



**Welcome to FAME'S 11<sup>th</sup> Annual**  
**Financial Aid 101: A Training for Counselors, Advisors, & Educators**  
**March 24, 2017**  
**Augusta Civic Center – North Wing**  
**8:00-3:30; check-in 7:30**

7:30	<b>Check-In and Breakfast</b>
8:00	<b>Welcome</b>
8:10	<b>Transition To Morning Sessions Round One</b>
8:15	<p><b>A. <i>Financial Aid for the Novice - Part One: Filing the FAFSA</i></b> (Nikki Vachon) Have you noticed that the FAFSA filing experience (including the number of questions asked) isn't the same for every student? In this session we'll explain why that is by walking through the FAFSA and demonstrating how skip logic works. We'll also discuss whose information is required on the FAFSA, share tips to avoid pitfalls, and answer other common questions.</p> <p><b>B. <i>Financial Aid for the Advanced - Part One: FSA ID Problem Solving</i></b> (Mila Tappan) The FSA ID is a critical part of the FAFSA process, but has many related challenges. Tips will be shared to help avoid problems, followed by problem solving strategies to try when the username and password have been forgotten or will not work to access and/or sign the FAFSA.</p> <p><b>C. <i>FAME Resources to Improve Financial Capability</i></b> (Mary Dyer/Chris Head) FAME offers many FREE resources to improve financial wellness. Learn about Claim Your Future®, a free program for students grades 5-8, as well as tools like SALT® for high school students, young adults and beyond. This hands-on session will leave you with numerous strategies and resources to help your students achieve lifelong financial wellness.</p>
9:15	<b>Transition to Morning Sessions Round Two</b>
9:30	<p><b>D. <i>Financial Aid for the Novice - Part Two: Understanding EFCs</i></b> (Jennifer Lanphear) Ever wonder what really impacts financial aid eligibility? The best way to find out is to calculate an EFC by hand to see what does (and doesn't) impact a student's EFC. Case studies will demonstrate why seemingly similar students have different EFCs.</p> <p><b>E. <i>Financial Aid for the Advanced – Part Two: Working with Unique Situations and Populations</i></b> (Mila Tappan) Unique student situations are becoming the norm and the populations we work with are more diverse than ever. Learn more about the financial aid process for youth in foster care and legal guardianship, homeless youth, dependency overrides, New Mainers, and others.</p> <p><b>F. <i>Advancing College Aspirations and Attainment through Student and Family Engagement - Best Practices</i></b> (Jessica Whittier and Panelists: Doug Dumont, Mat Kiernan, Jacquie Martin) Pick up tips from schools with great FA night attendance, district wide college aspirations weeks, summer college prep sessions for rising seniors and more!</p>
10:30	<b>Transition to General Session</b>
10:45	<b>General Session:</b> (Mila Tappan) What's going on in the world of financial aid? In this session we'll discuss the impact of Early FAFSA on FAFSA completion, the timing of award letters, and the college selection process, as well as a new (and frustrating) verification requirement. An update on financial aid and FAFSA completion resources will be provided. We'll also look forward to next year and share potential changes.

11:45	<b>Lunch and Networking:</b> (Eva Giles and Mila Tappan) Enjoy lunch with your colleagues while hearing about some exciting college saving resources for Maine residents and their impact (or lack thereof) on financial aid.
12:45	<b>Opportunity to Visit with Exhibitors:</b> Participate in the popular exhibitors' scavenger hunt for a chance to win a great prize!  <i><u>Deliver completed scavenger hunt sheet to the registration table by 1:30</u></i>
1:15	<b>Transition To Afternoon Sessions</b>
1:30	<p><b>G. Understanding the Financial Aid Process From the College Perspective</b> (Nikki Vachon and Panelists: Jeannine Bosse, Anne Connors, Sarah Doheny, Elizabeth Tilton) Determining financial aid awards is a complex process that varies by school. Join us to hear from a panel of Maine Financial Aid professionals as they discuss the impact of recent changes, provide broad insight into the awarding methodology, and share the reality of aid resources available. The panel will also provide information on the appeal process and share their school's policy on the receipt of outside scholarships.</p> <p><b>H. Resources to Encourage Responsible Borrowing and Successful Repayment</b> (Martha Johnston/Mary Dyer) Are you confused by the endless myriad of student loan options? If so, then this is the session for you! During this session, participants will receive an overview of loan programs available to Maine students, along with important strategies for making informed borrowing decisions. We'll also discuss several programs available to borrowers who are repaying their loans, including resources to improve financial wellness.</p> <p><b>I. Best Practices for Working with New Mainers: Immigrant/Refugee/ELL/ESOL Students</b> (Jessica Whittier and Panelists: Tim Cronin, Doug Dumont, Amy Hatch, Floreka Malual) This panel will discuss some of the biggest barriers to accessing funds for college. We will also cover successful strategies for working with students, engaging families, and navigating the college going process.</p>
2:25	<b>Transition to Closing</b>
2:30	<b>Prizes and Closing</b>
2:45	<b>Coffee Talk:</b> Missed a session? Or have more questions? Each session presenter will be at an assigned table for questions and discussion. Experts will be available to also offer insights into Federal Loan Forgiveness and the Opportunity Maine Tax Credit.
3:30	<b>Have a safe journey home!</b>