Top Ten Things You Need to Know About the New TADS Financial Aid

1. **TADS Financial Aid is staying TADS Financial Aid.** The new TADS Financial Aid portal is being built on the same platform (Salesforce) that houses SSS, but TADS school users will have their own portal that uses the TADS formula; SSS school users retain their separate portal that uses the SSS/NAIS formula.

2. Families will access a single Family Portal through which they can **apply to both TADS and SSS schools.**

3. Families will need to complete just **one single financial aid application** and pay **one single application fee.**

4. All families will be eligible for the Means-based Waiver which, **automatically identifies families who meet certain criteria** (including qualifying for free lunch) and then **waives the application fee** for those families. Families do not need to call you and self-identify as needing the fee waiver; if they qualify, the Family Portal will automatically waive their application fee.

5. You will not have a human auditing your financial aid applications anymore; **you will need to review your applications.** However, with your new TADS Financial Aid portal you will have much more powerful and automated tools that will take place of many of the things that had to be done by hand on the old TADS platform, including automated document verification that will verify specific tax documents within 48 hours.

6. You will be able to utilize **automated emails to follow-up with and remind families of missing documents configured to your own timeline.** You will also have access to a mass email tool that will allow you to create and send customized messaging to applying families rather than relying on the one-size-fits all messages that TADS families used to receive from the old system.

7. Your new tools will allow you to **move financial aid applications through the review process much more quickly** than in years past, even at the height of financial aid season – no more waiting weeks or months for the TADS team to manually review files.

8. You will have much more control over your applications, calculations, and data, including the ability to **make real-time revisions and recalculations** without depending on a TADS support team member to make changes for you.

9. You will have **powerful new reporting capabilities** in your new TADS Financial Aid portal with more than 50 built-in reports that you can access with just a click. And, starting in your second year using the new TADS FA, you'll be able to do year-over-year reporting right within the system!

10. Our **team will be helping TADS Financial Aid schools make this transition** to the new TADS FA this spring and summer, so you're set up for a successful 2023-24 processing season.