How to Pay for College
Webinar Series – Part 1

Scholarships: Ask the Experts

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Welcome!

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Many thanks to the following for their generous contributions:

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National College Attainment Network
Guest Presenter

Earl Young
Director of Operations & Systems Improvements

Education Foundation of Sarasota County
Guest Presenter

Eric Aquino
Community Impact Officer
Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties
Guest Presenter

Malaina Mote
Head, Empowerment & Social Mobility
Southwest Florida Community Foundation
Questions & Conversation

• Submit your questions in the box

• Share on social media
  Twitter:  @FLCollegeAccess
            #FCAN
            #TalentStrongFL

*This webinar is being recorded; all materials will be available within a week of recording*
Our mission:
We lead the collaborative movement to ensure every Floridian achieves an education beyond high school and a rewarding career.

Our vision:
A Florida working together, where education is the pathway to economic mobility for all.
FCAN’s Work

Research and Data
FCAN publishes research and data on evidence-based practices and policy opportunities to strengthen Florida’s talent pool.

Local college access networks (LCANs)
LCANs support 82% of the state’s population. These organizations are made up of community leaders who come together to create solutions and partnerships to support local talent development.

Statewide Initiatives
FCAN coordinates 4 College Ready Florida initiatives that provides schools and community organizations resources to help students continue their education after high school.
7 Conditions for Success

**Opportunity for everyone:** To build a talent-strong economy, all Floridians need access to a postsecondary education and the supports to complete it.

**Clear information and guidance:** Students and families need exposure and counseling early and often to make informed decisions about their futures.

**Affordable:** Postsecondary education needs to be within everyone’s financial reach, regardless of household income or life circumstances.

**Multiple pathways to success:** Floridians benefit from multiple learning opportunities for academic achievement and career advancement.

**Lifelong learning:** No degree or credential is “one and done;” Floridians need to prepare for career changes through continuous learning.

**Effective use of data:** Transparent access to data on education and economic outcomes, especially for Florida’s diverse populations, helps achieve our goals.

**Community collaboration:** When community partners work together toward a shared vision, they remove barriers, build a robust workforce, and improve the quality of life for their regions.
Opening remarks:

Braulio Colón
Vice President, Florida Student Success Initiatives
Introduction
How do you plan to pay for plans after high school?

** According to the Federal Reserve, in 2018, 69% of students took out student loans and graduated with the average debt of $29,800.
HOW TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

Family funds
- Savings
  - Personal
  - 529
  - Florida Prepaid
  - Investments
- Gifts
- Parent work
- Student work
- Private loans

Federal
- Grants
  - PELL
  - FSEOG
  - TEACH
- Federal Work Study
- Loans
  - Subsidized
  - Unsubsidized
  - Parent PLUS

State
- Grants / scholarships
  - FSAG
  - José Martí
  - Others

School-based aid
- Scholarships
  - Need-based
  - Need-based with merit consideration
  - May have additional requirements (e.g. CSS Profile)

Local sources
- Community-based scholarships
- Professional assoc. scholarships
- Employer tuition assistance

Other (you do not need a FAFSA to access)
- GI Bill
- WIOA
- Tax credits
- Bright Futures
- EASE
- Foster care tuition waiver
- Scholarships
  - Athletic
  - Merit-based
  - Alumni assoc.

Regional and national scholarships
- ROTC

To qualify for aid below, you must complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

Color Key
- Free resources
- Work-related sources
- Loans
- Earned money
Look for Scholarships:

- Schools
- Regional
- State
- National
- Local
Local Scholarships portal on FCAN website:

http://floridacollegeaccess.org/initiatives/local-scholarship-resources/

**Community & Education Foundations**
- Brevard County: Community Foundation for Brevard, Brevard County
- Broward County: Broward Education Foundation
- Charlotte County: Charlotte Education Foundation
- Collier County: Community Foundation of Collier County
- Hernando County: Hernando County Education Foundation
- Hillsborough County: Hillsborough Education Foundation
- Indian River County: Scholarship Foundation of Indian River
- Manatee County: Manatee Education Foundation (scholarships)
- Ocala/Marion County: Community Foundation of Ocala/Marion
- Osceola County: Education Foundation of Osceola County
- Palm Beach & Martin counties: Community Foundation for Palm Beach & Martin
- Pinellas County: Pinellas Education Foundation
- Polk County: Polk Education Foundation
- Sarasota County: Community Foundation of Sarasota County, Education Foundation of Sarasota County
- Gulf Coast: Gulf Coast Community Foundation (Sarasota and Charlotte counties, and Boca Grande)
- Southwest Florida: Southwest Florida Community Foundation (Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Glades, and Hendry counties)

**LCANs**
- Citrus County Coalition for College & Careers (Citrus County)
- UPLIFTED (Orange, Osceola & Seminole counties; scholarships for various locations throughout the state)

**State**
- Florida Department of Education Office of Student Financial Assistance

**Other**
- CareerSource Central Florida
- College Fund Pinellas
- Eastern Florida Regional Scholarships
- Emerald Coast (Okaloosa, Walton, and Bay counties)
Guest Presenter

Earl Young
Director of Operations & Systems Improvements

Education Foundation of Sarasota County
https://edfoundationsrq.org/
https://edfoundationsrq.org/scholarships/
We believe education changes lives.
Scholarship Considerations – Top 5
It’s a Number Game - Play the Odds

- Complete as many applications as you qualify for.
Follow Directions

- Pay attention to
  - Required Documents
  - Requested Formats
  - Word Counts
  - Due Dates
  - Eligibility Criteria
Strong Educational Game Plan

1. Focused game plan
2. Intellectual ability to achieve game plan
3. Improve quality of living for student and family
Write a Winning Essay – Make it Personal

- Your passions
- Your family
- Things you’ve overcome
- Goals and life plans
- Why you picked your field of study
Acing the Interview

- Be on time
- Eye contact and greeting
- Dress professional
- Come prepared
  - Practice
  - Scholarship Listings
    - Applied for
    - Received
  - Questions to ask interviewers
Guest Presenter

Eric Aquino  
Community Impact Officer  
Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties  

YourCommunityFoundation.org  

https://www.yourcommunityfoundation.org/Our-Scholarships/Scholarships-Overview
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Malaina Mote
Head, Empowerment & Social Mobility
Southwest Florida Community Foundation

FloridaCommunity.com
https://floridacommunity.com/scholarships/

https://www.swflscholarships.org/finder/
http://futuremakerscoalition.com/fafsafirst/
Join us for Part 2, 3 & 4:

Paying for College Webinar Series:

Part 2: Helping Students Understand How to Pay for College
January 27th, 1-2 pm

Part 3: The Latest Financial Aid Updates and Special Circumstances
February 24th, 11 am-12 pm

Part 4: FAFSA Verification Update: Reducing “melt” with a more targeted approach
March 11th, 1-2 pm
Learn More:

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Conclusion