



**ROBERT D. COUGHLIN**

**Director of Financial Aid  
Wesleyan University**

Bob has worked in a variety of capacities in higher education administration for over 30 years. A native of Massachusetts, Bob holds a BA in History from Middlebury College.

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**P.O. Box 601001**  
**Dallas, TX 75360**  
**Phone: 404.869.1290**  
**Email:**  
**[info@thesecrettowriting.com](mailto:info@thesecrettowriting.com)**

He joined Harvard University's Office of General Counsel in 1989, devoting a considerable portion of his time on a significant Department of Justice antitrust investigation involving admissions and financial aid. This work peaked his interest in the field, and he joined the Admissions and Financial Aid Office at Harvard University's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS) in 1994. Here he was the Junior Admissions and Financial Aid Officer in the Social Sciences Division, becoming the Senior Admissions and Financial Aid Officer in the Humanities Division in 1995. In 1997, he joined the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid at Harvard Divinity School, where he held positions as Coordinator of Financial Aid and Associate Director of Financial Aid. From 2005-2015, Bob was the Director of Financial Aid at Harvard Medical School. In 2015, he became Director of Financial Aid at Wesleyan University, the position he currently holds.

Bob is a member of several professional organizations, having served as co-chair of the Just the Facts Committee of the Massachusetts Association of Financial Aid Administrators (MASFAA) from 2007-2009, chair of the Association of American Medical Colleges' Committee on Student Financial Assistance from 2009-2012, elected as a Member-At-Large representative of MASFAA's Executive Council from 2011-2013, co-chair of the Access Group's Financial Literacy Advisory Committee from 2013-2015, member of NASFAA's Graduate and Professional Issues Committee from 2014-2015 and member of the College Board Forum's Annual Planning Committee since 2019. In addition to serving on various committees, Bob routinely presents on financial aid topics at professional meetings and conferences.