

“Show me the MONEY”

The quest for scholarships



Tonight's Objectives

- Explain the differences between scholarships/grants and loans
- Clarify scholarship application strategies/tips
- Announce upcoming events
- Perform a scholarship search

Free Money.....



- Research = opportunities
- Investigate all options: state, organizations, family affiliations, college/career goals, race, Ethnicity, denomination, gender, disability, employment, activities, hobbies
- College Board resources
- Web based searches

Free Money

- Scholarships/Grants
 - No repayment
 - Paid to institution or student
 - Institutional awards (reduce overall cost)
- Based on need or merit
 - Need based: demonstrated financial hardships
 - Merit based: achievement, abilities, athletics, talents, interests, music/performance based etc.

Scholarship Applications

- Can consist of one or more of following:
 - Application
 - Essay
 - Audition
 - Portfolios
 - Interviews
 - Grades/test scores
 - Activity lists
 - Letter of Recommendation (résumé)



Scholarship Scams

- Entry fees=Beware
- www.bbb.org (better business bureau)
- www.ftc.gov (federal trade commission)
- If it sounds too good to be true it usually is! Be wary of:
 - If they contacted you
 - “If for the low price of”
 - “Guaranteed monies”

Athletic Scholarships

- Register end of junior year
- Meet minimum core/ACT requirements
- Only D 1 and 2 offer money



Loans



- Subsidized

- Demonstrate financial need (FAFSA)
- Government pays interest while in school, or lower interest payments

- Unsubsidized

- Borrower pays interest on loan
- Available to anyone regardless of financial need

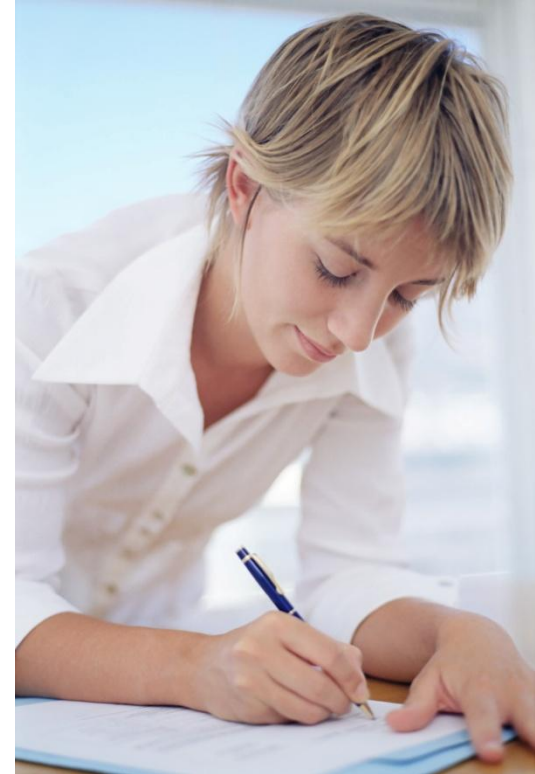
Financial Aid Night/FAFSA Completion Night

- December 12th at 7 pm (auditorium)
 - Think of special circumstances to get expert advise
 - Familiarize with www.fafsa.ed.gov website
 - Establish a PIN (one adult and student)
- January 12th at 7 pm (LRC)
 - Have with you income tax forms from last year or if possible this year
 - Have your PIN number (previously created)



Applying Tips....

- Apply early
- Follow directions
- Stay organized
- Proofread
- Keep copies
- Be persistent



Application Tips

- Apply to as many as possible
- Don't pass up on smaller/local scholarships
- Create a list of common answers (GPA, ACT)
- Recycle, reuse, rethink materials (school essays)
- Keep log of activities, accomplishments, honors
- Don't take rejection personally
- Check with college/university financial aid office

Essay Tips

- Don't just tell, "show" with descriptive words
- Keep it personal, organized, concise
- Stick to the prompt
- Don't recount information from application
- Make it memorable (vivid details)
- Proof read!

What parents can do to “help”

- Help search (friends/employment)
- Provide research assistance (computer time)
- Keep them organized (deadlines, resume, essays)
- Act as sounding board
- Review application materials
- Encourage/support



Important Dates

- CLC College Night
 - 10/20/11 6-8 pm PE building
 - www.clcillinois.edu for complete listing
- Financial Aid Night
 - 12/12/11 7:00 ACHS auditorium
 - Obtain PIN prior (if senior only)
- January 12th FAFSA Completion Night
 - 7:00 ACHS LRC
 - Bring PIN and income tax forms
- Local scholarship applications
 - Out early Feb/due early March
 - Application online

Hands on time



- Demonstrate guidance web page
 - [sequoits.com academics/guidance](http://sequoits.com/academics/guidance)
- Demonstrate scholarship listing/local
 - From guidance page
- Demonstrate college board scholarship search
 - www.collegeboard.com