



Five Questions for the High School Counselor

- 1.) What happens if I make a contribution to my IRA or 401K in my base year? What does that do to my financial aid eligibility? **The amount of that contribution is assessed as income.**
- 2.) As a high school student, how much can my child earn before it impacts their financial aid eligibility? **This amount is currently \$6,840. The amount fluctuates every year.**
- 3.) Which funding strategy should be implemented before the base year to have the most impact? **Repositioning of assets**
- 4.) What is my asset protection allowance, & why is that important? **In the federal methodology, the parents have an APA based on the age of the oldest parent. Students do not have an APA; their assets are assessed from the first dollar.**
- 5.) What percentage of a student's assets are assessed at the institutional level versus the Federal level? **Student assets are assessed at 25% in the institutional level versus 20% in the federal.**