



Ready, Set, FAFSA! Virtual Financial Aid Events

Fact Sheet for Schools and College Access Programs

Free financial aid events are available to Minnesota students and families via Zoom! The series, running February 8 through March 1, will cover general financial aid information, details on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the Minnesota Dream Act for undocumented students, and other ways to pay for college. Please let students in your community know about this opportunity. To access tools and materials to promote these events in your school or program, access our [Ready Set FAFSA Promotional Toolkit](#).

What are the dates and topics?

All sessions are at 7:00 p.m. and will last approximately 45-60 minutes. Participants can ask questions in the chat. Participants can attend any number of sessions (choosing dates during registration).

Participants who attend 4 out of 5 sessions will be eligible to win a \$500 scholarship!

- February 8 (Tuesday): Financial Aid Overview
- February 15 (Tuesday): Complete the FAFSA
- February 17 (Thursday): Complete the Dream Act
- February 22 (Tuesday): Understanding your Offer Letter
- March 1 (Tuesday): Scholarship Search

Who are the presenters?

- Shawn Reynolds, State Financial Aid Program Administrator at the Minnesota Office of Higher Education
- Tara Pribnow, The College Place Director at ECMC
- Jesús Hernández Mejía, Assistant Dean of Financial Aid at Gustavus Adolphus College

Will this information be offered in other languages?

Yes! All sessions will have simultaneous interpretation in Spanish, Somali and Hmong. In addition, there will be financial aid professionals during each session who can answer questions in the chat in Spanish, Somali and Hmong if needed. We plan to record the presentations as well.



How can students and families participate?

All sessions will be on Zoom, but space is limited. Students and families can register at the following link:
bit.ly/readysfafsa

What tools are available to help promote these events?

The [Ready Set FAFSA Promotional Toolkit](#) includes information about virtual financial aid events for school/program newsletters, email messages and social media posts to engage students and families. It includes:

- **Ready-made graphics** in two sizes (square and rectangle), in two formats (.png and .pdf) and in four languages (English, Spanish, Somali, Hmong).
- **Social media guide** with sixteen images and corresponding captions to share on your Instagram, Facebook and/or Twitter accounts.

Who can I contact if I have questions?

- Beth Barsness, Beth.barsness@state.mn.us
- Kathleen Klima, Kathleen.klima@state.mn.us
- Tara Pribnow, tpribnow@ecmc.org