



TASFAA

encourage • promote • facilitate • inspire • motivate

Mission Statement

The Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (TASFAA) advances student access to higher education by providing professional development for its diverse members, advocating for informed public policies, and facilitating forums on financial aid topics.

As an association, we represent over 100 higher education institutions in Texas, ranging from public, private and for profit.

TASFAA strongly supports state financial aid programs available to students across Texas. Students are the future of our state, country and nation. State aid programs are essential to support students seeking a college education and obtaining the State of Texas goal of educating at least 60 percent of Texans ages 25-34 by 2030.

TASFAA supports and proposes the following opportunities, to better serve the students of Texas through financial aid programs.

1. Considering the changes coming to the future FAFSA, including removal of requirements for Selective Service enrollment and Drug Convictions, we would like the State of Texas to consider removing these requirements to students applying for state aid. - In addition, we want to confirm the state is prepared to handle the change from EFC to SAI and especially negative SAI in relation to grant requirements.
2. With the “Annual Loan Acknowledgement” requirement on the horizon and schools being asked to ensure students confirm their federal loan debt each year, we would like to recommend the State (THECB) take on the responsibility for confirming state and private debt for students. We realize this may take time to build, but would ask in the meantime if federal aid can be removed from the Debt letter, since it is already being confirmed annually.
3. Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements are often difficult for students to understand, especially for students who are already struggling academically. When state and federal SAP requirements are not calculated the same, are not reviewed in the same time frame, and do not have the same warning/suspension process, it can disrupt a student’s ability to progress towards their degree. This leads them to lose aid at different times and for different reasons. We would like to ask that state aid SAP policies be brought in line with federal policies or be handed over to schools to determine so they can align policies (federal, state, and institutional) in order to make counseling students towards completion of a degree more succinct

As stated, TASFAA’s mission is to advance student access to higher education by providing professional development for its diverse members, advocating for informed public policies, and facilitating forums on financial aid topics. With TASFAA’s dedication to students we asked our students, “What impact has state financial aid had on you?” Below is what our students had to say:

Texas Equalization Grant

“The Texas Equalization Grant has allowed me to continue my education at the University of Dallas and I thank God for all the blessings he has bestowed on me. I am a First-Generation college student, and this is a tremendous achievement and a testament to the greater Glory of God. With the help of the financial aid received from the grant, I was able to pay for my tuition especially during COVID, and buy the textbooks/reader guides I needed for my classes. This grant has also lifted the financial burden from me and my family because I am less anxious about how I will pay for my tuition, which I am deeply grateful for” P. Obegolu

Texas Educational Opportunity Grant

"It has helped in many ways. It took a lot of pressure off of me to not worry about the financial stress to be able to attend school. It is a relief that you can attend classes with confidence in knowing that the money is there. This grant also helped me to avoid taking a student loan, and having that debt to pay after finishing school." M. Ramlal

Towards Excellence, Access, and Success Grant (Texas Grant)

“As someone who is fortunate enough to receive Texas Grant funding, I am able to focus less on being able to pay for school and more on the physical application of school. I am also grateful because it makes me feel like someone believes in me. In this country, people with little to no money are often overlooked, and feeling like someone believes in you enough to fund what you are striving for means the absolute world and keeps me going.” J. Emeodi

“Receiving the Texas Grant has allowed me to continue my higher education with the peace of mind that I am being supported financially as I proceed through my studies. The likelihood of attending a higher education institution did not appear very likely considering my siblings were not able to continue their education due to financial and other reasons. I feared I would be destined to the same outcome. I am very grateful and feel privileged to be able to attend Texas A&M University, as I know many long to be in the position which I find myself in. It is due to financial aid such as the TEXAS Grant, which has granted me the opportunity to continue to strive to be the change I want to see in the world. More so, the grant has also aided in minimizing the need to use student loans which I feared would amount to a great deal of debt and more financial burden. “A.Cruz

Sincerely,



Taryn Anderson

2020-21 TASFAA President