Federal Student Aid Boot Camp

Summer 2020
Washington, D.C.
Course Outline

Federal Student Aid (FSA) Overview
- This module will provide an overview of federal student aid and how families pay for college.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the Federal Methodology
- This module will explain what the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and Expected Family Contribution (EFC) are and review why they are important and how they are used.

The Pell Grant
- This module will provide an overview of the Federal Pell Grant Program, including how Pell Grants are structured, how they are calculated, and what the characteristics of Pell Grant recipients are by income, race, gender, and institution.

July 22nd (10AM ET) OR July 23rd (1PM ET)
EFC Simulation (two options for participation — attendees choose one)
- This simulation will give participants the opportunity to calculate the expected family contribution of a fictional student and walk through the federal methodology for calculating financial need.

July 24th (1PM ET)
Zoom Ask An Expert — FSA/FAFSA & Federal Methodology/Pell
- Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions of three policy experts about content from the first week.
- Experts: Rajeev Darolia (University of Kentucky), Karen McCarthy (National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators), and Ben Miller (Center for American Progress).
July 27th: Week Two Modules Go Live

*Federal Student Loans*
- This module will review the types of federal student loans, the eligibility requirements for each type of loan, and the demographics of student loan borrowers.

*Federal Student Loan Debt*
- This module will provide an overview of student debt, including information on how much students are borrowing, which students are borrowing, and the types of institutions borrowers are attending.

*Federal Student Loan Default*
- This module will provide participants with an overview of delinquency and default, including how borrowers enter delinquency and/or default, how deferments and forbearances work, and which types of borrowers struggle most in paying back their loans.

July 31st (1PM ET)

Zoom Ask An Expert — Federal Student Loans/Federal Student Loan Debt/Federal Student Loan Default
- Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions of three policy experts about content from the second week.
- Experts: Dominique Baker (*Southern Methodist University*), Victoria Jackson (*The Education Trust*), and James Kvaal (*The Institute for College Access and Success*).

August 3rd: Week Three Modules Go Live

*Federal Student Loan Repayment*
- This module will provide participants with an overview of all federal repayment plans and includes a breakdown of how the current loan portfolio is distributed across plans.

*Federal Student Loan Servicing*
- This module will provide an overview of federal student loan servicing; the roles and responsibilities of Direct Loan servicers; and the interactions between servicers, institutions, and borrowers.
August 5th (12PM ET)
*Optional Networking Lunch*
- All participants are invited to join their fellow boot camp participants, professionals from the field, and PNPI staff for an informal networking lunch held over Zoom on Wednesday, August 5th at 12pm ET. Bring your lunch and get to know your colleagues in the postsecondary policy space.

August 7th (1PM ET)
*Zoom Ask An Expert — Federal Student Loan Repayment/Federal Student Loan Servicing*
- Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions of three policy experts about content from the third and final week.
Dominique Baker
Southern Methodist University (SMU)
djbaker@mail.smu.edu

Dominique Baker is an assistant professor of education policy in the Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development and an associate in the John Goodwin Tower Center for Political Studies. Her research focuses on the way that education policy affects and shapes the access and success of underrepresented students in higher education. She primarily investigates student financial aid, affirmative action, and policies that influence the ability to create an inclusive and equitable campus climate.

Dominique earned her Ph.D. in higher education leadership and policy studies from Peabody College at Vanderbilt University. She earned her Master of Education in student affairs practice in higher education and Bachelor of Arts in psychology from the University of Virginia. Prior to pursuing her Ph.D., Dominique served as an assistant dean in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at the University of Virginia. At SMU, she teaches public policy and policy analysis courses at the doctoral level and diversity and equity courses at the master’s level.

James Bergeron
National Council of Higher Education Resources (NCHER)
jbergeron@ncher.us

James Bergeron currently serves as president and chief executive officer of the National Council of Higher Education Resources (NCHER), which represents state, nonprofit, and private organizations that help students and families access, manage, and pay for the costs of postsecondary education.

Prior to joining NCHER in 2014, James worked as the director of education and human services policy for the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. In this capacity, he oversaw policy development on all areas of education programs, including the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and the Workforce Investment Act. Before joining the Committee in 2006, James served as legislative director for Representative Buck McKeon, where he authored important initiatives on college affordability and financial aid simplification.

He began his Capitol Hill service more than 20 years ago as a legislative assistant to former Representative Bob Livingston. He also served as vice president of MARC Associates (now part of Holland & Knight). James received a Bachelor of Arts in political science from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.
Expert Bios

Rajeev Darolia
University of Kentucky
Rajeev.Darolia@uky.edu

Rajeev Darolia, Ph.D., is an associate professor of public policy at the University of Kentucky. He is also a visiting scholar at the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. Prior to joining the faculty at UK, Rajeev was an assistant professor of public policy and of education at the University of Missouri and served as the director of research for the Institute of Public Policy. He serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of Higher Education and Educational Researcher.

Rajeev's research interests include questions about how public policy affects economic mobility and financial security. Much of his research is on topics in education policy, but he also has active research agendas in consumer finance and corrections/reentry. He publishes research across public policy, economics, and education journals, including in the Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of Public Economics, and Journal of Higher Education. His work has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Labor, and the Association for Institutional Research. In his professional life before academia, he worked as an economist and financial analyst in Washington, D.C., and Silicon Valley.

Rajeev received a Ph.D. in public policy and public administration from George Washington University where he was recognized with the Outstanding Dissertation Award from the Association for Education Finance and Policy. He also holds a master's degree in economics and a bachelor's degree in finance.

Victoria Jackson
The Education Trust
vjackson@edtrust.org

Victoria Jackson is a senior policy analyst for higher education, focusing on college affordability and student debt. Prior to joining The Education Trust, Victoria worked at Policy Matters Ohio as a state policy fellow. She was one of eight fellows selected nationally through a highly competitive process by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. Victoria's research and advocacy focused on higher education, K-12 education, and federal food aid. While in graduate school, she worked as a graduate assistant for the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, and for the Ohio Department of Education. Before graduate school, she served as an AmeriCorps volunteer with College Now Greater Cleveland, where she advised high school students at two Cleveland Metropolitan School District high schools. A native of Cleveland, Victoria holds a master's degree from The Ohio State University in public administration, and a bachelor's degree in Pan-African studies from Kent State University.
Expert Bios

James Kvaal
The Institute for College Access & Success (TICAS)
jkvaal@ticas.org

James Kvaal is the president of the Institute for College Access & Success. He previously served as the deputy domestic policy adviser at the White House, where he worked on a range of issues related to economic opportunity. His work on higher education included initiatives to make college tuition more affordable, protect students from unaffordable loans, and help many more students graduate from college. Over the course of his career, he has also served in senior roles at the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the U.S. Senate. He has taught at the University of Michigan’s Ford School of Public Policy and attended Stanford University and Harvard Law School.

Karen McCarthy
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA)
mccarthyk@nasfaa.org

Karen McCarthy is the director of policy analysis at the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA). Karen currently works in NASFAA’s division of policy and federal relations, providing a financial aid administrator’s “on-the-ground” perspective to federal student aid policy discussions and debates. She began her career in student aid working in the financial aid offices at several large four-year institutions, including Boston University, Miami University of Ohio, and The Ohio State University. She began work in NASFAA’s training department in 1999 before joining NASFAA’s policy team in 2010.
Expert Bios

**Ben Miller**  
Center for American Progress (CAP)  
blmiller@americanprogress.org

Ben Miller is the vice president for postsecondary education at American Progress. He was previously the research director for higher education at New America, as well as a senior policy advisor in the Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development at the U.S. Department of Education. Ben's work focuses on higher education accountability, affordability, and financial aid, as well as for-profit colleges and other issues. His work has appeared in The New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, The Chronicle of Higher Education, and Inside Higher Ed, among other outlets. He holds a bachelor's degree in history and economics from Brown University.

**Rich Williams**  
The Pew Charitable Trusts  
rwilliams2@pewtrusts.org

Rich Williams is an officer for Pew’s Project on Student Borrower Success where he specializes in evidence-based research, policy development, and advocacy. The initiative promotes successful repayment of student loans, especially among borrowers at greatest risk for delinquency and default. Before joining Pew, he worked on issues related to college affordability and student loan financing and repayment for the Office for Students and Young Consumers at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and as the senior higher education policy advisor for the House Committee on Education and the Workforce under Congressmen George Miller and Bobby Scott. Before working in government, Rich represented student interests in front of policymakers in Washington, D.C., as the lead advocate for the U.S. Public Interest Research Group student chapters. He is a first-generation college student who attended Coconino Community College and Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, AZ.