

CODE OF CONDUCT

Northwest Mississippi Community College adopted the NASFAA Financial Aid Professional Statement of Ethical Principles known as the "Sunshine Act".

Below is a breakdown of the primary goals of the financial aid professionals. These goals will better help students achieve their educational potential by receiving appropriate financial resources. The Statement provides the Financial Aid professional with a set of guidelines that serve as a common foundation for accepted standards of conduct.

1. For the students who wish to pursue post secondary learning, the financial aid staff will assist in removing financial barriers to that student.
2. Make efforts to assist students with their financial needs.
3. Encourage and support students to aspire and plan for their education beyond high school.
4. Educate the students and their families with quality consumer information.
5. Show respect and dignity to the students with regard to protecting their privacy and assuring the confidentiality of student's records and personal circumstances.
6. Assure equality to each student by applying the need analysis formulas consistently across the institution's population of financial aid recipients.
7. Foster respect for diversity while promoting free expression of ideas and opinions within the profession.
8. The institution will not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, disability, age or economic status while providing services to the students.
9. Recognize the need for professional development and continuing education opportunities.
10. Maintain the highest level of professionalism, reflecting a commitment to the goals of the National Association of Student Financial aid Administrators.

NWCC employees do not accept gifts, gratuities, favors, discounts, entertainment or other items that may have any monetary value. However, such gifts will not include brochures, pens, food, workshop or training materials used for the knowledge and learning of financial literacy to be used for the enhancement of the financial aid office agents and employees.

The school institution will not assign student borrowers to any particular lenders, or banking institutions. The student will make the lender decision on their own knowledge or family knowledge of the lenders available.

An institution may not request or accept from any lender any assistance with call center staffing or financial aid office staffing, except that a lender may provide professional development training, educational counseling materials (as long as the materials identify the lender that assisted in preparing the materials), or staffing services on a short-term nonrecurring basis during emergencies or disasters. Advisory board compensation will be limited to reimbursement for reasonable expenses incurred by the employee for serving on the Board or group established by a lender or guarantor.