NASFAA CORE

**Who can participate?**

This exciting program provides a nationally-recognized standard in financial aid training and allows you to earn professional credentials. It’s great for:

* Beginning aid professionals who want to differentiate themselves from the pack
* Intermediate and experienced professionals who seek new opportunities and career advancement

If you’re an employer, when your staff earns a credential, you can feel confident that he or she is trained to the highest industry standards. You can enjoy increased employee satisfaction by providing the opportunity to grow professionally, and ensure that employee training is consistent and measureable.

**What does NASFAA CORE include?**

The materials cover the basics of the financial aid process from A to Z, beginning with a description of the federal student assistance programs and concluding with information about professional judgment. The NASFAA Testing Center offers student aid professionals an opportunity to receive credentials on the following topics:

* Return of Title IV Funds
* Student Eligibility
* Verification
* Professional Judgment
* Packaging
* Application Process
* Federal Methodology
* Campus-Based Programs
* Cost of Attendance
* Federal Pell Grant
* Direct Loans
* Consumer Information
* Cash Management
* Satisfactory Academic Progress
* Administrative Capability
* Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grants

**Why should you participate?**

Take your career to the next level with NASFAA Professional Credentials. This exciting program provides a nationally-recognized standard in financial aid training and allows you to earn recognition for your mastery of content. A professional credential benefits you by:

* Expanding your student financial aid knowledge
* Improving your job performance and service to students
* Providing tangible evidence of your knowledge
* Differentiating between you and less qualified personnel
* Giving you and your organization a competitive edge

**How do you earn credentials?**

NASFAA University offers a rigorous training experience and evaluation process. Student aid professionals can qualify to sit for an examination in the following ways:

* Complete an independent study on specific topics using a Self-Study Guide
* Take an instructor-led Online Course
* Demonstrate 5 or more years of well-rounded professional experience
* Attend a state or regional boot camp that used the approved NASFAA University curriculum

Once you’ve completed an approved NASFAA University learning activity, you qualify to sit for the test in the corresponding topic. All tests include a combination of multiple choice, true/false, scenario-based or essay questions. Participants are given two opportunities to successfully pass the credentialing exam. If necessary, the option to re-test is available.

To help gauge your ability to pass a NASFAA Credential Test, free pre-tests are available. Pre-tests generally consist of 10 multiple choice questions with a 20 minute time limit, and do not provide NASFAA credentials for satisfactorily passing.

If you pass the NASFAA Credential Test, you’ll receive a certificate attesting to your achievement, for inclusion on your resume. If you sign up with the NASFAA Career Center as a candidate, your credentials will also be integrated into your Career Center profile to help you stand out in the crowd.