



Financial Aid Updates 2016-2017

- 1) Contact Number for all state funded, financial aid programs: **The Office of Scholarships and Grants- 1-888-4GRANTS or 1-888-447-2687.** (This is for TIP information as well)
- 2) The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) should be completed online after October 1st at www.fafsa.ed.gov (NOT .com as this is a pay site) This form is filled out for ALL students attending college in order to be eligible for grants, loans, or work study. **If a family does not have access to a computer and needs to have the paper form they can call: 1-800-4-FED-AID to request it.**
- 3) FAFSA pin number is no longer needed for both student and parent filling out the form. A FAFSA ID will now be required - this username and password will serve as your signature when submitting the form. Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov for a link to create a FAFSA ID.
- 4) www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov also provides an early estimate of federal aid eligibility; pin is not required; this information can also be transferred to FAFSA.
- 5) IRS Data Retrieval Tool will allow tax info to transfer from IRS into FAFSA! Access to connect these will be available on the FAFSA website. This is highly recommended as students using this will not have to verify their information with the colleges/universities.
- 6) To be eligible for ALL State Programs, students must:
 - 1) Take the MME or M-STEP- which includes the ACT for seniors, SAT for juniors.
 - 2) Although not required on the MME, the ACT answer sheet should have student SS#. This is the best way to connect the test record to the FAFSA data. Scholarship \$ could be lost if a match is not made. Students who did not supply their social security number should contact the MME office to confirm their eligibility, if they have an eligible sum score of 90 or above. (must add each sub score together for a score of 90 or above)
 - 3) **Complete the FAFSA by March 1- priority date (THIS IS NOT THE DEADLINE FOR FINANCIAL AID)**
- 7) **Financial Aid Night-** November 3rd, 2016 at 6:00 pm in the high school library.
- 8) **FAFSA Help-** November 10- 3:30-7 pm at the MCC High School Library Computer Lab. WSCC financial aid professionals will be available to help students/parents fill out the FAFSA. Does not matter which college you plan to attend. Bring student and parent tax information and plenty of questions! (RSVP with Mrs. Vidak if you plan to attend).

- 9) **Need helping filling out your FAFSA?** West Shore Community College Financial Aid Office offers FREE help- no matter the college your student plans to attend. Bring your tax information and let them help you fill out your FAFSA ☺ Just call 845-5917 to make an appointment.
- 10) **Reminder: Apply for the FAFSA online after October 1st at: www.fafsa.ed.gov (NOT .com- as this is a pay site)**
- 11) **Scholarship Information:** remember, applying for scholarships should be FREE- you should not have a fee for scholarship applications!
- 12) **NOTE:** beginning OCTOBER 1st, 2016 the FAFSA will be filled out in the fall instead of the spring. (EFFECTIVE for FALL 2017-2018) Your 2015 taxes will be used again for anyone in the current junior class or current seniors that will be in college. Contact your financial aid office if you have questions- more information will be available as it gets closer.

Useful websites:

- Financial aid: www.fafsa.ed.gov
- FAFSA ID: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out/fsaid>
- FAFSA Estimator: <https://fafsa.ed.gov/FAFSA/app/f4cForm?execution=e2s1>
- College Transfer Information: www.MichiganTransferNetwork.org
- Compare Colleges: <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov>
nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator
- College and scholarship info: <http://www.itsmilife.com/>
www.salliemae.com/michiganplans
- Scholarship searches: www.fastweb.com
www.careercruising.com user name: mcc password: Spartans
- Career Information: <http://www.mitalent.org/>
- FAFSA Information <http://www.affordablecolleges.com/resources/fafsa/>