

This partnership is a strategy central to our efforts to achieve racial equity in higher education. In alignment with each of our own organization's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion commitments, the Aim Higher Training initiative is a step in the direction to providing all of Washington students with access to financial aid resources, information and support.

# 2021 Higher Washington Trainings

## CONTENT BASED TRAININGS

Addresses knowledge gaps and promotes a better understanding of the financial aid process.

#### **FINANCIAL AID BASICS**

In this session, participants will learn the basics of financial aid. We will cover federal and state aid programs including grants, scholarships, work study, and loans. We will also discuss when and where to apply for financial aid. Participants will leave with a better understanding of funding available for college and career education. This session will prepare participants to help with basic financial aid questions.

### STRATEGY SESSIONS

Development of strategic efforts to support specific populations with financial aid completion.

#### **SUPPORTING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

In this facilitated discussion we will discuss the unique challenges high school seniors face as they apply for postsecondary funding. Participants will have the opportunity to network with colleagues to discuss ways to increase financial aid access and completion.

<u>Session Length:</u> 45 minutes <u>Session Audience</u>: Those with little to no knowledge or those wanting to update their knowledge on financial aid.

#### **FINANCIAL AID NAVIGATION**

In this session, participants will learn about the financial aid process and how to help others navigate applying for financial aid. We will cover how to apply for post-secondary funding with the FAFSA and the WASFA. We will also discuss common challenges and errors as well as next steps. Participants will leave with a better understanding of how to help others with this important process. This session will prepare participants to assist students as they apply for financial aid and train others.

<u>Session Length:</u> 90 minutes <u>Session Audience</u>: Those with basic knowledge of financial aid who want to help students navigate the financial aid process.

#### SUPPORTING CURRENT COLLEGE STUDENTS

In this facilitated discussion we discuss the unique challenges current college students face when applying and renewing their financial aid application. Participants will have the opportunity to network with colleagues to discuss ways to increase financial aid access and completion.

#### SUPPORTING RETURNING ADULTS

In this facilitated discussion we discuss the unique challenges returning adults face as they apply for postsecondary funding. Participants will have the opportunity to network with colleagues to discuss ways to increase financial aid access and completion.



The Aim Higher Training Initiative in partnership with the Council of Presidents, the Independent Colleges of Washington, the Washington Student Achievement Council, and the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges was designed to ensure all students in Washington have equitable access to financial aid information, trained navigators and support across the higher education sector.

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