Using class time for financial aid for college completion lesson plan template

OCTOBER 2020 - JUNE 2021

LESSON PLAN TEMPLATE

OBJECTIVES

- Students understand the importance of completing their financial aid applications whether or not they are sure about attending college. Applying for financial aid early helps students get a better sense of their options after graduation, so it is important for all students to complete their applications

- Students know to submit their FAFSA, NYS Application for TAP, and NYS DREAM Act forms as soon as possible to maximize their opportunity for the most financial aid

- Students know which financial aid applications they qualify for

- Students work on their financial aid applications and verification requests

MATERIALS

- Ideally, students should have access to a computer, laptop, or mobile phone, and reliable internet

- As a link, digital copy, or printed copy, students should have access to the FAQ handout on pages 31-35 of this Toolkit

- As a link, digital copy, or printed copy, students should have the financial aid for college completion night and office hours logistics information

INTRODUCTION

In-person, or using live video, recorded video, or live audio call, the instructor will remind students where they can find the FAQ handout and discuss the importance of completing all the steps of the FAFSA, NYS Application for TAP, and NYS DREAM Act.

- Completing all the financial aid applications for which you are eligible helps students get the financial aid they need and is a critical step on the path to college

NY FAFSA
Challenge

- It is very important for students to complete their forms as soon as possible, and to respond promptly to any verification requests they receive after submitting their applications

- Research shows that 90 percent of high school seniors who complete the FAFSA go to college immediately after graduation — compared to just 55 percent of seniors who do not complete the FAFSA

- New Yorkers are missing out on an estimated $152 million in federal financial aid by not filling out the FAFSA — plus NYS Application for TAP and NYS DREAM Act supports

INSTRUCTION

- Give students the rest of the time to work individually on their applications and verification requests. The instructor should remain available including via text, phone call, and video call/chat if possible so that students can receive immediate responses to their questions.

CLOSURE

- At the end of class time, remind students verbally, or send students a text and email reminding them about upcoming class time to work on applications, as well as financial aid for college completion nights and office hours.