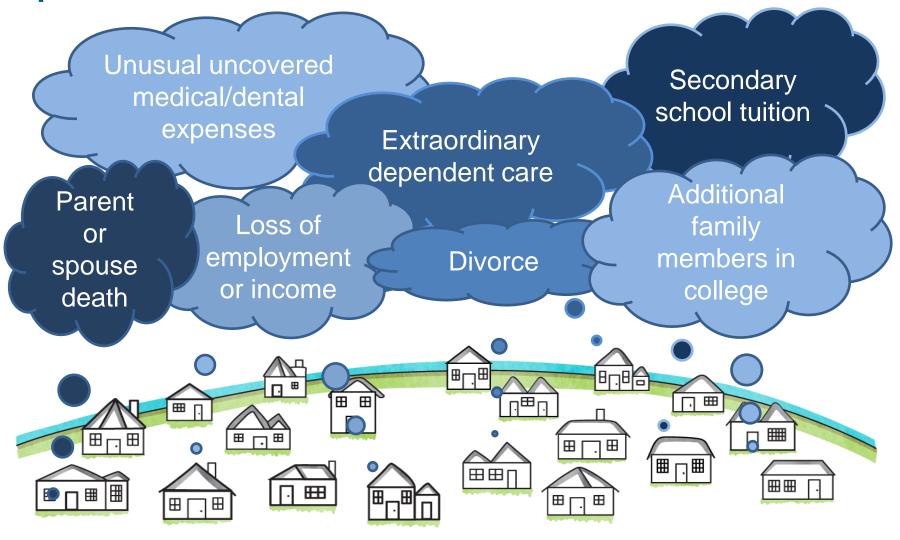


### Special Circumstances

- Different than unusual circumstances (dependency overrides)
- Unique conditions exist that cannot be documented with the FAFSA, or circumstances have changed since filing
- Student should contact institution's financial aid office for more information
- Decisions are final and cannot be appealed to U.S. Department of Education



### Special Circumstances





# NYS Student Aid Eligibility Requirements

#### ★ Students must:

- Be New York State residents for at least 1 year
- If dependent, parents must also be NYS residents
- Attend and be matriculated at an eligible college in New York State
- Meet other eligibility criteria for specific programs



# NYS Student Aid Programs

- ★ Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)
  - ■Must File FAFSA
  - Undergraduates
  - Need-based, up to \$5,665/year
  - □ Full-time and part-time study in NYS
  - ■Based on NYS net taxable income (must be below \$80,000)



## NYS Student Aid Programs

- Excelsior Scholarship
  - Provides full-tuition only coverage at <u>SUNY/CUNY schools only</u>
    - Income needs to be less than \$125,000
    - Can be used for Associates or Bachelors
    - Must meet annual completion requirements
    - Post award residency and employment requirements
      - If requirements not met, converts to interest-free loan



## NYS Student Aid Programs

- Enhanced Tuition Award (ETA)
  - Tuition matching award for Private Colleges and Universities
    - Income needs to be less than \$125,000
    - Maximum award is \$6,000 minus other NYS aid
      - For tuition charges only
      - NYS pays half, school pays half
    - Can be used for Associates or Bachelors
    - Must meet annual completion requirements
    - Schools have option to opt-in each year
    - Post award residency and employment requirements
      - If requirements not met, converts to interest-free loan



## Other NYS Student Aid Programs

#### ★ NYS STEM Incentive Program

- Provides full SUNY tuition scholarship at SUNY/CUNY colleges
- Must be ranked in top 10% of class
- For undergraduate programs leading to a degree in Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics
- Must execute service agreement
- Apply online at hesc.ny.gov in January



#### **CSS** Profile

- ★ Additional application used by some colleges to award institutional aid
  - Check with each college
- ★ Collects more detailed income and asset information and non-custodial parent info
- ★ Application Fee, waivers may be available
- ★ Apply starting October 1<sup>st</sup> of senior year online at collegeboard.org



#### **CSS** Profile

#### 2023-24 Participating Institutions and Programs

CSS Code	Institution Name	Institution State	CSS Profile – Domestic Students	CSS Profile – International Students	CSS Profile – Noncustodial Parents	IDOC
1001	Adrian College, MI	MI	No	Yes	No	No
1003	Alabama A&M University	AL	No	No	No	Yes
5007	American University	DC	Yes	No	Yes	No
3003	Amherst College	MA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
4007	Arizona State University	AZ	Yes	No	No	No
0193	Armenian Student Assoc of Amer	RI	Yes	Yes	No	No
3075	Babson College	MA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2037	Bard College	NY	Yes	No	Yes	



## After Applications are Filed...

- ★Schools listed on FAFSA receive an electronic record – cannot see other schools listed on FAFSA
- **★**Schools begin financial aid packaging process
  - Student may be required to provide additional documentation at this time
- ★ When processing is finished, an award notice is sent to student



#### Financial Aid Award Notice

- ★ College award notice contains
  - Amount of federal aid for which students are eligible, including loan options
  - Estimate of state aid for which students are eligible
  - Institutional aid (Merit awards, grants, etc.)
  - Breakdown of costs



Questions???

Thank You!





NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS