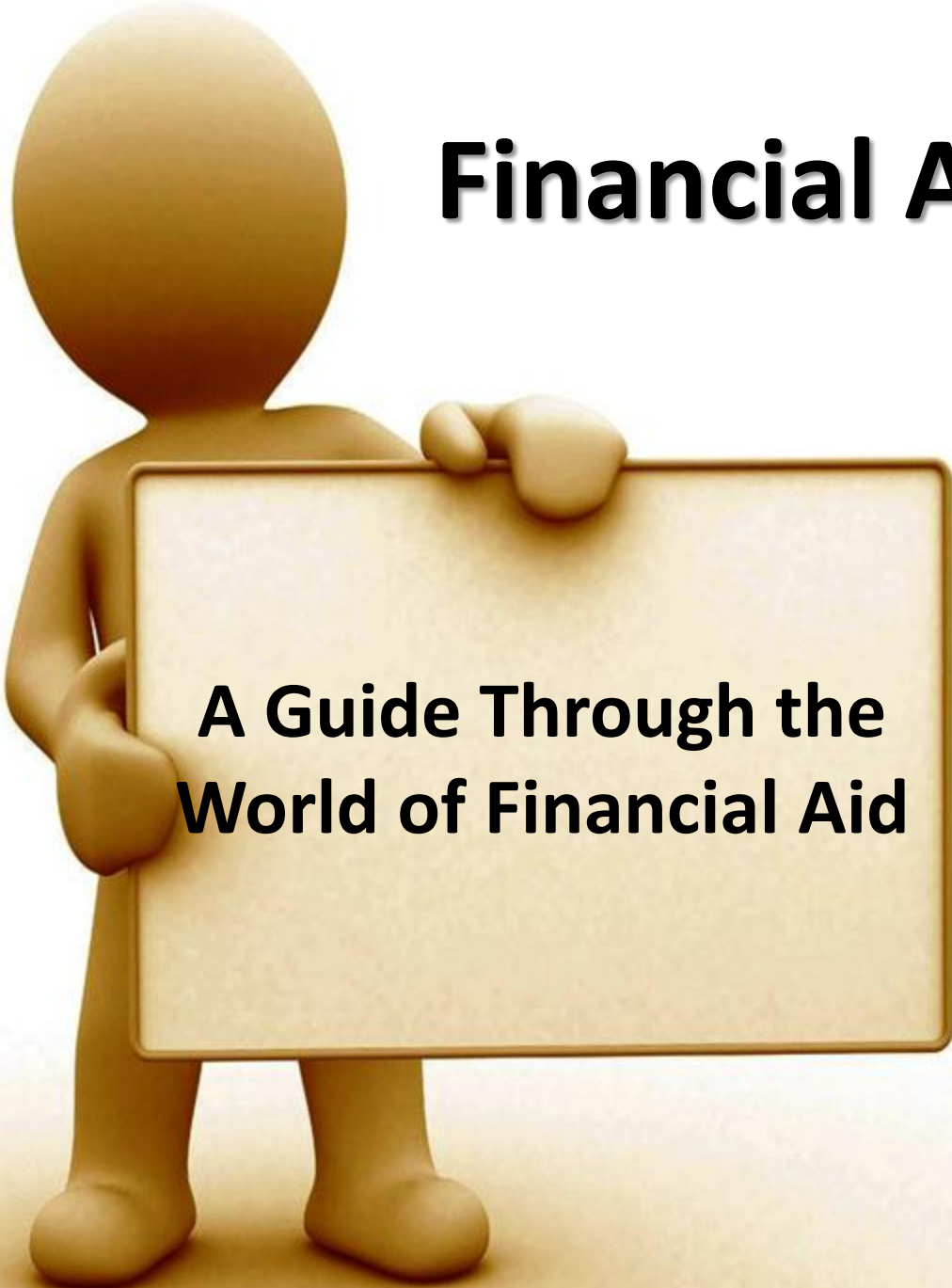



Financial Aid 101

A 3D rendered orange figure, resembling a stylized person, stands and holds a large, light-colored rectangular sign. The figure is positioned on the left side of the frame, with its right hand resting on the top edge of the sign and its left hand supporting the bottom edge. The sign is centered in the lower half of the image and contains the text 'A Guide Through the World of Financial Aid'. The background is plain white.

**A Guide Through the
World of Financial Aid**

It All Begins with FAFSA

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- **FAFSA stands for Free Application for Federal Student Aid**
 - **www.fafsa.ed.gov**
 - **The FAFSA is a snapshot of your financial situation the day your FAFSA was submitted**
 - **It is used to apply for federal student financial aid, such as grants, loans, and work-study**

A Little Info about the FAFSA

- **The FAFSA determines your EFC (expected family contribution)**
- **The EFC measures your family's financial strength**
 - **Determines your eligibility for federal student aid**

FAFSA Completed, Now What?

- Allow two weeks for your information from your FAFSA to be available to your school
- Complete all required forms from your Financial Aid Office, by the school's deadline!

How Much Aid Do I Receive?

- Your EFC, along with the rest of your FAFSA information, is made available to all schools listed on your FAFSA
- Schools use your EFC to prepare a financial aid package to help you meet your **FINANCIAL NEED**
- **Financial Need = COA (cost of attendance) - EFC**

What if my Financial Situation Changes?

- **If you have special circumstances that should be taken into account, contact the financial aid office**
- **Examples of special circumstances are**
 - **unusual medical or dental expenses,**
 - **large change in income from last year to this year**

What if I want to Apply for a Loan?

- www.studentloans.gov
- Complete Entrance Counseling
- Complete MPN
- Subsidized/Unsubsidized
- Choose your school
- Contact your financial aid office to complete a Loan Application and any other requirements that the financial aid office determines that is necessary

When do I Receive the Aid?

- Any financial aid you are eligible to receive will be paid to you through your school
- Your school will use the aid to pay tuition, fees, or any charges that were made to the school.
- Any remaining aid is refunded to you on a day determined by the school
- If you are eligible for a Federal Pell Grant, you may receive it for only ONE school for the same period of enrollment

How Do I Know I Have Been Awarded

- **WEB ADVISOR**
 - Log on to your Web Advisor account to view your award letter
 - If you have problems logging on to Web Advisor, call the help line at 910-296-1367
- The financial aid office will not disclose any financial information over the phone.
- Utilize the resources available to you
 - Web Advisor
 - Student Email
- This is how the school will communicate with you

How Do I Keep My Financial Aid?

- In order to continue to receive financial aid you must:
 - Keep at least a **2.0 GPA**
 - Have at least a **67% completion rate**
- What does that mean?
 - Successfully complete your classes
 - Make at least a C or better
 - Don't make a habit of withdrawing from classes

Steps to Financial Aid

1. Complete your FAFSA – www.fafsa.ed.gov
 2. Contact your Financial Aid assistant to make sure you have completed any required documents.
 3. Submit all documents by their deadline
 4. If interested in loans, review and apply at www.studentloans.gov
 5. Complete Entrance Counseling for loans
 6. Complete MPN for loans
 7. Complete school's Loan Application
 8. Complete any requirements to receive a loan that the Financial Aid office determine necessary
 9. Check the status of your financial aid through Web Advisor
- ❖ Please allow 4 weeks for processing after all required documents have been submitted.

Who is My Financial Aid Assistant?

- **Your assistant is determined by your last name**
 - Last names A – H **Ms. Rhonda Sholar**
 - Last names I – P **Ms. Nikki Glaspie**
 - All loans**
 - Last names Q – Z **Ms. Julie Shewell**
 - Scholarships**

Melissa Whitman, Financial Aid Director