

F.A.C.E.

the

FACTS



Spring 2010

A Word from SCASFAA

Congratulations! Another school year will be ending soon. Your seniors will be heading off to college and before

you know it, the process will begin again with a new class of rising seniors. With record numbers of students entering

college, the South Carolina Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (SCASFAA) would like to thank each of you for everything you do to make college possible for the students and families at your schools. SCASFAA is proud to work with you to our mutual goal of ensuring that every student and family in South Carolina is aware that college is economically feasible regardless of the family's financial situation.

It has been a difficult year financially for many families, school districts, and colleges. SCASFAA remains committed to working with you. One small way we try to help is with this newsletter which we hope you will find helpful. Please feel free to contact the financial aid office at a college in your neighborhood if you have suggestions for future newsletters or if SCASFAA can assist you in any way.

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SCASFAA Counselor Relations
Committee Chair
South Carolina Student Loan
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Important Scholarship Information

PALMETTO FELLOWS SCHOLARSHIP

APPLICATION PROCESS OPENS:

**** APRIL 15—JUNE 15, 2010**

***If you do not receive notification from CHE the week of April 15th, it is your responsibility to get the information for your school.*

Guidance Counselors and School Representatives:

GET READY, GET SET, GO!!!!

Final Awards for the PALMETTO FELLOWS SCHOLARSHIP Application process

opens:

April 15 thru June 15, 2010

Yes, SC Can go to college!!!!

Check out our website for great resources for student, parents, guidance counselors and teachers for college information and much more at:

SCCANGO.ORG

Counselors will be able to access Palmetto Fellows Scholarship information starting Fall 2010 at this website.

If you have any questions or require additional information, feel free to contact Lorna Manglona-Williams at lmangwilliams@che.sc.gov or Marshelle Zander at mzander@che.sc.gov.

SC Commission on Higher Education
1333 Main Street, Suite 200
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 737-2260



SC COMMISSION ON HIGHER
EDUCATION

Student(s) and guidance counselors/high school representatives must submit an electronic application through CollegeNet prior to submitting paper documentation to CHE. Guidance counselors/high school representatives must wait until final grades and class rank are established to submit their electronic application on each student.

Students taking the June test administration date must designate CHE to receive test scores by the following codes:

SAT - 4313

ACT - 6326

Deadline date is June 15, 2010.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lorna Manglona-Williams at lmangwilliams@che.sc.gov

College Goal Sunday Scores Big

Saturday, February 27, 2010 was a great day for families planning on attending college! SCASFAA members volunteered in record numbers to offer FREE financial aid information, guidance, and assistance in our local communities. College Goal Sunday workshops were simultaneously held at 18 locations across South Carolina. With **well over 900** individuals participating, this was by far the best attended College Goal Sunday to date. The hosts for the 2010 event were:

Aiken Technical College
Anderson University
Central Carolina Technical College
Claflin University
Erskine College
Florence-Darlington Technical College
Greenville Technical College
Horry-Georgetown Technical College
Lander University
Midlands Technical College
Richland County Public Library
Technical College of the Lowcountry
Tri-County Technical College
Trident Technical College
USC Beaufort
USC Lancaster
USC Upstate
Williamsburg Technical College



College Goal Sunday is collaborative event with SCASFAA, SC Commission on Higher Education, TRIO Programs, SC Student Loan Corporation and others working together. Participants received state and federal financial aid information and were guided step-by-step through completing FAFSA on the Web.

Participant evaluations were overwhelmingly positive. Dates and locations for College Goal Sunday 2011 will be announced in the fall. Please plan to let your families know about this opportunity to 'get the ball rolling' in the process of financing a college education.

Federal Student Loan Changes

The process for obtaining a federal student loan will change dramatically beginning on July 1, 2010. For many years, two student loan programs have competed to provide colleges, students and families the best possible service, the Federal Stafford Loan Program and the Federal Direct Loan Program. Colleges decided which they preferred and those who preferred the Federal Stafford program provided their students a list of preferred lenders from which they chose who they wished to borrow from. Recent legislation requires all colleges to use the Federal Direct Loan Program for all loans made after July 1, 2010.

Your students and families will still be eligible for the same amount in student loans with the same terms and conditions. The only change will be in the process for the delivery of the loans. The loans will not come from a local or national lender but instead will be made directly by the federal government. Regardless of whether you agree with this legislation or not, the key thing for students and families to understand is that the same amount of funding will be available for them. They will still be able to receive loans if necessary, just through a different process. Remind your students and parents to read their award letters carefully, and they will be given instructions on how to obtain the loan funds that they need.



Free Training on Financial Aid

SCASFAA was proud to host the National Training for Counselors and Mentors (NT4CM) for the first time in February 2010. This training developed by a consortium of organizations including the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA), National Council of Higher Education Loan Programs (NCHELP), National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC), American School Counselor Association (ASCA), National College Access Network (NCAN), and Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) - started three years ago, and this was the first year that it has been offered here in South Carolina.

This free training was extremely well received by the attendees. Led by USC Upstate's financial aid director, Allison Sullivan, with assistance from Lorna Manglona-

Williams from the SC Commission on Higher Education and Mike Fox from SC Student Loan, 71 guidance and TRIO counselors completed the training. The training was offered in three locations across the state:

Spartanburg Community College
Midlands Technical College
Trident Technical College

The training covered all the basics of financial aid from completing the FAFSA to the specific state and federal programs available. SCASFAA has agreed to host the training again in the upcoming school year, so please watch for announcements of time and location and plan to attend.

SC Higher Education Tuition Grants Program

www.sctuitiongrants.com



The South Carolina Tuition Grants Program is administered by the South Carolina Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission (Commission) and is made possible through an annual appropriation by the South Carolina General Assembly. The purpose of the program is to provide undergraduate

grant assistance to enable South Carolina residents the **choice** of attending full-time an eligible in-state independent college that best meets their academic needs. **For more detailed program information, please refer to the December 2009 issue of FACE the Facts.**

The maximum grant amount for the 2010-2011 academic year has been set at \$2600 (maximum of \$1300 per semester).

The Tuition Grant is a need-based grant; therefore, the Commission utilizes the FAFSA as the student's application. **The Commission has an absolute deadline of June 30th each year and only eligible applications received by the federal processor through June 30 will be funded.** Please be sure your students are aware of this important deadline.

Further questions about the South Carolina Tuition Grants Program should be addressed to the Financial Aid Office at one of the eligible participating colleges or to the South Carolina Tuition Grants Commission.

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPATING SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT COLLEGES:

ALLEN UNIVERSITY
ANDERSON UNIVERSITY
BENEDICT COLLEGE
BOB JONES UNIVERSITY
CHARLESTON SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
CLAFLIN UNIVERSITY
COKER COLLEGE
COLUMBIA COLLEGE
COLUMBIA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
CONVERSE COLLEGE
ERSKINE COLLEGE
FURMAN UNIVERSITY
LIMESTONE COLLEGE
MORRIS COLLEGE
NEWBERRY COLLEGE
NORTH GREENVILLE UNIVERSITY
PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE
SOUTHERN WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
SPARTANBURG METHODIST COLLEGE
VOORHEES COLLEGE
WOFFORD COLLEGE

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Newsletter compliments of:



www.scstudentloan.org