How to Give a Financial Aid Presentation

April 13th, 2023



About You



Heather Ehnert

Financial Aid Officer

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee ehnert@uwm.edu

Fun Fact: I have two nephews, ages 2 and 5 months; one kitty nephew, and one kitty niece ©



About Your Organization: UW-Milwaukee

- Founded: 1956
- Wisconsin's 2nd-largest university
- One of 146 top research universities recognized as "R1" by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education
- Committed to providing equitable access to opportunities for students and employees from every background
- Undergraduate enrollment: 19,411
- Graduate enrollment: 4,418





Agenda

- Key Takeaway: Balance!
- Providing Info without Overwhelming
 - Audience
 - Jargon
- Visual Aids
- The Act of Presenting
 - Be YOURSELF!
 - Tips and tricks
- Questions



Providing Info without Overwhelming

- Assess the audience and purpose of presentation
 - New or continuing students? Parents? Both/all?
 - Level of depth needed
- Step into the shoes of students and parents
 - Financial aid is generally brand new and pretty confusing!
 - Explain each term and/or acronym when using it initially, and provide a reminder of its meaning later on
- Provide relatable analogies and examples
 - Explaining COA? Relate it to a budget or total money limit for the year





Visual Aids

PowerPoints

- Don't reinvent the wheel
- May not be needed if the presentation is with a smaller group

Handouts

- Option to take or leave a handout – sometimes wasted paper
- Many folks take pictures on their phones of important slides
- Better for intimate groups

- Accessibility
 - Text size and contrast
- Charts, Images,
 Graphics, Text
 - Back to our key takeaway of BALANCE



Bad Example

Grade Level	Subsidized Annual Maximum Eligibility	Unsubsidized Annual Minimum Eligibility	Combined Annual Maximum Eligibility
Freshman (Dependent)	\$3,500	\$2,000	\$5,500
Sophomore (Dependent)	\$4,500	\$2,000	\$6,500
Junior & Senior (Dependent)	\$5,500	\$2,000	\$7,500
Freshman (Independent)	\$3,500	\$6,000	\$9,500
Sophomore (Independent)	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$10,500
Junior & Senior (Independent)	\$5,500	\$7,000	\$12,500

And a better example!...

- GRANTS: Qualify based on FAFSA and Financial Need
 - Federal Pell Grant
 - Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant
 - · Wisconsin Grant
 - Tuition Assistance Grant
- SCHOLARSHIPS
- FEDERAL WORK STUDY (Need Based)
- LOANS:
 - · Subsidized (Need based) and Unsubsidized





Types of Aid

- GRANTS: Qualify based on FAFSA and Financial Need
 - Federal Pell Grant
 - Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant
 - Wisconsin Grant
 - Tuition Assistance Grant
- SCHOLARSHIPS
- FEDERAL WORK STUDY (Need Based)
- LOANS:
 - Subsidized (Need based) and Unsubsidized

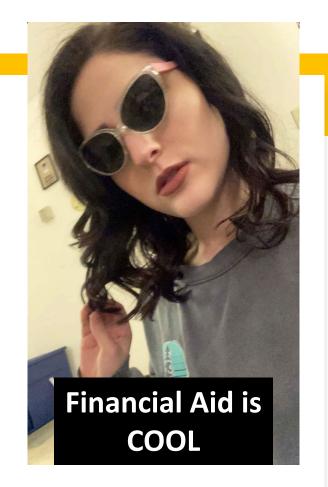
Annual Federal Loan Limits

Grade Level	Subsidized Annual Maximum Eligibility	Unsubsidized Annual Minimum Eligibility	Combined Annual Maximum Eligibility
Freshman (Dependent)	<mark>\$3,500</mark>	<mark>\$2,000</mark>	<mark>\$5,500</mark>
Sophomore (Dependent)	\$4,500	\$2,000	\$6,500
Junior & Senior (Dependent)	\$5,500	\$2,000	\$7,500
Freshman (Independent)	\$3,500	\$6,000	\$9,500
Sophomore (Independent)	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$10,500
Junior & Senior (Independent)	\$5,500	\$7,000	\$12,500



The Act of Presenting: Be YOURSELF!

- Introduce yourself with a fun fact
- Include your personality!
- Audience can best relate when you are not just a professional with all high-end knowledge, but also a real, regular person
- Acknowledge the "yuck"





The Act of Presenting: Tips & Tricks

- Wear your favorite "work outfit"
- Remind yourself that you're an expert, and you are great!
- Encourage interruptions and questions
- Practice "hiccup" spots and slide/topic transitions
- Tap into your Emotional Intelligence
- Remember to breathe. You know the information; now it's simply time to share it!



Remember: BALANCE



Questions?

ehnert@uwm.edu

