



SCHOOL LIAISON PROGRAM NEWS



Tips for Funding College Education Without the Big Student Loans

These days, there's no getting around the fact that college is expensive. The average yearly cost could be in the \$50,000-per-year range. Unfortunately, majority of the college students put all the expenses through student loans resulting to big amounts to pay for so many years. Also, because students prefer the easier method of applying for loans instead of taking the time to seek for free money. To avoid student-loan debt, there are ways to seek scholarships, financial aids and grants. Hard work and patience can reap to free money to help fund a 4-year degree. Learn from success stories out there. First tip is to start early with *Money-Making Mindset, trying to locate even small amount of scholarships. Keep in mind, there are 2 different financial aids to help you out in seeking those funds:*

Merit-Based Aid: Merit-based financial aid is what many people refer to as scholarships awarded to a student by either an individual college or outside organization without regard for financial need. Students typically receive merit-based scholarships for academic achievements though some can be awarded for special talents leadership skills or other personal characteristics; athletic scholarships also fall under this category. This is the financial aid student has to focus on, how to maximize the opportunity of making free money using their skills, achievements and community memberships. At many colleges, every admitted student is automatically considered for the merit scholarships at that school. However, most institutions & organizations require students to complete a separate applications with essays. The advise from students who accumulated a total of 3-digit financial aids, is to create one good essay to cut/paste from it. Another tip, when searching for scholarships using Google or other search engines, search the specific merit you're planning to use such as Art scholarships, health care scholarships, horse-lovers, etc. However, beware of scammers mostly the ones offering free money for doing nothing. The more requirements, the legitimate the offers.

Need-Based Aid: Need-based financial aid is awarded to a student on the basis of financial need. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is generally used for determining federal state and institutional need-based aid eligibility. Before you delve into the world of need-based aid find out first what merit can do for you. However, go ahead and fill-out FAFSA anyway. Who knows, you might get even a small amount. *Small amounts add up. BE PROACTIVE! There's money out there for you!*

Did You Know?

April is designated as the Month of the Military Child; a time to honor the sacrifices made by military families worldwide, with an emphasis on the experience of the dependent children of military members serving at home & overseas. It is part of the legacy left by former Defense Sec. Weinberger when he established the Defense Dept. commemoration in 1986.

Key Dates & Events

- April 4—Charles County Public Schools' Townhall meeting on School Safety and Security Open to the public at 6:30 pm North Point High School.
- April 13— 10-1 pm EFMP Special Olympics Fun Field Day Butler Stadium MCB Quantico. Visit Eventbrite EFMP or call 703-784-9395 to register.
- April 17 to May 22 5-6 pm Indian Head StartSmart Call 301-743-5456 for more information.

Purple Up Day!

Wear purple on these days:

Commonwealth of VA— April 10
Naval District Washington—Apr 12

Join the Child and Youth Programs celebrating the Month of the Military Child(MOMC) at the following events:

- 1. Dahlgren's Purple Pancake at Grays Landing April 10 at 6 pm**
- 2. Indian Head Eggstravaganza April 13 at 11 am to 2 pm**
- 3. Dahlgren Easter Egghunt April 18 at 4 to 6 pm.**

Proclamation of April as the MOMC at both installations will be held.

"It isn't where you came from, it's where you're going that counts." - Ella Fitzgerald

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