



FINANCIAL AID COMPETENCY

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

This competency highlights the importance of continuous professional growth, encouraging financial aid administrators to engage with associations, foster collaboration, and align practices with institutional goals. It emphasizes mentorship, skill development, and seeking opportunities that strengthen both individual careers and the financial aid profession.

Competency Statements

- Professional growth and development
- Collaboration
- Teamwork
- Developing skills for oneself and others

RESOURCES, TRAINING,
AND PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES



Knowledge Statements

Commit to Continuous Learning

- Prioritize ongoing professional growth and development
- Engage in state, regional, and national professional associations
- Expand knowledge beyond financial aid to broader higher education topics
- Stay current on trends and best practices in the profession

Collaborate and Network

- Align financial aid practices with institutional goals
- Involve internal and external stakeholders in achieving shared objectives
- Seek and value diverse perspectives
- Build and maintain strong professional relationships

Work Effectively in Teams

- Understand the roles and responsibilities of team members
- Delegate tasks appropriately
- Contribute to shared team goals and outcomes

Promote and Support Skill Development

- Recommend professional development opportunities for others
- Encourage skill growth for both self and colleagues
- Empower others — including students, colleagues, and association members — to achieve their goals

Engage in Mentorship

- Serve as a mentor to guide professional growth
- Share expertise and provide constructive feedback
- Support career progression for peers and emerging professionals

Task Statements

Engage in Professional Development Activities

- Participate in learning, training, and leadership opportunities
- View webinars and complete online learning modules
- Attend professional conferences
- Obtain certificates, credentials, or certifications relevant to the profession

Develop and Share Expertise

- Compose presentation materials and present publicly
- Submit session proposals for state, regional, and national conferences
- Serve on panels and as a moderator at professional events
- Develop and refine public speaking skills

Contribute to the Profession Through Association Involvement

- Engage actively in state, regional, and national associations
- Volunteer for committees or leadership roles within associations

Mentor and Empower Others

- Provide mentorship to students, colleagues, and association members
- Recommend training and development opportunities for others
- Share resources to encourage growth and advancement

Broaden Professional Experience

- Explore areas outside of financial aid to expand higher education knowledge
- Manage student workers to gain supervisory experience