# Class of 2020 College Planning Meeting Day 3

Financial Aid and Scholarship Information Meeting

## Please move closer if it is difficult to hear

Please move closer or sit on the floor if it would help you hear this important information better.

## YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE THAT CAN TALK WITH COLLEGES ABOUT YOUR FINANCIAL AID WHEN YOU ARE 18.

Thank you for being respectful of your classmates by not talking through the presentation since it is so difficult to hear in the commons.

## Looking ahead.... to our College planning meeting (Day 4)

We are having a meeting for students that are planning to apply to Parkland or Parkland Pathways to have you apply to Parkland in that advisory.

Please mark your calendars for September 30, 2019 in the auditorium during advisory.

## Looking ahead.... to our Financial Aid planning meeting (Day 2)

We are hosting a financial aid meeting you and your parents on Thursday, September 26, 2019 in the auditorium from 6:00-7:00 pm.

We will be bringing in speakers who are experts in financial aid to go into great detail about the financial aid process.

Please mark your calendars for September 26, 2019 in the auditorium 6:00-7:00 pm.

### **Financial Aid**

Financial aid is money that the government awards based off your income and your parents' income.

Financial aid comes in the form of loans, grants, work study, and scholarships.

## The Financial Aid process opens up October 1

Please mark your calendars for October 1, 2019 as the first day you can complete your financial aid forms.

There are advantages to applying early.

Money runs out. So it is important to apply in October.

## Colleges can only communicate with you when you turn 18.

It is important that you are part of the financial aid process as colleges can only work with you when you are an adult.

They can no longer talk to your parents once you turn 18.

You will have to advocate for yourself.

## You are responsible for your college debt

It is important to you because you are ultimately responsible for any college debt.

## Financial Aid must be applied for every year

Your finances and your parents' finances can change yearly.

In most cases you will be considered a dependent of your parent until you turn 24.

If you get married, have a child, are an orphan, or are a veteran then you are likely to be considered independent.

## You get financial aid by filling out the FAFSA.

FAFSA stands for

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

Free - meaning it should not cost you anything. (do not pay scam sites to do this process)

Federal - meaning this is for any college in the United States.

## The FAFSA form can be found on the high school counseling site or college financial aid sites. www.mshscounselors.com



## Area Financial Aid Meetings

### FINANCIAL AID INFORMATIONAL

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Thursday, September 26, 2019 - 6:00-7:00PM MSHS Auditorium

This meeting is for juniors and seniors and their parents. The presentation will include information about grants, scholarships, loans and the financial aid application process. An Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) or Parkland College financial aid officer will discuss how to complete the financial aid application, the FAFSA, and will also be available to answer questions concerning the financial aid application process.

If you are unable to attend the meeting at MSHS, below is a list of other financial aid informational meetings scheduled in the area:

- Thursday, August 22 Fisher High School, 6:00 8:00 p.m., Library
- Tuesday, September 3 Villa Grove High School, 6:00 -8:00 p.m., Cafeteria
- Wednesday, September 4 Blue Ridge High School, 7:00 8:00 p.m., High School Commons
- Thursday, September 5 Heritage High School, 6:30 8:30 p.m., Library
- Monday, September 9 Monticello High School,  $6:30-8:00~\mathrm{p.m.}$ , Moore Gym
- Wednesday, September 11 Tuscola High School, 6:30 7:30 p.m., Library
- Tuesday, September 17 Rantoul High School, 6:30 8:00 p.m., Library
- Tuesday, September 17 Central High School, 6:00 7:30 p.m., Library Lecture Hall
- Thursday, September 19 St. Joseph/Ogden High School, 6:30 8:30 p.m., Auditorium
- Monday, September 23 Bement High School, 6:00 7:00 p.m., Library
- Tuesday, September 24 Centennial High School, 6:00 7:30 p.m., College and Career Lecture Hall
- Wednesday, September 25 Gibson City/Melvin/Sibley High School, 6:30 8:30 p.m.,
   Media Center
- Thursday, September 26 Mahomet/Seymour High School, 6:00 7:00 p.m., Auditorium
- Thursday, September 26 Urbana High School, 7 ? p.m., Lecture Hall
- Monday, September 30 Unity High School, 6:00 8:00 p.m., Library Computer Hall.

### Resources

#### **FINANCIAL AID**

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F.A.Q.'s - Frequently asked questions about financial aid.

FAFSA ON THE WEB - Use this link to complete the online FAFSA.

NOTE: Completing the FAFSA is free (hence the name FREE Application for Federal Student Aid)! While some sites (such as fafsa.com) require you to pay in order to complete the FAFSA, the official FAFSA site (fafsa.ed.gov) provides the application for free as it is intended.

**ONLINE RESOURCES** - Documents and resouces provided to assist you in completing your FAFSA.

**FINANCIAL AID MEETING** - Presentation by ISAC and Parkland representatives held at MSHS.

**FINANCIAL AID NEED ESTIMATOR** - Enter your information to calculate an estimate of the financial aid you will receive. Keep in mind, *this is only an estimate*.

### Click on the FAFSA on the web link



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## FAFSA application - allow an hour

Home » FAFSA®: Apply for Aid

## FAFSA®: Apply for Aid

Use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form to apply for financial aid for college or grad school.

NEW TO THE FAFSA® PROCESS?

Completing the FAFSA form is free. Fill it out now.

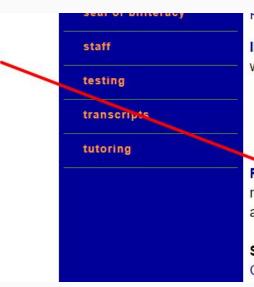
START HERE >

RETURNING USER?

Correct info • Add a school View your *Student Aid Report* (SAR)

LOG IN >

### You must create a FSA ID



Finald.org - Another good resource for financial aid information.

**ILLINOIS FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS** - Browse the various financial aid programs in Illinois for which you may be eligible.



**FSA ID** - Your FSA ID serves as your electronic signature and provides access to your personal records. You will be able to use the same FSA ID in the future to apply electronically for student aid and access your U.S. Department of Education records.

#### SAVINGS PLANS

College Illinois - College Illinois is a prepaid tuition program administered by the state. You will be

### PLEASE CREATE YOUR FSA ID SOON

Please mark your calendars to create your FSA ID in the next couple days.

It takes 1-3 days to get your FSA ID that acts as your electronic signature.

This is required to complete your FAFSA.

You may want to encourage your parents to as well in the next couple days.

### Financial Aid comes from different sources

**Grants - money you don't have to pay back** 

Loans - money you have to pay back

Work study - money you earn by working at your college

**Scholarships** 

You apply for all of these by completing the FAFSA or CSS (for private schools)

## You aren't alone in this process....

Your college financial aid office is there to help you each year.

ISAC (Illinois Student Assistance Commision) is also there to help you.

### SCHOLARSHIPS





## Scholarship Page

Local Scholarships

National Searches - FASTWEB.com

College Scholarships

Military ROTC

#### OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS

#### Elks Most Valuable Student Scholarships

CRITERIA: Active in school and community activities, solid academic history, recognized by peers as a leader. Financial need considered.

DEADLINE: November 5, 2019
APPLICATION: APPLY ONLINE

**Parkland Trustees Scholarships** -- 50% of tuition and fees for 2 years CRITERIA: Top 10% of the class determined at the end of the 7th semester

DEADLINE: N/A

APPLICATION: You will receive a letter from Parkland if you make the top 10%

FREE SCHOLARSHIP SEARCHES - Although there are countless web-based scholarship searches available for you to find and use online, we have found FastWeb to be the most reliable. Remember, you should never pay anyone to find scholarships for your



Every college offers unique scholarship opportunities that are available upon request from that particular college or university. More information can typically be obtained by calling the college's financial aid.

**PARKLAND SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH** - Log onto the Parkland Connection and find out what Parkland scholarships for which you may be eligible.

**ROTC** - The Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program is a college-based, officer commissioning program. It is designed as a college elective that focuses on leadership development, problem solving, planning, and professional ethics.