



2024-2025

The Illinois Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, Inc.

ILASFAA CANDIDATE ACCEPTANCE

Name of Candidate: Heidi Schmidt

Candidate is running for office of: Executive VP

Candidate's EDUCATION background -- degree, institution, year (year is optional):

Associate Degree, University of Wisconsin-Marathon County, 2008
Bachelor of Arts Degree, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2011
Master of Arts, Bradley University, 2013

Candidate's PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (please list current position first):

Coordinator of Training and Compliance, Illinois State University, Sept. 2021-Present
Senior Financial Aid Counselor, Illinois State University, August 2018-Sept. 2021
Financial Aid Specialist, Illinois State University, July 2014-August 2018
ISACorps Member (2013 cohort), ISAC, May 2013-July 2014

Candidate's PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES – years and activities:

2023-2024 ILASFAA Southern Regional Coordinator
Fall 2022, Fall 2023 Illinois State University Instructor for IDS 108 University Success Skills
2022-2023 ILASFAA Conference Program Co-Chair
2021-2022 ILASFAA Conference Program Co-Chair
2021-2022 Presented at the ILASFAA Conference
2020-2021 ILASFAA Conference Program Committee Member
Attended NASFAA's 2022 Leadership & Legislative Conference & Expo in the Compliance Management Pathway

What contribution do you envision ILASFAA making to the financial aid profession?

ILASFAA members have a wealth of information to share, and I envision increased collaboration and support among schools as we navigate the current financial aid climate and upcoming FAFSA simplification changes. I look forward to helping ILASFAA bring schools together to collaborate and foster relationships among Illinois institutions especially as we all prepare for the upcoming FAFSA 2024-2025 simplification and SAI updates.

How would you support financial aid professionals as we move into the future for ILASFAA?

If elected as the Executive VP I would like to see more opportunities for schools to come together both in person and virtually to discuss updates to the FAFSA, processing, student support, enrollment management and all of the other 1,000 things we are tasked with knowing and doing each day! I would like to give the opportunity to promote collaboration and foster a real sense of community and support among schools. There are many changes coming down the pipelines that

are inevitable and wading through those waters with a support team that you can lean on and call upon will make all the difference in helping to get through it successfully. This collaboration and network can start, and grow, at the spring 2025 Annual Conference where I would be excited to bring Bambie's vision to light by collaborating with her, and the co-chairs and their committee members of the Conference and Program committees.