

Town Hall Meeting on FAFSA Completion

Audio

- Attendee lines are muted
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Technical issues

- Contact us at webinars@mappingyourfuture.org if you experience technical issues.

Questions

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Town Hall Meeting on FAFSA Completion

MAY 2020

College Foundation of North Carolina

MAPPING YOUR FUTURE

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Agenda

Getting ready

Completing the FAFSA

Taking the next steps

Getting assistance


Participating in today's event

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Panelists


- Pam Yelle**
Counselor
Manteo High School in
North Carolina
- Chris Roberts**
Parent of a graduating senior
- Lisanne Masterson**
Director of Financial Aid
Blue Ridge Community
College in North Carolina



Pam Yelle



Chris Roberts



Lisanne Masterson

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What we do


- High School Counselor – what the role is in their work with students and parents
- Financial Aid Professional – what the role is in their work with students and parents
- Parent - what he has learned through the process

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Why is pursuit of education beyond high school important?

- Importance of education beyond high school
- Financial aid is an important resource to achieve postsecondary education



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Getting ready

- Parent
 - Net price calculator
 - Understand need vs. merit aid
- High school counselor
 - Get organized
 - Be consistent
 - Have a plan
 - FAFSA4caster
- Financial aid
 - Set up FSA ID
 - Use an email address that will continue after high school.
 - Collect documents
 - Know institutional deadlines

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Completing the FAFSA


- Complete as soon as possible after October 1
- Complete the correct FAFSA year
- Create a save key
- Make sure you are on studentaid.gov
 - MyStudentAid app
- Use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool
- Online help tools



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Common FAFSA errors

- Enter too many zeroes in financial information
- Forget to sign the FAFSA
- Mix up student and parent information
- Not using your legal name as it appears on your Social Security card or birth certificate
- Incorrect SSN or date of birth
- Enter tax withheld instead of tax paid




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Taking the next steps

- Student Aid Report
 - Initial eligibility
 - Review for needed corrections
- Verification
- Special circumstances
- Reading and understanding your award letter
- Look for outside scholarships




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Scholarship search tips

- Create a separate e-mail address
- Write the essay
- Don't pay for scholarship searches
- Create a resume, treat it like a job
- Your best bet is to look locally and regionally
- Check with your institutions about how they handle outside scholarships



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How to pay the balance


School options	Jobs	Loans
Pay by the term Payment plans	Use wages <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Parent- Student- Work Study- Off campus	Direct Loan (Subsidized and Unsubsidized) Parent PLUS Loan Parent Assist Loan Alternative loans

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High school counselor tips

- Make a plan
- Stay organized
- Create a checklist so you do not feel overwhelmed
- Complete the FAFSA as soon after October 1 as possible



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Parent tips

- Social media groups
- Networking




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Financial aid professional tips

- We know the process can be confusing, use us as a resource
- Early filing for financial aid is the key
- The federal government usually determines what additional information is needed
- Let us know if your family situation has changed
- Institutions all have different timelines and processes



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QUESTIONS


Ask your question in the question function of the GoToWebinar toolbar

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Getting assistance

- College Foundation of North Carolina
 - Financial aid and FAFSA completion assistance www.cfnc.org/pay/afsa_daygo
 - Financial aid podcasts
 - Financial aid assistance map
 - College Search www2.cfnc.org/B/campussearch
- Mapping Your Future
 - FAFSA webinar recording mappingyourfuture.org/services/webinararchive.cfm
 - 800-374-4072
- Federal Aid Information Center
 - 800-433-3243
 - studentaid.gov



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COVID-19
information

- Stimulus checks are not considered income
- Some verification documentation requirements were eased for 2020-21
- If you have been impacted by loss of income, contact the financial aid office
- [StudentAidPandemic.org](#) website for current college students and student loan borrowers

Disclaimer: Guidance on COVID-19 related issues changes frequently.

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www.cfncc.org
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