

# ATTENTION SENIORS!!!

## YOU ARE HALF WAY THERE!!!

- \* Turn in any acceptance letters or scholarship offers you receive to Mrs. Sisolak or Mrs. Campbell as soon as you receive them. (Even if you don't plan on accepting them, we still need them for the graduation program)
- \* Check the Career Center on a regular basis for new scholarships and also the school website for senior deadlines and scholarship opportunities.  
<http://www.ccboe.com/schools/laplata/>
- \* Complete the FAFSA! State deadline is March 1<sup>st</sup>. However, some schools may have deadlines as early as February 1<sup>st</sup> so make sure to check with each of the schools you are applying to for their deadlines. Link to the FASFA is on the La Plata website under Academics/College & Career Center tab.
- \* Contact the Financial Aid office of the colleges, universities or technical schools you have applied to and see what scholarship opportunities are available and how to apply for them. A majority of scholarship money comes from the individual institutions. You complete your FASFA to be eligible.
- \* Seniors who are planning on attending College of Southern Maryland in the fall and are interested in scholarship opportunities, contact the financial aid office now! You must first apply to the university and complete the FAFSA form in order to be eligible. Money is disbursed on a first come first serve basis. CSM will be here on February 15<sup>th</sup> to walk you through the process and on April 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> to administer the placement test. Please listen to the announcements for further details and sign-ups.
- \* ASVAB testing is March 15<sup>th</sup>. See Mrs. Campbell in the Career Center to sign up.
- \* If you haven't paid your senior dues, please do so ASAP!!!! Everyone must pay senior dues even if you are not marching in the graduation ceremony. See Mr. DiBella for more details on prices as they are overdue and have increased.
- \* Don't let the dreaded "Senioritis" virus affect you. Semester and final grades are sent to the colleges/technical schools you applied to. Colleges have been known to hold off or even rescind offers of acceptances and scholarships if senior grades drop. We will take care of sending all of these mid-year and final reports free of charge. If you are just applying to a school now, you will need to come down to Mrs. Bautista in the counseling office to make that request and pay your initial \$2. Unofficial transcripts are still free. If you want an official transcript showing the 7 semester rank/GPA, you will need to see Mrs. Bautista in the Counseling Office.

## **Financial Aid Resources – Financial Aid includes Merit-based scholarships, Need-based grants, Student and Parent Loans and Work-Study.**

College & Career Advisor: Mrs. Campbell – [tcampbell@ccboe.com](mailto:tcampbell@ccboe.com)

[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) – FAFSA stands for FREE Application for Federal Student Aid. Only use this website [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). All seniors going to college/trade school must apply starting October 1<sup>st</sup> of senior year! This form is the gateway to most college money not just Federal Aid. This form will not be shown or accessible on the website until October 1st of your senior year. Remember, you are completing the form for the school year that you will be entering college. For example if you are a High School Senior as of October 1, 2017, then you will need to fill out the 2018 – 2019 form and you will need to use your 2016 tax information. It is extremely important to submit the FAFSA on time. In Maryland the State priority deadline is March 1<sup>st</sup>, however the earlier you submit the better. Some schools (Even Maryland State schools) have an earlier deadline, check with the schools to which you are applying, and submit by the earliest deadline. Always the earlier the better. NOTE: The FAFSA should be completed annually for the next school year that you will be entering college/trade schools.

[www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov) – student and parent/guardian will need a **FSA ID for the FAFSA**. It is important that the student completes their own FSA ID and the parent completes their own FSA ID.

### **Need help with the FAFSA?**

1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243) or 1-319-337-5665 or use Live Chat on the FAFSA website.

Also you can contact the college you are applying to for help. College of Southern Maryland and any other college will assist you with the FAFSA regardless of where you are going to college.

If you have special financial circumstances (i.e. Job loss, medical bills, etc.) that can not be explained on the application contact the financial aid office for the college you will be attending for assistance.

### **Websites to search for more scholarships and grants**

[www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov)

[www.students.gov](http://www.students.gov)

[www.mhec.state.md.us](http://www.mhec.state.md.us) - Maryland State Site

[www.weeklyscholarshipalert.org](http://www.weeklyscholarshipalert.org)

[www.americorps.org](http://www.americorps.org)

[www.salliemaefund.org](http://www.salliemaefund.org)

[www.mapcs.org](http://www.mapcs.org)

[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) - Great for seniors and younger students

[www.finaid.com](http://www.finaid.com)

[www.military.com](http://www.military.com)

[www.wiredscholar.com](http://www.wiredscholar.com)

[www.centrlsb.org](http://www.centrlsb.org) –  
scholarships & no-interest loan

[www.schoolsoup.com](http://www.schoolsoup.com)

[www.cappex.com](http://www.cappex.com)

[www.freescholarshipguide.com](http://www.freescholarshipguide.com)

[www.meritaid.com](http://www.meritaid.com)

[www.schoolguides.com](http://www.schoolguides.com)

[www.freeeducationguide.com](http://www.freeeducationguide.com)

[www.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com)

Check the websites of the colleges you are applying to.

### **Financial Aid Night**

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

5pm FSA ID help in Computer  
Lab

6pm Presentation

**All Seniors should stop in the  
Career Center once a week to  
inquire about scholarship  
applications, in order to meet  
all deadlines!**

**Extra Note:** Make sure to proof-read all essays and applications and then have someone else proof-read your essays and applications. Use your time wisely; you may be able to use one essay for several scholarships or college applications! Just be sure if you personalized it to a specific person, scholarship or school that you change the information as appropriate.