

# Tips on Paying for College



Student Success Conference August 28, 2020

#### College is an investment in yourself

"If a man empties his purse into his head, no one can take it from him. An investment in knowledge always pays the highest returns."

-- Benjamin Franklin



#### 1. Create a budget ... and stick to it

Know what comes in □ Know what goes out Look at your lifestyle Be honest about your spending Get serious about saving □ Plan for the worst Pay with cash □ Know your limits □ Don't forget the fun!



## 2. Complete your FAFSA!

#### Free Application for Federal Student Aid

#### www.fafsa.gov

FAFSA on the Web  $\rightarrow$  completed online

2020-2021 FAFSA is are available now!

2021-2022 FAFSA is available October 1<sup>st</sup>

Sometimes, applying early will reward you with additional money!



#### FAFSA Facts

Up to 10 colleges can be listed on the FAFSA to receive the student's information

The student should check with WCC to find out about next steps

 The aid process, available funds, need for supplemental forms, and deadlines can vary between schools

The FAFSA is often a trigger document for other types of grants and scholarships that may be available

#### 3. Utilize WCC scholarships



Scholarships = Free Money!



WCC offers numerous scholarships to current and incoming students all year long! Two of the most common scholarships around campus are: Foundation Scholarships Divisional Scholarships

## Scholarships, continued

- Have your scholarship statement ready
- Most popular at WCC
  - The WCC Foundation Scholarship
    - Scholarship Requirements
      - Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
      - Be a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen
      - Have at least a 2.0 grade point average



#### WCC Foundation Scholarship



- Students are encouraged to apply for WCC Foundation scholarships for both the Summer and Fall semesters.
- Application deadlines have been extended to meet student needs during the COVID-19 crisis.
- Full-time students may receive up to \$1,000 per semester and part-time students may receive awards based on the number of credits taken.
- Students can apply online for scholarships that will be awarded to qualified students as long as funding is available.

www.wccnet.edu/afford/financialaid/scholarships/foundation

### 4. Apply for private scholarships



5. Try work-study

• Work-study pays you to work part time at WCC or off campus while you attend school.

- > Media services
- > New student orientation
- Student Center offices
- > Many more!
- Current pay is \$11.22/hour!
- Work up to 19 hours per week.
- Apply online for work-study. Once awarded, you will complete work-study orientation then interview for open positions.



#### 6. Claim tuition on your taxes



- The American Opportunity Tax Credit allows you to reduce your taxes after paying for tuition, fees, etc.
- This amounts to over \$2500 per year, per person!
- Be sure to talk to your tax preparer or do your research if you're doing your own taxes - information changes from one year to the next.

# 7. Stay at WCC as long as possible

# WCC is an extremely affordable option!

#### 2019-2020 Tuition Rate [Per Credit Hour]

In District

- In-seat \$95
- Distance Learning/Online \$108

**Out of District** 

- In-seat \$164
- Distance Learning/Online \$117

Michigan Institution	In-District	Out-of-District
Albion	\$45,590.00	\$45,590.00
Aquinas	\$32,574.00	\$32,574.00
Cleary	\$20,550.00	\$20,550.00
Concordia	\$29,290.00	\$29,290.00
Detroit Mercy	\$28,000.00	\$28,000.00
Eastern	\$12,508.00	\$12,508.00
Henry Ford	\$3,124.00	\$4,876.00
Hope College	\$34,010.00	\$34,010.00
Jackson	\$6,298.00	\$8,742.00
Kettering	\$43,490.00	\$43,490.00
Lansing CC	\$3,530.00	\$6,680.00
Macomb CC	\$3,375.00	\$5,952.00
Madonna	\$21,900.00	\$21,900.00
Monroe CC	\$3,965.00	\$6,515.00
Mott CC	\$4,080.00	\$5,112.00
MSU	\$14,460.00	\$14,460.00
Oakland CC	\$2,408.00	\$4,472.00
Oakland U	\$12,606.00	\$12,606.00
Rochester College	\$23,282.00	\$23,282.00
Schoolcraft	\$3,850.00	\$5,176.00
Siena Heights	\$27,124.00	\$27,124.00
Spring Arbor	\$28,810.00	\$28,810.00
St. Clair CC	\$4,582.00	\$8,178.00
U of M	\$15,262.00	\$15,262.00
U of M Dearborn	\$12,930.00	\$12,930.00
Washtenaw CC	\$2,520.00	\$4,104.00
Wayne CC	\$2,886.00	\$3,107.00
Wayne State	\$13,097.00	\$13,097.00

#### 8. Work part-time







- Work part-time ... then save your money!
- Some companies, such as UPS, Chipotle, Disney, Starbucks, Verizon and Wells Fargo, are willing to help you pay for your education.
  - >WCC does too!!!

 Many of these companies require a certain grade (usually a 'C' or better) to be reimbursed.

### Know the facts



Getting an education is usually expensive, but there is help available.





Know what you're financing. Estimate your income in your chosen career.



Whatever loans you borrow, you have to pay back.



Your credit history stays with you for a very long time.



#### Questions?



#### Financial Aid Office

finaid@wccnet.edu

(734) 973-3523

Foundation Office

scholarships@wccnet.edu

(734) 973-3665