



Curious to know what topics or issues your colleagues would like to see as break-out sessions at the upcoming conference? Glad you asked... check out the list to get you thinking.

Of course, you are not limited to these ideas. Feel free to submit a proposal on any financial aid topic.

SESSION TRACKS AND DESCRIPTIONS

MAKING DECISIONS

Practical applications or skills that focus primarily on the day-to-day objectives and policies needed for making effective aid decisions, managing the aid office, etc.

SUPPORTING FAMILIES

Best practices for effectively supporting the communication, counseling, and other needs of families as they navigate through the financial aid process.

USING SYSTEMS

Tips and strategies for effectively using SSS by NAIS tools, software, and methodology.

THINKING STRATEGICALLY

Creating, implementing, and evaluating strategic issues and directions of financial aid.



MAKING DECISIONS

- Sessions Regarding Taxes
 - ▶ Navigating Tax Returns and the PFS
 - ▶ About Partnerships And S Corp Returns
- Hands-On Examples of Effective Communication between Schools and Families.
- Common Issues and How To Troubleshoot Them
- Using Excel spreadsheets and Formulas in Financial Aid Work
- Using A Pre-Application For Financial Aid
- Effective Dialogue With Current Families About Changes In Their Financial Circumstances
- Keeping Statistical Data On Financial Aid
- How Small Offices Can Be Most Efficient Processing Financial Aid
- How To Know We're Not Awarding Too Much Aid?
- Here's a Tough Case I Had—What Would You Do?
 - ▶ Deep Dive into A Case Study: Hands-on Work and Sharing Outcomes
- Tactics for Getting Divorced Families To Cooperate Fully
- Financial Aid For International Students
- Managing A Financial Aid Committee Meeting (Recordkeeping, Managing Differences Of Opinion, and Other Duties As Assigned).
- Managing A Financial Aid Office (Recordkeeping, Useful Excel Spreadsheets, Policy Manuals, Etc)
- Sharing Our Resources: An Exchange Marketplace for Samples (Spreadsheets, Manuals, Award Letters, Board Reports, and More)
- Think Fast! Scenarios That Require You To Think Quickly "In The Moment"
- Lead A Roundtable Discussion Segmented By School Type Or Region

SUPPORTING FAMILIES

- Developing a Budgeting Calculator for Prospective Families
- Working With High-Income Families
- Surveying Financial Aid Families (Current, Past, And Prospective)—What Works, What Lessons Learned?



USING SYSTEMS

- The School Portal Professional Judgment Settings: What Are The Options and What's the Impact?
- SSS Methodology In-Depth
- Using SSS School Portal Working With Real Case Studies
- Using Data from School Portal: Getting it Out, Putting It Into Excel, and Making It Meaningful
- From Their Eyes: The SSS Family Portal And Where Do Families Need Our Help
- Quick Tips on How To Use The School Portal Most Efficiently
- What's New in School Portal This Year?
- Using the Family Contribution Worksheet Effectively
- Sorting Through The Student Folder
- Best Practices Using The Optional Settings In School Portal
- Using DASL for Reporting and Exploring Financial Aid Data

THINKING STRATEGICALLY

- Identifying and Funding Non-Tuition Costs
- Funding and Supporting High-Need Students
- Reaching Middle-Need (Not Middle Class) Families
- The Role of Financial Aid in a Strategic Plan or Strategic Financial Plan
- How to Grow Financial Aid
- Exploring Guaranteed Tuition or Other Pricing Strategies
- Approaches Using Merit Aid or Net Tuition Revenue Models
- The Intermingling of Race and Need: Recognizing and Avoiding Stereotyping
- Working With Outreach Organizations In The Financial Aid Process
- Board Reports on Financial Aid - What Does Your School Use?
- Demographics And The Shift From Access To Affordability
- Is Our Price Trend Sustainable? How To Contain Our School's Tuition Growth
- Is Your Voice At The Table: Gaining Influence at the Leadership Level in Your School