



FAME's 14th Annual Financial Aid 101 Agenda

August 4th, 2020

8:30 – 9:15	Opening Session: The Impact of COVID-19 Presenter: Mila Tappan		
9:20 – 10:05	A. FSA ID Problem Solving Presenter: Maria MacDougal Moderator: Floreka Malual	B. Navigating Higher Education with New Mainers: Immigrant/Refugee/ELL/ESOL Students Panelists: Marwo Sougue, Abdi Atoor & Ammanuela Atem Moderator: Floreka Malual	C. Online Resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAME Resources • Federal Student Aid • Free Virtual Resources • How FAME will be serving schools Presenter: Jessica Whittier Moderator: Nikki Vachon
10:05 – 10:20	Break		
10:20 – 11:05	General Session: Financial Aid Appeals – What We Want You to Know Presenter: Mila Tappan		
11:10 – 11:55	D. Filing the FAFSA Presenter: Floreka Malual Moderator: Jessica Whittier	E. Ask Us Anything (Submit your questions when registering or ask them live) Presenters: FAME Team	F. All About Borrowing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparing Net Price • What's available for loans • Pros/cons of borrowing • Process to get loans • Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note Presenter: Nikki Vachon Moderator: Martha Johnston
11:55 – 12:30	Lunch Break		
12:30 – 1:30	Social Hour		

The Impact of COVID-19

Mila Tappan, College Access and Outreach Manager, FAME

What a challenging last couple of months! COVID-19 has impacted virtually every aspect of our lives. In this session we'll discuss where things stand from a financial aid perspective. We anticipate touching on the application process, how to deal with changing financial circumstances, the current and future status of student loan repayment, and other developing topics.

FSA ID Problem Solving

Maria MacDougal, College Access Counselor, FAME

The FSA ID is a critical part of the FAFSA process, but has many related challenges. In this session we'll offer tips 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.

Navigating Higher Education with New Mainers: Immigrant/Refugee/ELL/ESOL Students

Panelists: Marwo Sougue, Abdi Atoor & Ammanuela Atem
Floreka Malual, College Planning Advisor FAME

In this session a panel of immigrant students will discuss their paths to accessing funds for college and navigating our New Mainer website. The panel will discuss pathways for federal aid eligible students as well as strategies for students not qualifying for federal financial aid. Join us to learn more about the challenges faced and opportunities AVAILABLE to our New Mainer students and how you can play a role in their success.

Online Resources

Jessica Whittier, College Access Counselor, FAME

During this session we'll look at the many web based resources available to support FAME's College Access & Financial Education (CAFÉ) initiatives. You'll get a personal tour of FAMEMaine.com and learn about tools, calculators and recorded and printable resources that can be used in any setting. We'll also take a look at the new FederalStudentAid.GOV website and share ways to use it to support your students. We'll close the session by discussing ways FAME has supported schools through stay at home schooling and how we are preparing for all of Fall's possibilities.

Financial Aid Appeals – What We Want You to Know

Mila Tappan, College Access and Outreach Manager, FAME

Students and families have always been encouraged to pursue appeals when current circumstances are different than what is reflected on the FAFSA. But during this time of economic instability, it is especially important that students understand what options exist. In this session we'll discuss the various types of appeals, the process and timing of appeals. We will also share some resources that can make pursuing requests for review easier. Lastly, we'll look to the future and attempt to forecast the impact of these economic disruptions on the 2021-2022 FAFSA and financial aid cycle.

Filing the FAFSA

Floreka Malual, College Planning Advisor FAME

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.

Ask Us Anything

The FAME Team

Your questions- answered! During registration, we asked you for your burning questions. In this session, you'll get to discuss your hot topics in real time with a panel of FAME College Access team members and your colleagues. Whether it is questions about how to help students with the FAFSA, trends in higher education, or personal finance topics, we'll discuss it all.

All About Borrowing

Nikki Vachon, College Access Counselor FAME

Avoiding student loan debt to pay for higher education is the ideal, but the reality for many families is that some borrowing may be necessary. In this session, we'll explore the sometimes confusing pathway to borrowing student loans, highlighting ways to minimize the debt, the types of loans available, and the process for borrowing.

Social Hour

All Attendees

It's been far too long since you've had time to talk with your colleagues around the state. We miss you. We all wanted a time to be able to just turn on your cameras and mics and give you all a chance to see how you are doing and to talk to each other.