OVERVIEW
President Obama announced on September 13, 2015 that all students and families will be able to apply for financial aid earlier – starting in October as the college application process gets underway – rather than in January.

Beginning on October 1, 2016, current and potential IPFW students can apply for financial aid a few months after they and their parents file their 2015 tax returns with reliable information retrieved electronically from the IRS to finalize their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Giving our students and families the ability to submit their FAFSA using earlier income data is commonly referred to as “prior-prior” year (PPY).

BENEFITS
- Earlier award information
- Simpler application process
- Reduce the % of students selected for verification at IPFW

CHALLENGES
- State funding and awarding implications
- Determination of college costs
- Software releases and upgrades
- Corrections, conflicting data and other administrative tasks

AREAS POTENTIALLY IMPACTED AT IPFW
- Admissions
- Athletics
- Bursar
- Center for Student Success & Transition
- Career Services
- Information Technology Services
- Institutional Research
- Registrar
- Student Information Support
- TRIO Programs
Diversity @ IPFW

With the strategic goal of fostering student success at the epicenter for our institutional work, we are primed for increasing the diversity of IPFW community through the creation of signature programs, recruitment and retention of diverse students, faculty and staff members, and through increasing avenues of student learning and engagement.

Celebration of Achievement

The Office of Diversity & Multicultural Affairs (ODMA) celebrated the re-authorization of the U.S. Department of Education’s TRiO Student Support Services (SSS) grant in September 2015; and, within this past year, the ODMA has secured $3.3 million in new funding from the U.S. Department of Education for both the TRiO SSS and two TRiO Upward Bound programs that help to drive the retention of current IPFW students and mentor secondary education students into successful college transitions respectively. Over the past decade, the leadership of ODMA has led and supported the attainment of over $10 million in grants and contracted funding for the university’s efforts of student success, student retention and outreach to underrepresented and first generation students.

Student Support & Success

Situated in the Division of Student Affairs, the expressed mission of the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs is to provide a support system for African American, Hispanic, Native American, International, Asian American, and first generation non-traditional college students who are enrolled at IPFW and to assist in the development, execution, and evaluation of the recruitment and retention efforts for students.

To manifest this mission, ODMA is home to the following administrative areas focused on outreach and support to and the campus education of special populations:

- Student Support Services
- Upward Bound I & II
- The Center for Women & Returning Adults (CWRA)
- Military Student Services
• The Resource Center (supporting LGBTQ+ populations)
• Carl D. Perkins Career & Technical Education Improvement Act
• Cultural programming, support for Student Organizations and “The Source”

Through these support channels, ODMA partners with faculty and staff across the institution to: provide technical advances in classrooms; support minority student populations with co-curricular programs and outreach; address and remove service barriers for all students; provide institutional cultural celebration and education; and support culturally based student organizations and special populations.

Chancellor’s Council on Diversity

The 2015-2016 academic year marks a pivotal year for the Chancellor’s Council on Diversity. With 12 faculty and staff members representing five academic departments and six student service functional areas and representatives for CSSAC and APSAC, the Council is diligently focused on the following:

• Celebrating the most successful Diversity Showcase to date featuring 34 academic and student service departments and 14 student organizations; four Bangladesh students providing cultural henna artistry; an Upward Bound alum demonstrating the power of imagery and identity; two IPFW student performances; four cultural fare offerings; and over 720 students, staff and faculty in attendance.

• Partnering with faculty and student service departments to educate and engage the student body with aspects of diversity of thought, demographics, and creeds.

• Writing the first-ever IPFW Diversity Plan in alignment with the University Strategic Plan and institutional priorities.

• Advising Chancellor Carwein of barriers to student success, civility and campus climate areas of concern, and opportunities for the growth of diversity-based initiatives and support services throughout the institution and within the surrounding communities.

University Partnerships

How can you help advance diversity at IPFW?