



Financial Aid Updates 2017-2018

- 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 M-STEP- which includes the SAT, Work Keys and M-STEP.
 - 2) Although not required on the M-STEP, the SAT 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 Office of Scholarships & Grants at 1-888-447-2687 to confirm their eligibility. A composite of 1200 or above may qualify students for the Michigan Competitive Scholarship.
 - 3) Complete the FAFSA by March 1- priority date **(THIS IS NOT THE DEADLINE FOR FINANCIAL AID)**
- 7) **Financial Aid Night-** November 2nd, 2017 at 6:00 pm in the high school library.
- 8) **FAFSA COMPLETION NIGHT-** November 9- 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 from 2016 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: OCTOBER 1st, 2017** the FAFSA will be filled out in the fall. Your 2016 taxes will be used. 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/