

A Collaborative Approach To Financial Education

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Agenda

- Make The Case
- Develop The Plan
- Implement Your Plan
- Examples and Best Practices





American Student Assistance®

- 60 years experience working with millions of students helping them understand and manage their education debt.
- Working with hundreds of colleges and universities nationwide.
- Teaming with corporate sponsors and engagement partners across public and private sectors.



Money knowledge for college-and beyond.

SALT is a free and unbiased nonprofitbacked financial education program dedicated to giving students, alumni, and families the money knowledge they need for college and beyond.





Make The Case

Financial Literacy- Not just for Financial Aid Anymore

- Selling the WIIFM
- Long Term Institutional Benefits
- Setting Realistic Goals and Objectives
- Meeting the Needs of Your Colleagues







TRiO Requirement

2008

Higher Education Opportunity Act Passed (2008)

Sec 646.1

(d) Improve the financial literacy and economic literacy of students in areas such as –

(1) Basic personal income, household money management, and financial planning skills; and

(2) Basic economic decision-making skills





Melior Group & American Student Assistance, 2011



Student loan borrowers indicated that the reason they don't give back to their school is because of a lack of financial wherewithal.



Melior Group & American Student Assistance, 2011





Develop the Plan

What are Your Goals and Objectives with this **Program**?

- Learn good financial decision making
- Get students to attend
 - Get students to pay attention
- Lower borrowing levels
 - Lower cohort default rate
- Collaborate with other offices



Principles Of Effective Programs

- Teachable moments
- Active, experiential, and problem-based learning
- Evaluation

Financial Education in TRiO Programs, Institutional Policy Brief, The Pell Institute, September 2009



Format Of Program

In-person

- Course
- Orientation
- Workshop series
- Online
- Written material
- Counseling
 - Certified professionals
 - Peer-to-peer



Audience

- TRiO students
- All entering freshmen
- All graduating seniors
- College 101 class
- Greek life/residence hall groups
- Commuter students
- Campus organization/major
- Young alumni



Campus partners

Find some champions: staff, faculty, students

Community resources

Local credit unions, banks, insurance professionals, etc.

National resources

Not-for-profit agencies

Blogs and websites

 blog.saltmoney.org, studentlendinganalytics.com, todayscampus.com, academic-impressions.com



Measuring Success

utcomes	
	utcomes

- Reduce loan debt
- Reduce credit card debt
- Increase alumni giving
- Increase # of offerings
- Improve student interaction
- Increase # of attendees



- Get institutional buy-in of the plan:
 - Best with involvement from all key campus offices/stakeholders.
 - Form a task force or committee to ensure creation, implementation, and continued maintenance of plan, including development of procedures and processes.
- The plan becomes:
 - A blueprint for your office and your campus.
 - The structure to define how your policies and procedures support the overall mission of your institution.





Implementing Your Plan

Set realistic expectations

- 1. Clearly define the processes and procedures to support the plan.
 - Generally done with involvement from all key offices and stakeholders on campus.
 - Obtain the support necessary to carry out the plan.
 - Partnerships become very important.



2. Communicate the plan prior to implementation.

How are you announcing this new initiative to the larger campus/alumni community?



Assess Your Progress

3. Status check: 3/6/9 months

- Initial impact?
- What are you hearing?
- Stop. Reset. Start again.



University of Missouri



Department of Personal Financial Planning College of Human Environmental Sciences

Office for Financial Success

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

HOME	
ABOUT US	di
► APPOINTMENTS / CONTACT US	
BUDGETING	1
► CREDIT / DEBT MANAGEMENT	Welco
FINANCIAL PLANNING	weice
► FOR STUDENTS	The Mizz dedicate
BANKRUPTCY	unbiased



Welcome to the Office for Financial Success

The **Mizzou Office for Financial Success** is a service of the Personal Financial Planning Department dedicated to improving the financial well-being of individuals and families by providing affordable, unbiased education and counseling in all areas of personal finance.

- Online material + professional financial counselors in their own center.
- Counseling sessions are free to students/faculty/staff/
- Sliding scale for community members (up to \$50/hour)

Source: http://pfp.missouri.edu/financial/index.html



Kansas State University

- Stand Alone financial education center for its students called Powercat Financial Counseling.
- Peer counselors provide oneon-one consultations as well as presentations.
- Partnered with SALT to extend financial literacy services to a 24/7 model, to the many students they couldn't otherwise serve, and their alumni population.



Source: http://www.k-state.edu/pfc/



Most Important

- Start somewhere
 - Anything can help
- Make it Simple
 - School Newspaper
 - Write a regular article on money management and/or student loan basics
 - Pay for advertisements in the newspaper
 - Social media tools
- Find campus champions to help
- Partner with community and national resources



What financial literacy programming are you doing on your campus? In the community?

> Are you partnering with other offices/organizations to bring financial literacy programming to your students?





In Conclusion

Collaborative spirit among campus offices

Enhanced customer service to the students and to each other

Better overall experience for your students

Long-term positive effect on retention and default



What best practices have you established in your organization?

What are your strategies for approaching other offices on campus or colleagues?

What other departments have been receptive to your message?





Thank You



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