



# Preparing for FAFSA Simplification On Campus

WEBINAR | ARDEO.ORG | #FAFSAchanges

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# Welcome & Introductions



**Jared Christensen**

**Ardeo Education Solutions**

- Associate VP of Client Service
- 20 years in higher education at institutions & other higher ed partners
- Served in enrollment leadership roles at institutions in South Carolina and Illinois



**Alex DeLonis**

**Wabash College**

- Associate Dean for Enrollment Management & Director of Financial Aid at Wabash
- Member of FAFSA Simplification Implementation Working Group
- Oversees financial aid applications, monitors requirements and sources of federal and state funding, and tracks enrollment
- Has advocated for doubling Pell Grants and loosening federal restrictions to make it easier for students to obtain financial aid



# Our Why

Ardeo exists to increase access to higher education by **removing the fear of student debt.**



**A Public  
Benefit  
Company**

“My LRAP lets me pursue what degree I want, at the college I want, **without worrying about how much it costs.**”

— Alisha, **LRAP Recipient**

“I really truly am happy and completely, 100 percent enjoying what I’m doing right now. **If it wasn’t for the LRAP program, I couldn’t do it.**”

— Brenda, **LRAP Recipient**



# What is an **LRAP**?

A Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP) is an **enrollment tool** that positively impacts enrollment and persistence decisions.

## The **LRAP Promise**

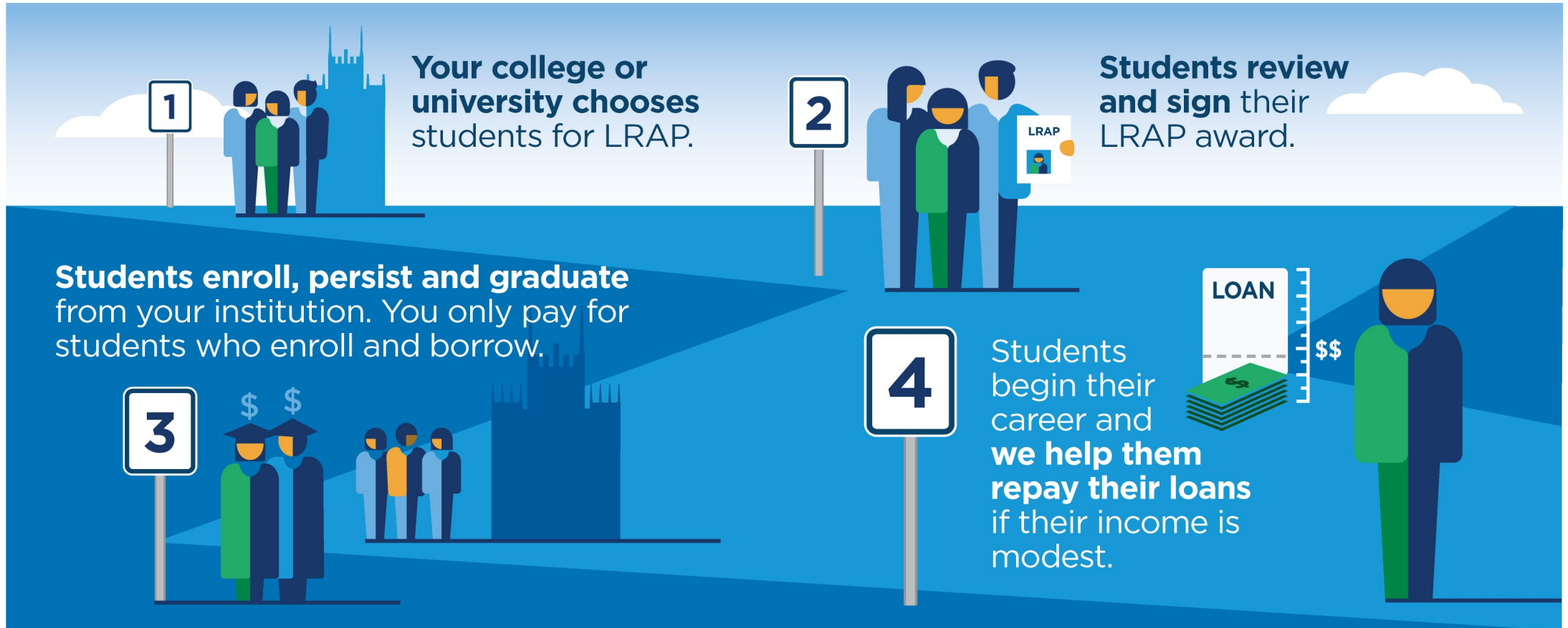
If a student's income after graduation is modest, their LRAP will help them repay their loans, including:

- Federal student
- Parent PLUS
- Private alternative





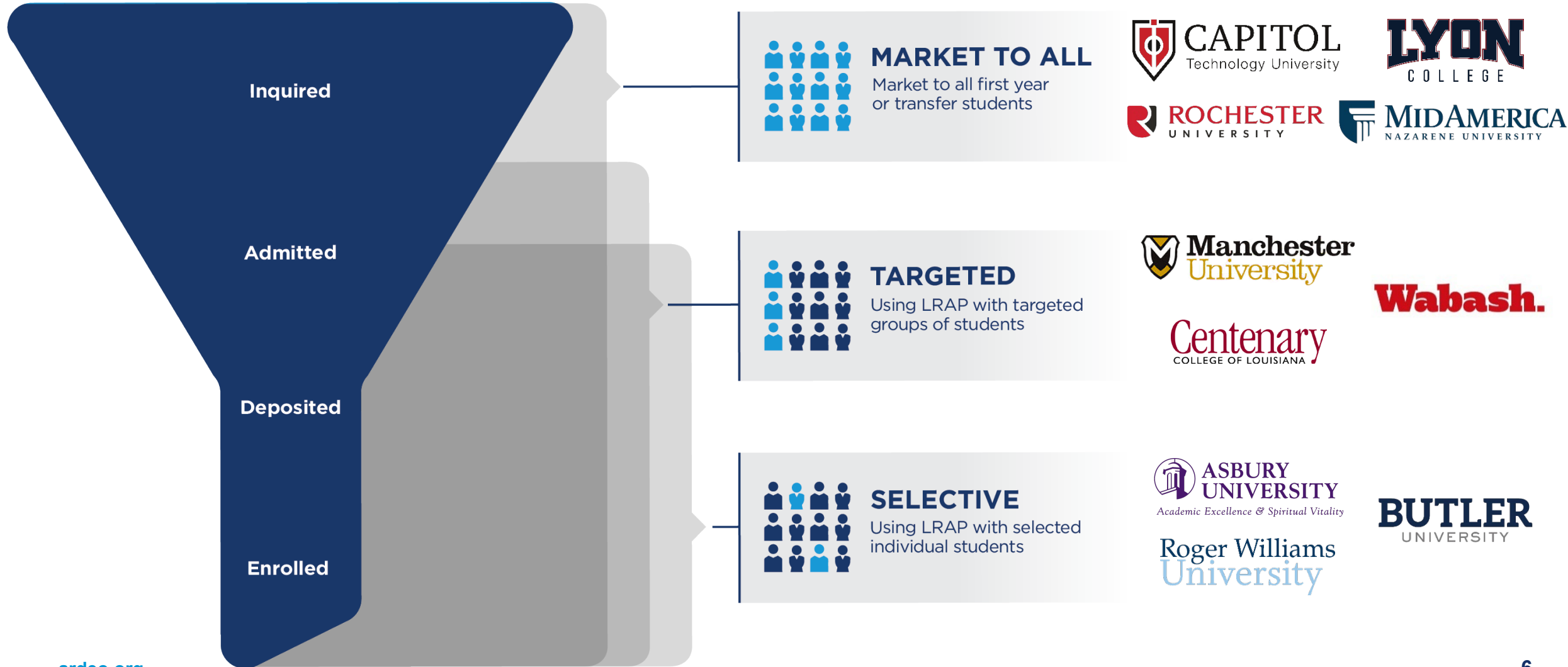
# How LRAPs Work for Colleges & Students







# LRAP Strategy Breakdown





ARDEO  
EDUCATION SOLUTIONS

**Wabash.**



An aerial photograph of the Wabash College campus during a vibrant sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm orange and yellow glow over the scene. The campus features several large, multi-story brick buildings, a central green field, and a parking lot filled with cars. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds.

# Wabash.

**FAFSA Simplification**

**Alex DeLonis**

**Associate Dean for Enrollment Management**

**Director of Financial Aid**





**FAFSA SIMPLIFICATION IS COMING**

# Agenda

- FAFSA Simplification Overview
- 2023-24 Changes
- 2024-25 FAFSA Updates
- 2024-25 Formula Changes
- Delayed FAFSA Planning
- Taking Action On-Campus
- Resources
- Q&A



# How Did We Get Here?

- Higher Education Act
- The Future Act
- FAFSA Simplification Act
- FAFSA Simplification Technical Corrections





# NASFAA FSIWG

The purpose of the FAFSA Simplification Implementation Working Group is to provide campus-level feedback, perspective, and insight to both NASFAA and the Department through the implementation process. Topics the group may be asked to weigh-in on include (but are not limited to):

- Appropriate outreach to students and families regarding the federal methodology and data-sharing changes;
- Development of Pell Grant eligibility “look-up” tables;
- Early awareness efforts related to maximum and minimum Pell Grant eligibility;
- The interaction of the changes with state and/or institutional financial aid policy; and
- Development of the form, including the use of language and terminology.

The FAFSA Simplification Implementation Working Group will likely engage in confidential discussions from time to time and will be expected to maintain the highest degree of confidence during their time of service.

\*Work began in April 2021



## FAFSA® Simplification Implementation Timeline

- Repeal of Subsidized Usage Limited Applied (SULA) calculation
- Removal of negative consequences associated with drug convictions or failure to register for Selective Service

- Comments on applicant's Student Aid Report (SAR) updated to make it clear that they are now eligible for federal student aid regardless of how they answered FAFSA questions on drug convictions and Selective Service

- Removal of drug conviction and Selective Service FAFSA questions
- Addition of demographic survey
- Expansion of Pell Lifetime Eligibility Used (LEU) restoration
- Extension of Pell Grant eligibility to incarcerated students
- Carry over of responses to homeless & unaccompanied youth questions
- Changes to Cost of Attendance
- Expansion of professional judgment
- Adjustments for applicants who cannot provide parental info
- Expanded acceptable documentation for unaccompanied/homeless youth

- Modified FAFSA form to include the remaining FAFSA Simplification provisions
  - Includes provisional independent student determination
- Provide tool for estimating student aid eligibility
- Expanded accessibility of FAFSA forms to 11 most common languages
- Calculation of Student Aid Index (SAI) replaces Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
- Changes to Pell Grant eligibility formula
- Changes to verification selection criteria
- Direct Data Exchange to import Federal Tax Information (FTI) for FAFSA, IDR and TPD forms
- Re-engineered FAFSA processing systems

Award Year 2021-2022

Award Year 2022-2023

Award Year 2023-2024

Award Year 2024-2025

# IMPORTANT TIMELINES

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- With the significant changes to the 2024-2025 FAFSA Processing, FSA plans to provide additional details in the coming months. Some important dates to remember are:
  - ISIR Record Layout
    - Rough draft December 2022
    - Draft Spring of 2023
    - Final Summer 2023
  - FAFSA Specifications for Software Developers
    - Draft Spring 2023
    - Final Summer 2023
  - Summary of Changes for Application Processing
    - Draft Spring 2023
    - Final Summer 2023
  - Test ISIRs: Late Summer 2023



# 2023-24 FAFSA Simplification Act Changes

- Cost of Attendance
- Professional Judgement
- Pell LEU Restoration
- Pell for Incarcerated Students

\*See GEN-22-15



# 2024-25 New Acronyms & Language

- Student Aid Index (SAI)
- Future Act Direct Data Exchange (FADDX) or (DDX)
- FAFSA Processing System (FPS)
- Other Financial Assistance (OFA)
- Federal Taxpayer Information Module (FTIM)
- Federal Taxpayer Information (FTI)
- FAFSA Submission Summary (FSS)
- Family Size = New Household Size



# 2024-25 FAFSA Highlights

- **FSA ID:**
  - EVERYONE who wants to put information into an online FAFSA will need an FSA ID to access the form. FSA has indicated they are creating a process for people without social security numbers to create an ID and be able to access the FAFSA. An FSA ID will need to be created and confirmed prior to accessing a FAFSA.
- **Role-Based Completion:**
  - Student and Parent will not have access to each other's sections
  - If student and student spouse did not file taxes jointly, spouse will have to log in
  - If parent and other parent did not file taxes jointly with each other, other parent will have to log in
- **FTI Consent:**
  - VERY important that only the FSA ID holder logs in as themselves to provide consent for FTI to be used on the FAFSA
  - If ANY user refuses to provide consent, an SAI will not be calculated
  - If ANY user revokes consent, future aid disbursements could be in jeopardy
  - Schools are limited to what FTI they can share with the family



# 2024-25 FAFSA Highlights

- **Number in College:** The Student Aid Index (SAI) formula will no longer be divided by the number in college. Students with multiple siblings in college have the potential to have a much larger SAI with no change in income.
- **Family Size:** The new name for household size is family size and will be determined by the number of exemptions claimed on the federal tax returns. Because family situations can change, there will be a question that allows the student to modify the family size to reflect the current number.
- **Number of Colleges Listed on the FAFSA:** Students will now be able to list up to 20 colleges on the FAFSA which should facilitate students applying to more than 10 colleges.
- **Choosing the Right Parent:** Student should choose the parent who provides the majority of their financial support. Not necessarily who they live with. This could result in current students changing who they have used on the FAFSA in the past.

# The New Formula in 2024-25

- Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is now Student Aid Index (SAI)
- SAI can be as low as -\$1,500
- SAI determines eligibility for all Title IV aid except maximum and minimum Pell grant awards.
  - Student is considered for max Pell first
  - Based on # of parents in hh and AGI vs. poverty
- If no qualification for maximum Pell:
  - [Maximum Pell amount - SAI = Pell amount]
    - still rounded to nearest \$5
    - still subject to statutory minimum
- If no max Pell and no Pell award from the SAI calculation, student is considered for minimum Pell
  - Based on # of parents in hh and AGI vs. poverty

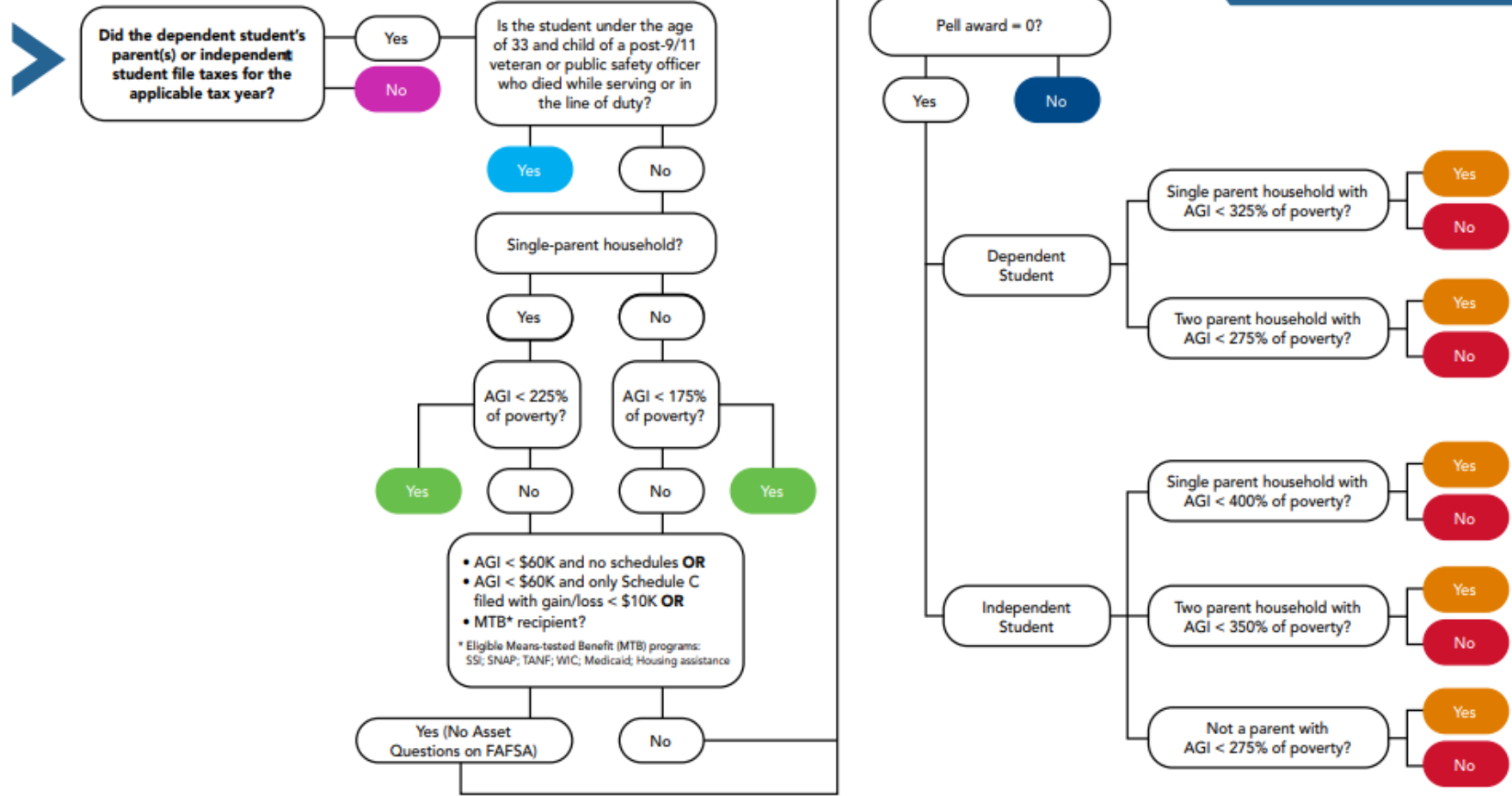
# Max Pell Grant Eligibility

- Nonfilers
  - Independent student (and spouse, if applicable) tax nonfilers
  - Dependent children of nonfiling parent(s)
- Children of certain deceased veterans and public safety officers
  - Students under age 33 whose parent died serving in the armed forces after Sept. 11, 2001
  - Students under age 33 whose parent died in the line of duty as a public safety officer
- Low income students:
  - Independent students who are single parents and whose student AGI is below 225% of the poverty level
  - Dependent children of a single parent whose parent AGI is below 225% of the poverty level
  - Independent students who are not single parents whose student AGI is below 175% of the poverty level
  - Dependent students with parents who are not single parents whose parent AGI is below 175% of the poverty level



# FEDERAL METHODOLOGY STUDENT AID ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION EFFECTIVE 2024-25 FAFSA

This tool is intended to help FAAs visualize how eligibility for Pell grants and other aid will be determined under the provisions of the 2021 Consolidated Appropriations Act. This is not a representation of the applicant experience or actual FAFSA questions.



**Maximum Pell:**  
Auto -1,500 SAI - Other aid types based on SAI.  
No Asset Questions on FAFSA.

**Maximum Pell:**  
Auto 0 SAI - Other aid types based on SAI. No asset questions on FAFSA.

**Maximum Pell:**  
Other aid types based on SAI.

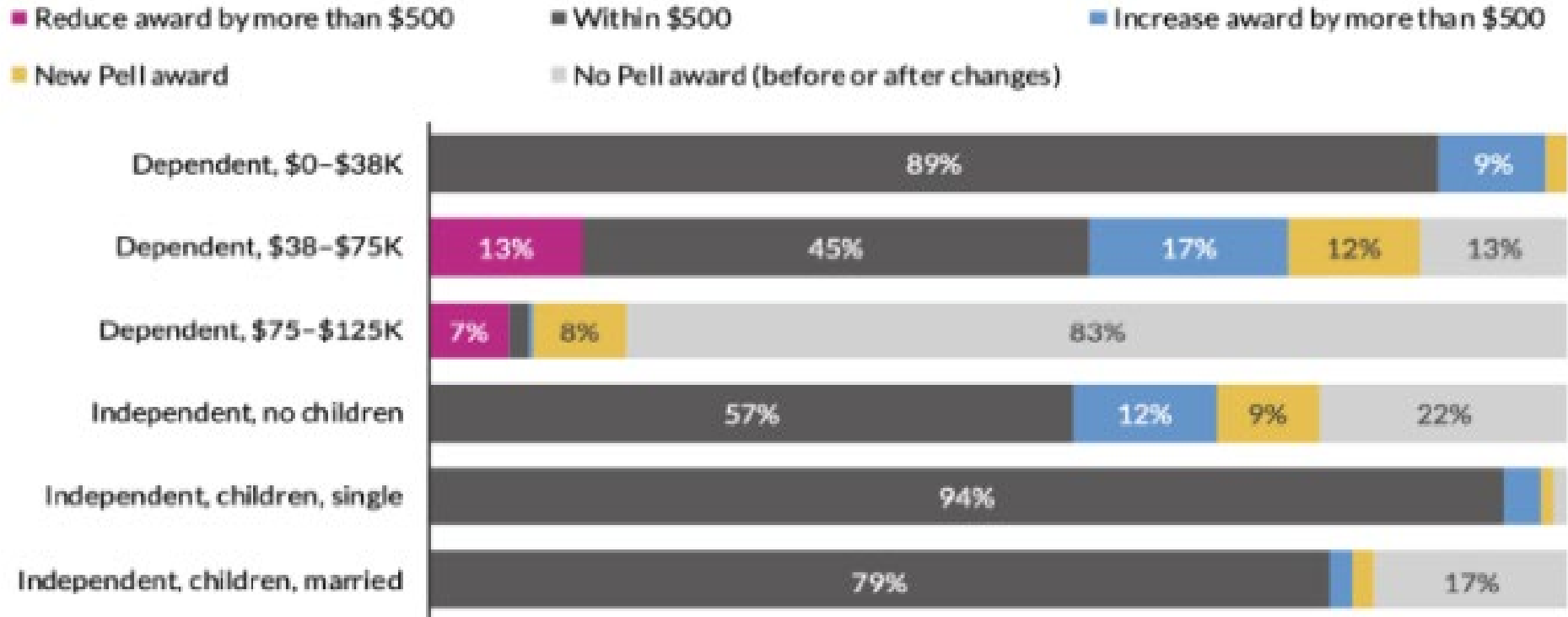
**Pell Amount Stays at Calculated Amount:**  
Other aid types based on SAI.

**Minimum Pell:**  
Other aid types based on SAI.

**No Pell:**  
Other aid types based on SAI.

# Projected Changes to Pell Distribution

Implementing new maximum and minimum Pell rules and sibling adjustment



Share of students who applied for federal financial aid

Source: Urban Institute analysis of 2016 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study data.

# Other Formula Changes

- Fewer untaxed income items factored into FM formula
  - Child support received now reported with assets
- Change to who is reported as parent in cases of divorce/separation
- State/other tax allowance removed
- Small business/family farm exclusion eliminated
- No SAI split for number in college
- No asset questions for:
  - Means-tested benefits recipients
  - AGI < \$60K and no lettered tax schedules
  - AGI < \$60K and only Schedule C, provided Schedule C gain/loss < \$10K

# Outstanding Issues Awaiting Resolution/Guidance

- Removal of the housing question asking if students will live on campus, off campus, or with parents.
- Removal of the ability for graduate students to voluntarily enter their parents income information.
- Family farm/small business unknowns.
- No proration for SAI less than 9 months enrollment.
- DDX mismatches & issues related to FTI.
- FWS earnings reporting through COD.
- FSA ID for parents without SSNs.
- Professional judgement guidance related to number in college.
- 24-25 Verification.
- Training calendar.
- Questions about state aid.



# Recent Updates

- Parent of record when one parent pays child support to another parent
- Comment code crosswalk



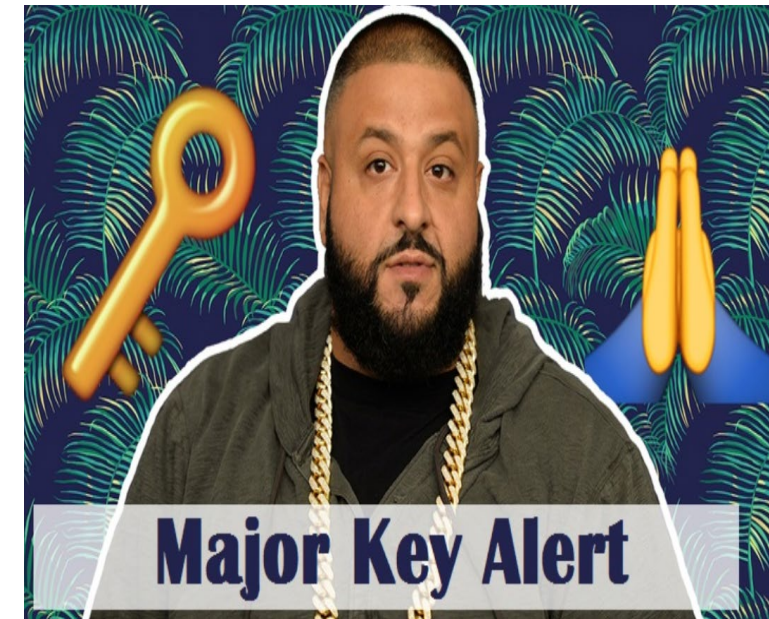
# Delayed FAFSA – Things to Consider

- Does your school send aid offers before January 1?
- State Aid filing deadline
- Communications
- Website
- Forms
- Systems
- College Goal Sunday
- Current Students
- Other Considerations?



# Taking Action on Campus

- Using the SAI modeling tool to advise campus leadership
- Early packaging with no FAFSA
- Outreach to campus partners, student, and parents
- No number in college? No problem
- Changes to packaging strategy
- Professional Judgement outreach
- Increase professional development budget
- Make sure the financial aid office is fully staffed



# FAFSA Simplification Fact Sheet

## WABASH COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

STUDENT AID INDEX (SAI) OVERVIEW



### WHAT IS THE FAFSA SIMPLIFICATION ACT?

- a more streamlined application process
- expanded eligibility for federal financial aid
- reduced barriers for certain student populations
- a better user experience for the FAFSA form

### CURRENT KEY INFORMATION AND TALKING POINTS:

2024-2025 FAFSA NOT AVAILABLE UNTIL DECEMBER

STUDENT AID INDEX (SAI) IS REPLACING EFC IN THE FORMULA

FORMULA CHANGE WILL MEAN MORE PELL FOR SOME STUDENTS

ESTIMATOR TOOL WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE SUMMER OF 2023



COST OF ATTENDANCE (COA)

-



STUDENT AID INDEX (SAI)

=



FINANCIAL NEED

BENEFITS AND WHAT'S NEXT →



# FAFSA Simplification Fact Sheet

## WABASH COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

STUDENT AID INDEX (SAI) OVERVIEW



### **BENEFITS TO STUDENTS, FAMILIES, AND BORROWERS**

#### **Replacing the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) with the Student Aid Index (SAI)**

- Students and families will see a different measure of their ability to pay for college and will also experience a change in the methodology used to determine aid. The new formula removes the number of family members in college from the calculation and allows a minimum SAI of negative \$1,500 to give financial aid administrators more insight when making determinations for students with especially challenging situations.

#### **Expanding access to federal aid**

- The FAFSA Simplification Act expands the Federal Pell Grant to more students and links eligibility to family size and the federal poverty level. Some applicants will be able to determine Pell Grant eligibility prior to enrolling in college based on their family size, household income, and state's poverty standards.

### **WHAT'S NEXT AND TIMELINE:**

- The financial aid office will host a live webinar on December 5th at 7pm to discuss the changes and answer any questions. The webinar will be recorded.
- The financial aid office will check in with campus partners to ensure materials are updated to reflect FAFSA not opening until December 2023.
- The current Net Price Calculator (NPC) will not reflect the changes with SAI until later in the summer when we know more and can update it



Have a question? Contact Alex Delonis, Director of Financial Aid, at [delonisa@wabash.edu](mailto:delonisa@wabash.edu) and we will do our best to answer as we learn more.







# The Bachelor

THE STUDENT VOICE OF WABASH COLLEGE SINCE 1908

## FEATURES

Entomologist  
Doug Tallamy  
on ecology,  
conservation

SEE PAGE A7

## SPORTS

Baseball  
swings into  
spring season

SEE PAGE A8



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS  
AND MARKETING

FEBRUARY 17, 2023



## FAFSA changes spell promise, uncertainty

DeLonis: 'The days of the  
Expected Family Contribution  
are coming to an end'

SAM BENEDICT '25 |  
NEWS EDITOR • Beginning  
in 2024-25, the Free  
Application for Federal  
Student Aid (FAFSA) will  
see significant changes,  
particularly to the Expected  
Family Contribution met-  
ric. The changes seem  
poised to change the finan-  
cial aid of many Wabash  
students, and the financial  
aid office is anticipating a  
heavy workload to combat  
this overhaul.

The recently-passed

Wabash students is that  
the formula will no longer  
take into consideration  
how many family mem-  
bers in the household are  
attending college at the  
same time. A significant  
number of our students  
have siblings who are also  
enrolled in college, but  
that positive impact on the  
formula is going away."

The goal of the FAFSA  
changes is to expand  
access to all students who  
desire to pursue high-



# Resources

- Federal webinars and resources – FSA Partner Connect
- Register to receive partner emails from FSA <https://outreach.fsapartners.ed.gov/s/>
- NASFAA FAFSA Simplification Web Center [https://www.nasfaa.org/fafsa\\_simplification](https://www.nasfaa.org/fafsa_simplification)
- NASFAA Communities [https://www.nasfaa.org/fafsa\\_simplification\\_community](https://www.nasfaa.org/fafsa_simplification_community)
- State & regional financial aid conferences
- Social media
- Partnering with like institutions

# Supporting the Financial Aid Office

POSTED DATE: April 12, 2023


AUTHOR: Office of the Chief Operating Officer

ELECTRONIC ANNOUNCEMENT ID: GENERAL-23-21

SUBJECT: FSA Letter to Presidents, Chancellors, and CEOs on Changes to Federal Student Aid and 2024-25 FAFSA Process

- Insufficient financial resources for items like staffing, software updates, and training may increase risks of non-compliance, which could lead to audit findings, fines, and/or liabilities.

<https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/electronic-announcements/2023-04-12/fsa-letter-presidents-chancellors-and-ceos-changes-federal-student-aid-and-2024-25-fafsa-process>

A photograph of Mike Tyson in a boxing ring, shirtless and wearing black trunks and red boxing gloves. He is looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. The background is dark with some blurred lights.

Everyone has a plan  
'till they get punched  
in the mouth.

By Mike Tyson

GIFQUOTES.COM



# Questions & Thank You!

Alex DeLonis, FAAC

Wabash College

Associate Dean for Enrollment  
Management - Director of  
Financial Aid

NASFAA FAFSA Simplification  
Implementation Working  
Group Member

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Curious about who we are? How we help colleges and universities? Send me a quick email to [schedule a discussion](#) with an Ardeo team member.

Request more information to explore:

- How Ardeo helps institutions meet their goals.
- LRAP strategy ideas.
- How to bring LRAPs to your campus.

# Thank You & Next Steps!

**Jared Christensen**

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