

Eastern Association Student Financial Aid Administrators

# New York State Report to EASFAA Council

Meeting Dates: Sunday, October 17, 2021-Tuesday, October 19, 2021 Location: Hybrid: Zoom & DoubleTree by Hilton Linthicum, MD

#### **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:**

NYSFAAA Exec Council last met remotely on the afternoon of August 18, 2021. Our next meeting will be Monday, October 25, 2021 & will be our meeting before our 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference.

### **CONFERENCE:**

The 2021 NYSFAAA Conference will again be held virtually. The dates are October 26-28, 2021. The theme is NYSFAAA Strong: Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow. The Exec Council decided to have the conference virtual because many of our school's budgets had been cut. Our membership has indicated that it would be hard to attend due to these budget cuts.

#### MEMBERSHIP:

As of October 15, 2021, NYSFAAA membership was 1,042. Our membership has remained steady which was amazing for the year that we had. The training webinars and emails to the general membership as a check in have seemed to help.

## TRAINING:

NYSFAAA's Statewide Training Committee has continued to provide several webinars. The committee has also provided credentialing training through a collaboration with NASFAA. Previous Webinars: Understanding TAP Eligibility; Having Fun with Taxes, Verification Training & 2022-2023 Annual FAFSA and TAP Application Training. Upcoming webinar: Verification During Turbulent Times-Getting back on track for 2022-2023.

#### **COMMITTEES:**

The Diversity Equity & Inclusion Committee was revised. This committee along with their chair has worked extremely hard to move NYSFAAA forward. The chair presented the committee's DEI statement to Exec Council & it was approved with revisions during the June Business Meeting. This DEI statement will be presented to the membership during the upcoming NYSFAAA Conference. During this year's conference we will feature a large group panel discussion with DEI Higher Education professionals and a smaller session where the membership will be able to ask more questions and have a deeper discussion on DEI work.

The Graduate Professional Concerns Committee drafted and cosigned a letter of support sent to Congressional leaders on the bill H.R. 4631 "Protecting Our Students by Terminating Graduate Rates that Add to Debt (POST GRAD) Act". This legislation would allow graduate and first professional degree program students the ability to access Federal Direct Loan

funds with more favorable borrowing terms. The signed letter of support was sent to the Congressional leadership were mailed on September 30, 2021.

#### MISCELLANEOUS:

N/A

Submitted by: Adrienne R. King, NYSFAAA President October 16, 2021