

College Awareness Program

Program Description

- Objectives:
 - A) To inform and educate program participants on the various types of financial assistance for college, the FAFSA itself, college applications, and provide general guidance on transitioning from high school to collegiate level responsibilities and lifestyles.
 - B) Have participants attain proficiency in navigating and completing forms for said assistance and applications.
- Process: A series of one-hour clinics dedicated to a single topic will be presented, ideally in a private room with access to a projector. Specialized, more hands-on workshops (for example, on a certain type of scholarship) will be implemented if there is a need by a group of students.
- Format: Most clinics will be run by a volunteer and some staff members who can contribute to certain topics, i.e. scholarships etc. Clinics will be comprised of a 20-30 minute presentation that covers an individual topic, followed by using the remaining time for Q&A.
- Content: Consistent with the aforementioned objectives, participants will become knowledgeable in the following areas-
 - A) FAFSA
 - B) Scholarships
 - C) GPA & Standardized Testing
 - D) College Applications
 - E) Location Considerations
 - F) Transitioning to Young Adulthood
- Required Materials: Pen, paper, laptop/tablet not required but recommended.

Course Schedule

- Lesson 1 - Introduction – February 7th – 4pm-5pm
 - About me
 - Presentation of syllabus/schedule
 - Q&A

- Lesson 2 – FAFSA – February 14th – 4pm-5pm
 - What is the FAFSA?
 - Who is eligible to receive FAFSA benefits?
 - What information will I need?
 - Loans vs. grants
 - Getting parents involved
 - Q&A
 - * Potential opportunity for collaboration with staff/E3 counselor

- Lesson 3 – Scholarships – February 21st – 4pm-5pm
 - What are they?
 - How to apply
 - Merit based scholarships
 - Popular scholarships
 - Ethnicity & background considerations
 - Personal statements
 - Q&A
 - * Potential opportunity for collaboration with staff/E3 counselor

- Lesson 4 – Applying to College – February 28th & March 7th – 4pm-5pm
 - Finding your fit
 - Where to apply
 - Personal statements & letters of recommendation
 - Location, location, location
 - Deadlines
 - Communication w/ counselors, etc.
 - GPA and standardized test scores
 - Q&A

- Lesson 5 – Life Lessons – March 14th – 4pm-5pm
 - Living in a dorm
 - Campus life
 - Paying bills
 - Class schedules
 - Food buying tips
 - EBT
 - Q&A
 - * Potential opportunity to prepare additional workshop on financial literacy if desired by participants