

From: Washington College Grant (WSAC)
Sent: Friday, August 30, 2024 11:31 AM
Subject: Update to Available Data in CSAW

Hello Financial Aid Administrators,

We have good news based on official guidance that the Washington Student Achievement Council received from Michael Ruggless, Program Specialist & Data Policy Lead, Federal Student Aid, US Department of Education! It is permissible for us to make some FTI and or FAFSA data elements visible to our school partners in our portal for the purpose of the application, awarding, and administration of federal, state, or institutional aid.

When you are submitting student award/payment data for 2024-25 in CSAW, you can now see the income, household size, and transaction number that WSAC has based the student's state aid eligibility on. This provides critical information when navigating any edits or differences in expected eligibility.

WSAC is following the data hierarchy as provided in the 2024-25 FAFSA Pell Eligibility and SAI Guide. For instances where the guidance is lacking related to family size, please see the May 16, 2024 guidance provided with the household assumptions that WSAC is using. You can visit the program guidance section of our website for this information at https://wsac.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2024-25_OfficialGuidance_FamilySizeAssumptions.pdf.

For example, family size data hierarchy:

- Updated Family Size
- Assumed Family Size
- Exemptions (if the tax return was filed married filing joint but they are separated then exemptions - 1 if the other values are blank)
- Chart provided in the link above

NOTE: The information contained in Appendix C in the FAFSA Pell Eligibility and SAI Guide does not include the use of the data field labeled "dependents."

Given the plethora of unique family situations for students, we recognize there may be some differences. If you encounter situations where your determination for state aid eligibility does not match what you are seeing in CSAW, please do not hesitate to reach out to WSAC using the secure message in the portal.

As always, we appreciate the partnership and all that you do for the citizens of Washington.

Take care,



Washington Student Achievement Council

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