

Pierce County Strong

Financial Aid Leadership Cohort 2017-18

You are invited to participate in the Pierce County Financial Aid Leadership Cohort for the 2017-18 school year! Join us to share, learn and advance strategies for increasing financial aid completion and T-2-4-going culture and connect with and support partners from throughout Pierce County working to increase access to postsecondary for all students. There is no cost for schools, organizations, or individuals to participate.

What are the goals of the Leadership Cohort?

1. Teams are better connected to partners throughout the county and have a venue to share best practices and support around financial aid completion in the context of college-going culture and postsecondary transition.
2. Teams are able to successfully implement and utilize resources to provide targeted and timely information to students and families about their postsecondary options and financial aid.
3. Teams are able to support the continued development of an overall college and career readiness culture throughout Pierce County and expand opportunities for families and students to complete financial aid applications.
4. Teams are able to better use data to guide improvements to their college and career/financial aid supports.

What does the Leadership Cohort look like?

- Approximately four group workshops that combine group training (including financial aid 101 for those who need this training), best practice sharing, and individual team planning time

What does our school/district/organization commit to?

- Forming a college and career/financial aid leadership team of 2-4 people from your school, district, or organization
- Attending four workshops from September through April (at least 2 people from each team need to attend each meeting – a mobile/video attendance option is available)
- Utilizing data and a growth mindset to inform your practices around financial aid completion.

How will our team benefit?

- High quality professional development and team planning time
- Mini-grants to implement a financial aid completion strategy – early, middle, and late term strategies will be accepted
- Access to regionally developed ready-to-use tools and promotional materials
- Connections to a dedicated group of practitioners seeking to expand opportunities for postsecondary access via financial aid completion support

When will the Leadership Cohort meet?

Session dates for the cohort are still being determined, but we will host an August 17th kick-off event plus 3-4 additional sessions from September – April. At our registration link (more information below), you can provide feedback on session times. All meetings will be at Pierce County locations.

- **August 17 Kick-Off (9:30-11:30AM):** This event will bring together school, district, and organization-based practitioners and financial aid leaders from Pierce County to:

- Discuss financial aid completion planning and PSCCN completion data reporting for the 2017-18 school year
- Learn about and receive new regionally developed financial aid promotional materials and practitioner resources
- Hear more about professional development, the mini-grant application process, and other opportunities available to Financial Aid Leadership Cohort participants.
- Sign-up for the cohort if you have not already

Register for the kick-off at: www.surveymonkey.com/r/kickoffcafe

How do I register for the Leadership Cohort?

Register for the Leadership Cohort at www.surveymonkey.com/r/finaidcohort (please have a team contact person register your team).

Questions:

Please contact Jessie Simanton, Puget Sound College and Career Network (PSCCN) Manager, at jsimanton@psed.org or (425) 917-7936.