

**Do you know what
to do if your
financial aid does
not cover your
balance?**

Ashton Ricketts, New Student and Family Programs
Michelle Yan, Division of Student Life

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What is the New Freshmen Student Orientation's Financial Aid Session?

- The purpose of this session is to inform students and their families of their responsibility regarding financial aid.
- 61% of Pacific freshmen reported on the CIRP survey that they have concern about their ability to finance college.
- Day 2 of New Freshmen Student Orientation– both students and parents & families attend
- Understanding prior to registration:
 - Following the session, students will begin registration for classes and be prompted to accept financial responsibility on InsidePacific
 - Goal is to make sure that orientation guests understand both the Financial Aid and Student Accounts (tuition payment) processes prior to registering for classes
- After presentation from both departments on resources, there is time left for both students and parents to ask specific questions
- Time for additional questions and orientation leader support

Method

1. Survey creation in collaboration between Planning and Assessment and the Financial Aid and Student Accounts offices
2. Participants consisted of students, friends and family members. n= 264.
3. Participants informed that their answers would be confidential.
4. Survey included demographic checkboxes and two open-ended questions printed on a half-sheet of paper.

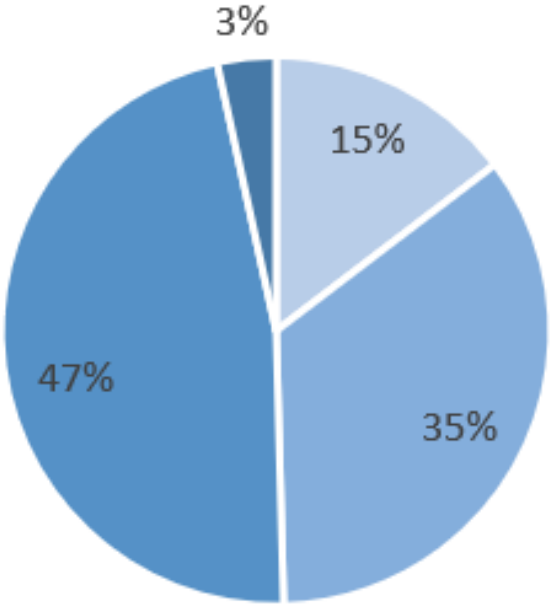
Critical Thinking on Quantitative Topics Rubric

Definition of competence in critical thinking on quantitative topics: Comfort and facility with exploration, reasoning, problem solving and communicating about topics related to numerical or computational data.

Score 4 Demonstrated proficient facility with knowledge <hr/>	Score 3 Demonstrated accurate facility with knowledge <hr/>	Score 2 Demonstrated basic facility with knowledge, and little or no misunderstanding <hr/>	Score 1 Demonstrated minimal facility with knowledge or misunderstands <hr/>
-Provides accurate explanations of information and makes inferences.	-Provides accurate explanation of information	- Provides somewhat accurate explanations of information; makes minor errors.	-Attempts to explain information but draws inaccurate conclusions.
-Explicitly describes assumptions and provides compelling rationale, acknowledging that conclusions may be limited.	-Explicitly describes assumptions and provides compelling rationale	-Explicitly describes assumptions.	-Attempts to describe assumptions.

Survey Question 1

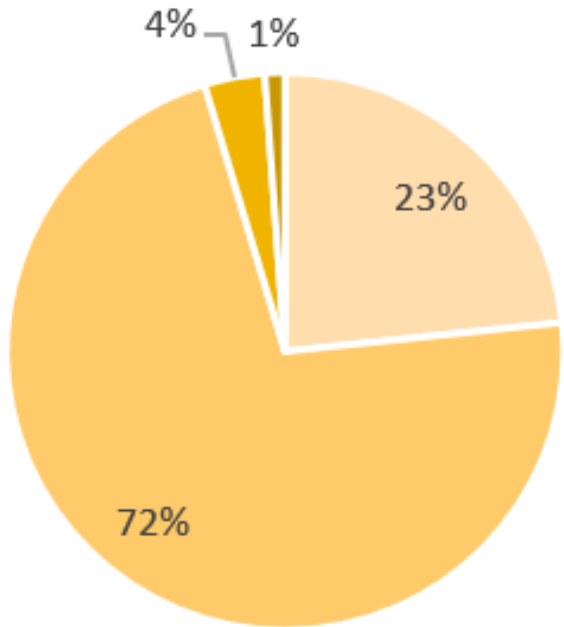
"As a result of attending the financial responsibility session, explain the steps to take if your financial aid award does not cover your remaining balance."



- Attempts to describe the assumptions
- Explicitly describes assumptions
- Explicitly describes and provides compelling rationale
- Explicitly describes assumptions and provides compelling rationale, acknowledging that conclusions may be limited

Survey Question 2

"The presenter said, 'Students must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) in order for any financial aid to be renewed for the next academic year.' Please list the two requirements a student must meet to maintain SAP."



- Attempts to explain information but draws inaccurate conclusions
- Provides somewhat accurate explanations of information; makes minor errors
- Provides accurate explanation of information
- Provides accurate explanations of information and makes inferences

Quotes from Participants

Question 1: As a result of attending the financial responsibility session, explain the steps to take if your financial aid award does not cover your remaining balance.

- “Take out loans” and “talk to financial aid office” were both very common – level 2
- 1/5 mentioned a specific type of loans/sources of funding (parent plus, mpn, CalGrant, unsubbed, subbed) –level 3 or 4 depending on amount of detail
- “Verification documents, loan requirements, graduation date verification” – level 4 (especially if they quantified their loan amount or interest)

Question 2: The presenter said, “Students must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) in order for any financial aid to be renewed for the next academic year.” Please list the 2 requirements a student must meet to maintain SAP in the space below

- 45% said “2.0 GPA” and “pass 67% of all classes” – level 2
- 45% said “2.0 GPA” and “pass 67% of all units” – level 3
- “# of classes dropped and GPA” or “passed 75% of classes” – level 1
- “Students must maintain a cumulative GPA, students must pass 67% of their cumulative attempted units” – level 4 (key is in the detail of the wording)

Discussion

Limitations

- Only two questions, brief amount of time

Discussion

- Over 82% scored in the top two levels of the rubric.
- The lesser understanding of S.A.P. could be due to the complexity of the concept

Recommendations

- Hands on activity: giving them a minute to calculate their own satisfactory academic progress in their previous school year.

Questions?