



Financial Aid/Scholarship “Basics”

FAFSA – Free Application for Federal Student Aid www.fafsa.ed.gov

Myth – We don’t qualify for aid so we don’t need to fill it out. FALSE!! Many schools want a completed FAFSA on file for scholarships & special programs.

Steps:

1. Print off web worksheet & gather materials.
2. Submit FAFSA online.
3. Receive SAR – student aid report.
4. Receive school award letter & compare “apples to apples” or bottom line.

CSS/Financial Aid Profile is used by some schools (usually private) and scholarship funds to award non-federal aid funds. Cost is \$25 for initial application and one school report. \$16 fee is charged for additional reports.

Timeline: FAFSA becomes available January 1, 2010. Submit it as early as possible based on your best tax information possible. Adjustments can be submitted at a later date. Double check with each school regarding their specific deadlines.

College Goal Sunday is a national event that provides free information and assistance to families who are filling out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), the federally required form for students seeking financial aid, such as grants and loans. Completing the FAFSA is the first and most important step in qualifying for aid.

Edgewood College - Saturday, February 20th at 2:00 p.m.

1000 Edgewood College Ave

Main Entrance

Madison Area Technical College - Sunday, February, 21st at 2:00 p.m.

3550 Anderson St

Redsten Gym Entrance

Scholarships – We produce a monthly newsletter distributed to senior homerooms, available online and in student services. Excellent websites such as fastweb.com and scholarshipcoach.com are a few examples of national offerings. Best bet – look into college specific awards & programs with admissions/financial aid office. Local/regional scholarships come to our attention later in year – promoted and reviewed by scholarship committees/departments. Start now with senior resume, list of involvements & accomplishments, checking at places of employment, drafting essay responses, etc..