Federal Student Aid Boot Camp
July 11th-12th
Boot Camp Overview

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Deepen participants’ understanding of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and Student Aid Index (SAI);
- Provide participants with an overview of the Federal Pell Grant Program, including how Pell Grants are structured and calculated;
- Review the types of federal student loans, the eligibility requirements for each type of loan, and the demographics of student loan borrowers;
- 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;
- Introduce participants to how a borrower’s debt and default patterns intersect with socioeconomic status, race, type of institution attended, and amount borrowed; and
- Increase participants’ understanding of the federal student aid repayment programs.

Thursday, July 11th

8:30-9:00AM ET: Breakfast & Registration

9:00-9:45AM ET: Welcome & Student Perspectives Panel

Speakers: Tarnika Edmunds, Virginia Commonwealth University, Stacey Speller, Howard University, and Jermaine Turner, The University of North Texas

Moderator: PNPI Staff

9:45–11:15AM ET: Applying for Financial Aid/Student Aid Index (SAI) Panel & Simulation

Speakers: Jill Desjean & Nalia Medina, National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA)

This session will explain what the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is, review why it is important, and discuss recent changes to the federal methodology. It will also provide participants an opportunity to experience a simulation on the SAI formula and how it is calculated.
11:15–11:30AM ET: Break

11:30AM–12:45PM ET: The Federal Pell Grant & Federal Student Loan Programs

Speakers: Edward Conroy, New America & Sandra Perez, The Education Trust

This session will provide an overview of the Federal Pell Grant Program, including how Pell Grants are structured and calculated; what the characteristics of Pell Grant recipients are by income, race, gender and institution; recent changes to the program; and the impact of these changes on recipients. It will also review the types of federal student loans that are available, the eligibility requirements for each type of loan, and the demographics of student loan borrowers.

12:45–1:45PM ET: Lunch

1:45-3:00PM ET: Leg 101: The Legislative Process

Speakers: MaryEllen McGuire, PNPI & Denise Forte, The Education Trust

During this session, the legislative process will be presented through the eyes of former congressional staff.

3:00-3:50PM ET: PNPI Explorer Tool Demo and Scavenger Hunt

Facilitators: PNPI Staff

3:50-4:00PM ET: Wrap Up & Adjourn
Friday, July 12th

8:30–9:00AM ET: Breakfast & Registration

9:00–9:15AM ET: Welcome

Speaker: Betsy Prueter, PNPI

9:15–10:30AM ET: Student Loan Debt & Default

Speakers: Mark Huelsman, The Hope Center & Jinann Bitar, The Education Trust

This panel will provide an overview of student debt, including information on how much students are borrowing, which students are borrowing, the types of institutions borrowers are attending, and how the likelihood of repayment or default varies by individual student. Panelists will also discuss student loan delinquency and default.

10:30–10:45AM ET: Break

10:45AM–12:30PM ET: Federal Repayment Programs & Simulation

Speakers: Rich Williams, Department of Education & Lexi West, Pew Charitable Trusts

This panel will provide an overview of the current federal student loan repayment plans and their strengths and weaknesses. It will also give participants an opportunity to interact with the various repayment plans using the Department of Education’s Loan Simulator.

12:30–1:15PM ET: Lunch

1:15-2:15PM ET: Loan Servicing

Speakers: James Bergeron, National Council of Higher Education Resources & Persis Yu, Student Borrower Protection Center
This session will provide an overview of federal student loan servicing including the roles and responsibilities of borrowers, loan servicers, and the federal government.

2:15-2:20PM ET: Break

2:20–3:30PM ET: Q&A with Experts

This session will provide an interactive experience to further discuss Federal Student Aid topics.

3:30-3:40PM ET: Break

3:40–4:00PM ET: Wrap Up & Adjourn

Speaker: Betsy Prueter, PNPI