

May 2, 2024

Dear Institutional Leadership,

Michigan Student Financial Aid Association (MSFAA) is writing with an important update about association membership. As you are well aware, having access to financial aid funding is critical for student success. Our association does significant work at the federal and state levels to ensure that students continue to be supported. We do this work while the number of financial aid professionals is dwindling and the reach and responsibility within MSFAA grows.

In order to continue with MSFAA's important work, we need more individuals to be involved with the work of the association. We also want to be sure that we are developing financial aid professionals into future leaders to fill important leadership roles at your institution.

In response to these needs, the MSFAA Executive Board approved to adopt an institutional membership model. If approved by the association at the MSFAA Annual Conference in May, we will move from individual memberships to institutional memberships beginning in July 2024. Institutional membership will allow more individuals to be involved in the work of MSFAA. MSFAA will have a greater reach to develop aid professionals and will create a stronger sense of belonging within the financial aid community. The cost of institutional membership will be based on student FTE as reported on IPEDS.

MSFAA is an important resource for your Financial Aid Office and it is important that we continue to develop financial aid professionals. Schools are required to be administratively capable in order to participate in federal aid programs and ensuring there are future pipelines of aid professionals is critical to our students having access to funding.

Your Financial Aid Office may be asking for a larger-than-usual budget request as it relates to MSFAA membership. We ask for your support in honoring the budget request. The move to institutional membership will now be supporting all financial aid professionals working in your aid offices, not just a select few.

On behalf of MSFAA, I thank you.

Sincerely,

Louie Krause

MSFAA President