

FAFSA and SAR Processing



Section Overview

This section is an introduction to the Financial aid process from the student's perspective including a high level look at the major points concerning the initial aid process and associated documentation. This section includes FAFSA processing and the creation of the SAR (Student Aid Report). The teaching technique used is role playing, with the facilitator acting as a college financial aid representative at a local community center.





Objectives

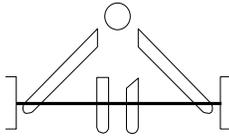
At the end of this module, participants will be able to:

- ⇒ Explain the purpose of a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) in the aid process
- ⇒ Demonstrate which major agents are involved in FAFSA processing by listing them and the service each perform in the process
- ⇒ Demonstrate which major eligibility requirements must be met to receive financial aid
- ⇒ Explain what timeline and deadlines are involved in the FAFSA processing



Activities

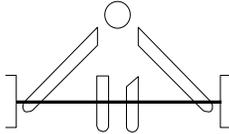
- ⇒ There are two activities in this section:
 - Exercise # 1- Facilitator introduction
 - Exercise # 2- Financial aid representative's facilitated questions and answers



Exercise #1: Facilitator introduction

Scenario

The facilitator, role playing as a financial aid representative, welcomes the audience and introduces him/herself to set the scene for the day's activities and cover classroom logistics.



Exercise #2: Financial aid representative's facilitated questions and answers activity

Scenario

During this scenario, your facilitator, acting as a financial aid representative, leads a question and answer discussion of the FAFSA process and other associated points.

QUESTION	ANSWER NOTES
1. "A friend of mine got grants last year, I know they don't have to be paid back. Another friend got loans that do have to be paid back. How can I make sure I only get grants?"	
2. "I am about to file my FAFSA and I just got married to my high school sweetheart sitting here	* <i>For More information see - Financial Aid The Student Guide</i>

QUESTION	ANSWER NOTES
next to me, but my Mom keeps telling me I am still a dependent because that's the way she listed me on her taxes last year. So am I a dependent or not?"	
3. "I don't really want to go to college, I want to be a chef and open my own restaurant in New York. Would any of this information help me?"	

4. "I didn't get "A"s last semester, can I still get aid?"	
5. "I am not yet a citizen. Can I still get aid?"	* <i>For More information see - Financial Aid The Student Guide</i>
6. "I'm a single parent and have a baby at home. I can get my mom to watch her for only a couple of hours a day. So I can only go to school part time. Can I still get aid?"	
7. "I'm 20 and have been on my own for the last two years. When I applied for aid I was told that my parents had to fill out a FAFSA form. But they won't do it. How can I get aid?"	
8. "I have a bad credit rating because of some credit card problems. Will I be able to apply for aid?"	
9. "My older brother is 43 years old, I'm 38. Jeff lives in my basement apartment with me. Do I count him in the number for my household?"	
10. "If I want to get aid, where do I start?"	
11. "Is the aid I got this year going to be good again next year?"	
12. "What if I have questions later	• <i>For More information see - Financial Aid The Student Guide</i>

during the application process?”	
13. “When should I return the completed FAFSA?”	
14. “What happens after I apply?”	
15. “What do I do with this SAR once I receive it?”	
16. “I’m thinking of dropping out of school. Do I have to pay anything back?”	
17. “My Neighbor, Tony, doesn’t speak much English, only Spanish. How can he find out about aid programs”	

18. "How much can I receive?"	
19. "Last year my friend called the SFA 800 number. She got really great answers to her questions. In fact the information she got convinced her to go to school full time instead of part time like she had planned. But I forgot the number, can you tell me what it is?"	