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May 21, 2014

Dear NASSGAP friends,

It's almost time to renew your organization's annual membership dues for the National Association of State Student Aid and Grant Programs (NASSGAP) for 2014-2015.  As in past years a few states have requested that we send the invoice out early enough that they can pay it from this year’s budget.  The annual dues amount is $1,000 for each agency or organization, and this one payment covers membership for all staff members of your agency or organization.

NASSGAP's membership brings together comprehensive knowledge and experience in the administration of state grant and scholarship programs, early intervention programs, educational savings and prepaid tuition programs, and many other funding opportunities for postsecondary students.

Membership and participation in NASSGAP offers an array of opportunities and services including:

* The annual membership conference with agendas that provide timely information to the membership and allow opportunities to network with others in the field.
* The Annual Survey of State Financial Aid Programs has become a valuable resource on state efforts.  Requests for such information have become commonplace from a variety of sources.
* NASSGAP's Internet Listserv provides a medium for facilitating discussion of issues related to state and federal student financial aid from the perspective of state financial aid agencies.
* NASSGAP’s Federal Relations Committee and Washington, DC consultant keep the membership updated on issues and events that affect student financial aid, and they promote NASSGAP’s position to appropriate officials in Washington, DC, including Capitol Hill and educational associations.
* NASSGAP’s ED/Technical Forms Committee coordinates representation of the states’ needs and concerns regarding FAFSA design with a member of NASSGAP serving on the USDE FAFSA design advisory committee.
* NASSGAP provides a voice for the states in the Negotiated Rulemaking processes regarding issues that affect state student financial assistance programs.
* NASSGAP’s website provides a plethora of information relating to scheduled conferences, the membership directory (including current board members and committee chairs), research, and surveys.  In addition to a robust website with access to the NASSGAP Virtual Office, NASSGAP members may use the website to create specific queries of data from tables stored there.

The above services and more are supported with your payment of annual membership dues.  On behalf of the NASSGAP membership and Executive Committee, we hope you will agree that membership in NASSGAP is a valuable resource for your organization.

An invoice is attached for your use in processing your dues payment.  Please make your check payable to "NASSGAP" and mail it to NASSGAP Treasurer David Hughes.  His address is printed on the attached invoice.  Please be reminded that if you are planning to attend the NASSGAP October 26-29th, 2014 conference in San Diego, CA at the Westin San Diego in the Gaslamp Quarter, your membership dues must be paid in advance or with your conference registration payment.

Your support of NASSGAP is appreciated.  If you should have questions or need additional information regarding NASSGAP membership or dues, please contact me at 802-542-2201 or send e-mail to [cargill@vsac.org](mailto:cargill@vsac.org).

I look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new members at our fall conference in San Diego!

Marilyn Cargill

NASSGAP Membership Chair