Business Officers

April 16, 2026

6:30 - 7:00 am
  Walking Group
    Meet in Hotel Lobby

7:30 - 8:30 am
  Breakfast Buffet

8:00 - 9:30 am
  Registration Open

8:30 - 9:00 am
  General Session - IASFAA Business Meeting

9:00 - 9:45 am
  Birds of a Feather
    Groups: Private Institutions, Business Officers, Community Colleges, Regent Universities

9:45 - 10:15 am (Exhibitor Break)
  Non-Stop Networking
    Our exhibitors are nonstop—and now it's your turn. Swing through the exhibit hall to meet the teams behind today's most creative solutions. You'll leave informed, energized, and ready to be in the room where it happens.

10:15 - 11:15 am
  Small Jobs, Big Impact: Maximizing Work-Study in Financial Aid and Student Services
    This session highlights the powerful impact of employing work-study students in financial aid and student service offices of all sizes and types. Hear directly from current work-study students about their experiences, growth, and the skills they've gained, and learn how mentoring and developing student employees can create a lasting pipeline to future careers in higher education.
  Excel Skills / Google Sheets
    Coming Soon…
  Backstage Pass: Tools and Tricks to Keep Your Office Running Smoothly
    Do you ever feel like there's never enough time to document policies, create training materials, or organize daily operations in your financial aid office? You're not alone. In this session, we will share practical tools and strategies that the University of Iowa financial aid office has used to streamline these essential but time-consuming tasks. Learn how platforms like Microsoft OneNote, Microsoft Planner, and NASFAA's Policy & Procedure Builder can help you avoid answering the same questions repeatedly and

ensure important annual tasks aren't forgotten.Please don't hesitate to bring your own ideas, tools, and best practices to share with colleagues who face the same challenges.

Into the FAFSA: A Journey Through Financial Aid History

Once upon a time, before electronic forms and data sharing, the story of financial aid began. Follow the path "Into the FAFSA" as we trace the twists, turns, and transformations of student aid in America. This session highlights the defining acts—from the GI Bill to Pell Grants to today's modernization efforts—and reflects on how each has shaped our collective pursuit of access and equity. Just remember: be careful the policy changes you wish for!

11:30 - 1:15 pm

Lunch Buffet

12:00 - 1:15 pm

Welcome Business Officers

General Session - Dr. Keyimani Alford

1:30 - 2:30 pm

Broadway Benefits: A Financial Aid Guide to VA Education Benefits

Take center stage as we help you navigate the entire cast of VA education programs with the precision and flair of a Broadway performance. When the curtain rises, we'll bring the dramatic world of VA education benefits to life, with a focus on how you, the financial aid professionals and SCOs, can master the systems and provide the best service possible to the veterans and their families who depend on you. Whether you're managing a student's GI Bill eligibility or guiding them through the complexities of tuition assistance, this session is your backstage pass to becoming the expert every veteran student needs.

Eligible Non-Citizens and Citizenship Issues

Coming Soon…

Title IV Funds (Business Officer)

Coming Soon…

Financial Aid Jeopardy

Get ready to buzz in! Financial Aid Jeopardy is a fast-paced, interactive session designed to test your knowledge and spark some laughs. Whether you're a seasoned pro or new to the field, you'll enjoy this engaging refresher packed with useful insights. Categories include FAFSA, Verification, Student Loans, Potpourri, and more. Attendees will be split into teams to compete for bragging rights — and maybe even a prize. Come join the fun and see if your team can take home the win!

2:30 - 3:00 pm (Exhibitor Break)

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3:00 - 4:00 pm

Workforce Pell: Opening Night for Data Innovation

The curtain rises on Workforce Pell! Join Paula Nissen and Abbie Steinberg for a discussion on Workforce Pell implementation and credential data innovation. Drawing on feedback from states in the State Noncredit Data Project Learning Community, this session spotlights what's needed for the next act—support, guidance, and resources to ensure a standing ovation for Workforce Pell. Get ready to play your part in shaping the future of noncredit education—because the show must go on!

COD Basics + Business Officer Collab

Step into the spotlight as we take center stage with the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) system! In this show-stopping session, we'll shine a spotlight on COD's key functions—from originating awards to tracking disbursements—and reveal how our Financial Aid Office and Business Office perform in perfect harmony behind the scenes. Learn how data moves across departments like a well-choreographed ensemble, ensuring accuracy, compliance, and a smooth production from start to final curtain. The audience will leave with a practical understanding of how COD supports both operational workflow and cross-departmental collaboration.

SIS Changes Defying Gravity: Navigating a New Financial Aid System

Changing software systems can feel a lot like stepping off the edge of Emerald City: exciting, daunting, and full of unknowns. In "Defying Gravity: Navigating a New Financial Aid System," we will explore how to successfully manage a system transition while continuing to support students with confidence and accuracy. Follow the yellow brick road from uncertainty to empowerment as institutions move from a familiar platform to something entirely new. We'll address common fears ("What if something goes wrong?"), unexpected plot twists (data migration, workflow changes, staff training), and the moments that require you to trust the process and rise above. Because sometimes, to move financial aid forward… you must defy gravity.

Session Coming Soon…

4:00 - 5:00 pm

General Session

Getting Involved with IASFAA

MASFAA Update

5:00 pm

Night on Your Own

9:00 pm – Hospitality Room