

PNHS Financial Aid Seminar



Seniors!
2010-2011

What is financial aid?

- Scholarships
 - Grants
 - Loans
 - Employment Opportunities
-
- Federal aid
 - State aid
 - Institutional aid (from your choice college)

What is financial aid?

- How does the federal government view financial aid?
 - Parents' basic responsibility to educate children
 - Student should contribute to own educational funds
 - Family should be realistic about what money is available

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid):

- **APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID IS...**
 - **FREE FREE FREE FREE.**
- **YOU SHOULD NEVER PAY FOR FILLING OUT A FAFSA FORM-- or FOR SEARCHING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS!! EVER!**
- **YOU SHOULD NEVER ENTER YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER WHEN FILLING OUT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS.**

FAFSA

- FAFSA is the baseline form for any and all federal financial aid
- The federal government uses this form to determine eligibility for aid: including scholarships, loans, grants and work study.
- All FAFSA forms should be completed and submitted online at **www.FAFSA.ED.GOV**.
- Very detailed FAFSA directions/instructions/guidelines are printed in the Huskie Tracks and are available online at Northern's counseling office page on our website: www.portageps.org.

FAFSA

- FAFSA will assign you a PIN number:
 - Parent has individual PIN number.
 - Student has individual PIN number.
 - You can start this process now.

FAFSA



- DEADLINES are extremely important for the FAFSA process:
 - FAFSA becomes available after January 1, 2011.
 - Use last year's tax info to begin process... do not wait for parents to file 2011 taxes!
 - Deadline to submit FAFSA is March 1, 2011.
 - *“Beat, not meet”, March 1 deadline in case of errors.*
 - *March 1 is “state” deadline for Michigan funds.*

FAFSA

- **FAFSA: Worksheet available online. Print worksheet and prepare info ahead of time! Use last year's taxes, if need be, to project FAFSA info. Parents can go back and change FAFSA info to current tax info once they've filed for this year.**

FAFSA

- You will have to re-apply and fill out a new FAFSA form every year!
- For questions after FAFSA is filed, call the prospective college/university... not PNHS and not Federal Gov... and not PNHS.

Get help filling out the FAFSA!

- **COLLEGE GOAL SUNDAY**
- **SUNDAY, FEB. 13, 2011 2-4 PM**
- **WMU: Haworth College of Business**
- **Get FREE help filling out your FAFSA!!**
- Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity!



FAFSA

- **FAFSA formula:**
 - **School's cost of attendance (tuition & fees, room & board, books, etc...)**
 - **Minus**
 - **Estimated family contribution**
 - **Equals**
 - **Financial Aid Award**
 - **Award packages will be different from each school to where you are applying!**

FAFSA

- Some colleges have a supplemental page to the FAFSA.
- U of M has a “CSS profile”. It is an additional page (for \$35) that you need to fill out to qualify for institutional funds.

Scholarships

- Merit based
- Need based
- Private funded

Scholarships

a complete resource guide

listed on our PN counseling website.

- Find info about scholarships in the following places:
 - PNHS (bulletin board outside counseling office)
 - PNHS counseling website
 - Your school of interest (call them and search their website)
 - Specific programs within your school of interest
 - Your parents' employers (work)
- Information on new scholarships is on announcements and is posted across from counseling office. See Michelle (Mrs. Lovell) for additional questions.

Scholarships

- KALAMAZOO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION!
 - Scholarship program that helps local students fulfill their dreams after high school.
 - Over the years, they have awarded more than \$21 million in scholarships and grants to 5,100 area students!

www.kalfound.org

Previous hard copy of scholarship guide catalogue is no longer available.

All info is online on their site.

Scholarships

- **KALAMAZOO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION!**
- **Remyse Scholarship.**
- **Deadline December 1, 2010.**
 - All applications are online and need to be submitted online by Dec. 1, 2010.
 - Letters of recommendation must be submitted, by student, to the Kal Found office by Dec. 1. Forms available online.
 - That means you must request your PN transcript to be sent by NOV. 26, 2010 to ensure that it arrives to the Kal Foundation by Dec. 1.
 - **www.kalfound.org/remynse**
- **After Remyse Scholarship, there will be one application for over 37 scholarships.**
 - You can apply to up to 8 scholarships from this one application online.

Remynse Scholarship

- Clarence L. Remynse: native of Kalamazoo. Attended Kalamazoo Central and Kalamazoo College.
 - Founded The Remynse Construction Company
 - Upon his death in 1989, a Scholarship Fund bearing his name was established at the Kalamazoo Community Foundation along with a legacy of education, hard work and devotion to community.
 - Applicants must be interested in pursuing a career in business, science, education, psychology, law or medicine
 - **\$250 to \$7,500**

Renewable for up to three years.

Scholarships

- Robert P. Amrhein Memorial Scholarship.
 - Portage Education Foundation scholarship for PN students only! Senior students may be nominated or may pick up applications in the counseling office. \$4,000 non-renewable.
 - Application deadline: end of Feb, 2011.
- For other national scholarships, check www.fastweb.com or www.finaid.org.
 - NEVER GIVE OUR YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER WHEN SEARCHING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS ONLINE!

Grants

see more info on counseling website

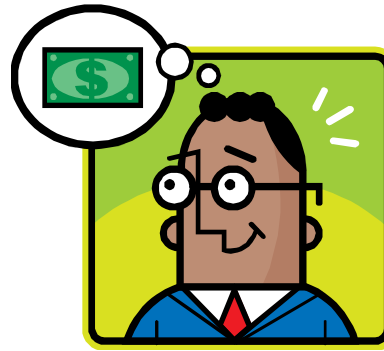
- Free Free Free money that you do not have to pay back!
- Grants can be funded by public, private and federal money.
 - PELL GRANT: awarded to students with highest need, lowest income and highest number of students from family in college.
 - Parent income of under \$35,000 a year.
 - Max amount is \$4,000; renewable.
- FAFSA will notify you if you qualify for grants.

Loans

see more info on counseling website

- 90% of families use student loans.
- LOANS: consider your loan offer amounts carefully.
 - Consider a student loan as an investment in yourself.
 - Be realistic about the amount you would borrow and the amount that you actually “need”.
 - Remember that all LOANS need to be paid back... usually within six months of graduating from your college / university.

Loans



- Just because you were offered a large amount, does not mean that you need to accept the whole amount. You can accept some or all of it... some in portions.
- When you “accept” aid on your financial aid package, you can change the amount you are accepting!

Loans

- FEDERAL PERKINS LOAN: cheapest loan, no fees, usually fixed low interest rate, no interest while attending school.
- WILLIAM D. FORD DIRECT STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM: student borrows money in student's name, low interest rate.
 - UNSUBSIDIZED: interest is charged while in school.
 - SUBSIDIZED: no interest while in school, “need based”, and repayment begins 6 months after college graduation.
- DIRECT PARENT (PLUS) LOANS: parent borrows money, low interest rate, do not have to accept, no fees, may never transfer to student's name.

Employment Opportunities



- WORK STUDY: need based, part time job on campus, money goes to student in paycheck, taxable income.
- 75% of money is paid by federal government; 25% of money is paid by college / university.
- Jobs available on campus...if awarded, get job early!! Once jobs are taken, the opportunities greatly decline.

Receiving and Accepting Aid

- The schools to which you applied will return to you a **SAR (Student Aid Report)**, informing you of contributions offered to you.
- Different schools will award different packages (scholarships, loans, grants, work study).
- Compare the different packages from different schools and consider the amount offered in relation to the cost of tuition, books, etc.
- Remember to choose the school that is best for YOU: programs, geography, size, location, atmosphere, etc...

Receiving and Accepting Aid

- Award letters from schools of interest in late March.
- **Questions about packages and awards should be directed to colleges/universities...not PNHS.**



Important Reminders for Seniors

- **Turn in your PE waivers to complete requirements!**
- It is your responsibility to make sure you are on track for graduation requirements. If you are unsure, see your counselor immediately.
- You all need to earn 26 credits.
- You all need to pass English 12 and Senior Year Math Related Course.

Important Reminders for Seniors

- Athletes who hope to play at a D 1 or D 2 school will need to register online with the NCAA Clearinghouse at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net.
- Students will need to fill out an “Initial-Eligibility” Form and pay a nominal fee to the Clearinghouse. It is your responsibility to register with them.
- Then notify Michelle in our office in order to have your official transcript, grades and scores sent to NCAA.

Important Reminders for Seniors

- Most college applications are due January 1, 2011.
- They need to be submitted to our counseling office by Monday, December 13, 2010 to be processed before winter break.



Another Financial Aid Night

- Monday, January 10, 2011 at 7:00 pm.
- Hosted by Kalamazoo Community Foundation.
- Location: KRESA Wile Auditorium.
- KRESA: 1819 E. Milham Rd.
 - Share this info with your parents.
 - Info will be on our announcement

Seniors:

- Plan now for graduation and post-high school.
- See your individual counselor if you have more detailed questions/concerns.
- A-D: Smith
- E-K: Hovestadt
- L-Q: DiMaggio
- R-Z: Figueroa

