

2013 Financial Aid Reapplication Workshop for OASIS Students

 Public

Name of Assessment Project: 2013 Financial Aid Reapplication Workshop for OASIS Students

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Providing Department: Financial Aid

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Units/Departments Involved in Assessment Project: OASIS

Program, Service, or Event Related to Assessment Project:

The Financial Aid Office offers workshops to students who are part of the Office of Academic Support &

Assessment Project: Instructional Services (OASIS) learning communities (OLCs) during winter quarter to remind them to

re-apply for financial aid, and to convey other pertinent financial aid information. OLC leaders

schedule these meeting times as required one-hour, non-credit bearing seminars which enable their

students to maximize financial aid resources.

The workshop was offered three times during the week of January 27, 2014 to accommodate 170 students.

Workshop 1 - 1/28 at the Cross Cultural Center - 50 Freshmen students attended - *Presenter Yvonne Borrego*

Workshop 2 - 1/29 at the Cross Cultural Center - 74 Freshmen/Transfer students attended - *Presenter Barbara Romero*

Workshop 3 - 1/31 at Huerta Vera Cruz (LGBT Resource Center) - 46 Freshmen students attended - *Presenter David Hillery*

Assessment Project Description: The assessment project was to inform the OLC students at the workshops about applying or reapplying for financial aid, to determine the value of having this type of workshop and to get suggestions for improving future workshops.

1. Did students learn the key date for applying for financial aid?
2. Did students learn the key date for turning in additional documentation?
3. Did students learn the different types of financial aid available?
4. Did students learn the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements?
5. Can students identify types of financial aid special circumstance appeals?
6. Did students learn what types of financial aid are available for summer?
7. Did students learn 2 new things during the workshop that they didn't previously know about financial aid?
8. Was the workshop valuable?

Students were emailed a survey to find out if students learned the information that was presented at the workshop, to test that workshop learning outcomes have been met, and to gather suggestions for improvement.

We used a survey incentive to thank respondents for taking the survey. An incentive is often used to increase participation. We offered a \$25 UCSD Bookstore gift card to three randomly selected students chosen for us by CampusLabs. Students had the option to participate or not participate in the prize drawing.

We plan to use the information taken from the survey to improve our future workshops.

Unit/Program Specific Goals and Learning Outcomes: The goal of this workshop was to remind students to re-apply for financial aid, communicate deadlines and requirements, and provide additional information that is pertinent to their specific learning community.

Learning Outcomes:

- 1) In the email survey, Participants chose a priority date from a list of dates to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or CA Dream Application is March 2nd.
- 2) In the email survey, Participants chose a priority date from a list of dates to submit additional documents, fix your FAFSA or resolve processing problems is May 21st.
- 3) In the email survey, Participants chose the different types of financial aid available
- 4) In the email survey, Participants identified the criteria for SAP requirements, which was knowing that 36 units is required to stay eligible for financial aid are requirements.
- 5) In the email survey, Participants identified different types of special circumstances that students may submit to the Financial Aid Office for consideration of additional financial aid.

- 6) In the email survey, Participants chose from a list of options, the types of financial aid available for the summer.
- 7) In the email survey, Participants wrote 2 important things they learned about financial aid at the workshop.
- 8) In the email survey, Participants told us if the workshop was valuable.

Relationship to Student Affairs: Advance a Plan for Personal, Academic, and Professional Success

Learning Outcomes:

Assessment Project Start: 7/1/2013

Assessment Project End: 6/30/2014

Population/Sample: 170 OASIS learning community students attended one of 3 workshop times. All 170 were emailed a survey the week following the workshops. 62 of 170 responded, a 36 percent response rate.

OLC students are freshmen and transfer students.

OLC students are mostly first generation, low income but may not fit into both categories.

OLC students started at OASIS through Summer Bridge or TRiO Student Support Services Program.

Type of Assessment: Student learning outcomes and/or behavioral outcomes, Satisfaction study

Other Assessment Type(s):

Assessment Methods: Surveys

Other Assessment Method(s):

Data Collection Tools: Campus Labs Baseline was used to create and email a post-workshop survey.

Email survey sent to 170 OLC students.

62 of the 170 students participated in the survey.

Data Analysis Methods: Campus Labs Baseline was used to tabulate survey results. Survey results provided how many of the 62 students answered each question, which addressed a specific learning outcome. Survey results included an open-ended question designed to gather suggestions for future workshops.

Presentation of Findings: Workshop findings were reviewed by presenters and lead staff presented findings to management team

Progress: 100%

Link Assessment Project in Campus Labs Baseline :



Name	Source
Reapplication Workshops	Baseline (All project data)
Reapplication Workshops DRAWING	Baseline (All project data)

- Summary of Findings:**
1. Did students learn the key date for applying for financial aid? - Yes: 58/93.55% of students chose the right date
 2. Did students learn the key date for turning in additional documentation? - Yes: 50/80.65% of students chose the right date
 3. Did students learn the different types of financial aid available? - Yes: Average of 58/93.55% of students selected the right options
 4. Did students learn the SAP requirements? - Yes: 58/93.55% of students selected the right answer regarding the number of units required; It is unknown if the students knew about the 2.0 cumulative GPA requirement because it was not assessed in the survey. This will be an improvement for next time.
 5. Did students learn what types of financial aid are available for summer? - Yes: Average of 51/86.44% of students knew the different types of aid available
 6. Can students identify types of financial aid special circumstance appeals? - Yes: Average of 51.5/87.08% of students identified the right circumstances
 7. Did students learn 2 new things during the workshop that they didn't previously know about financial aid? - Yes: 58.5/94.5% of students listed two important things they learned; The four most common things listed: 1) Learning about the FAFSA/CA Dream App deadlines, 2) Learning how the Cal Grant program works for new students and renewal students, 3) Learning about summer financial aid, 4) and learning more about scholarships available.
 8. Was the workshop valuable? - Yes: 32/54.24% of students strongly agree; 20/33.90% of students agree; 5/8.47% of students were neutral; and 2/3.39% of students disagreed. No students strongly disagreed.

Student suggestions for future workshops:

- more about the federal work-study program
- more information for students who have children
- more information about Study Abroad Programs
- more financial aid information for military dependents
- more information for out-of-state students
- more information on scholarships
- more information on loans
- more one-on-one help
- extend the workshop length due to the amount of information given
- offer more workshops
- explain more about summer financial aid at community colleges

Comments: 11/18.64% of students provided comments for improvements and 48/81.36% of students indicated nothing to improve

-  [Financial Aid Workshop for OASIS Students_RESULTS](#)
-  [Financial Aid Workshop for OASIS Students-DRAWING RESULTS](#)

Impact of Assessment: Student suggestions for future workshops will be discussed with office management. The suggestions to extend the work length would need to be discussed with OASIS Leaders. If possible, most of the suggestions may be incorporated into future workshop presentations.

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The success of this work confirms the need to continue the workshops being offered.

Aside from incorporating suggested changes, where possible, and discussing data gathering methods, we will not change the workshop.

Lessons Learned: A 36% response rate is average. 62 students took the survey and 59 of them entered into the drawing for the gift card. It's safe to say that the incentive definitely increased the response rate. Careful not to overuse the incentive, it is definitely a valuable tool.

100% of Financial Aid Office and 100% of Student Affairs learning outcomes were successfully achieved.

The students wanted/needed/benefited from the information taught in the workshop. They want more and longer workshops.

Conducting a workshop proved to be a good way to disseminate the information to the students.

Ask ourselves, is the email survey the best method to assess if we achieved our learning outcomes?

- Discuss the pro's and con's of using iPods for gathering data.
- Discuss the pro's and con's of an in class paper assessment for gathering data.
- Discuss the pro's and con's of an interactive method such as Question & Answer, show of hands, etc. during the class for gathering data.

Although most of the students were able to identify the types of aid available for summer, there was at least 21/35.59% students who selected a wrong option for summer financial aid. Learning about summer financial aid was also listed several times among the new things learned at the workshop. More information about summer financial aid should be made available during the workshop.

This was the 2nd time we've provided this type of workshop to the OASIS students. Suggestions from the previous year's workshop were implemented in this year's survey: more information on Cal Grants, use of a PowerPoint for those who learn visually, and made the "check all that apply" question format more clear so data gathered is more useful. More information on work-study was requested by students last year and more information was incorporated into this year's workshop. It is again listed in this year's student comments as a topic they would like more information on.

An improvement for next time is to either update Question 5 or add another question that assesses the student's knowledge of the 2.0 cumulative GPA requirement. Question 5: How many units do financial aid recipients need to complete each year

to maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for financial aid?

**Supplemental
Information:**

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