

Advocacy

Why does it matter?

Overview

Advocacy involves influencing public policies, laws, and funding decisions that impact students and institutions. Financial aid professionals are in a unique position to advocate for policies that promote student success and accessibility.

Summary

Why should financial aid administrator advocate?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Influence policies that shape student access to higher education.● Reduce administrative burdens that limit efficiency.● Secure funding for need-based grants and scholarships.
What are things to advocate for?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● State Funding for Higher Education: Ensuring sustained funding for MAP Grants and other financial aid programs.● Affordability and Student Debt: Addressing loan borrowing trends and financial literacy.● Regulatory Complexity: Reducing administrative burdens on financial aid offices.
Who are we advocating for?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Ourselves● Students● Institutions● The Community
What financial aid administrators have to offer?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Offer feedback from an institutional perspective on student aid legislation and proposals● Provide financial aid success stories of students from your state or district● Explain the financial aid needs and challenges of students in your state or district● Supply statistics detailing the amount of aid that benefits students from your state or district● Illustrate how compliance with certain existing and proposed statutes can hinder opportunities to assist and counsel students

Relevant Resources

AACROA Advocacy Center

<https://www.aacrao.org/advocacy>

NCAN Advocacy How To

<https://www.ncan.org/page/AdvocacyHowToResources>

NASFAA State Advocacy Toolkit

https://www.nasfaa.org/state_advocacy_toolkit



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ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT
FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS

Serving Illinois Students Since 1969