

# Senior Newsletter

November 2012

## Mark Your Calendars!!!

Important Dates To Remember!!!



The Counseling Center will be hosting representatives from:

- UNCA—Thursday—  
November 8, 2012 2pm
- ETSU—Tuesday—  
December 11, 2012 10am

(If you are interested in hearing a representative speak please sign up in the counseling center.)

## College Application Day

- **Wednesday—November 14, 2012**  
**College Application Day at Tuscola**

Students will attend College Application Day with their English class, in the Media Center Computer Labs. All seniors are asked to fill out a college application online through CFNC. **Students must update their CFNC profile or create a new account in order to participate.** They may apply to any 2 or 4 year college or university in North Carolina. We hope that this opportunity ensures that each student has the help that they need to complete a college application. There will be representatives present from local 2 and 4 year colleges, as well as military recruiters. Please let us know if you have any questions regarding this opportunity!



## HCC Scholarships

The online scholarship application for Haywood Community College will be available January 7, 2013.

There are 90 different scholarships so mark your calendars to start your application!!!

## Opportunities From MAHEC



- **November 8, 2012—How to Study & College Scholarship Session**  
6:30-9pm @ MAHEC  
(Cost is free but you must register.)
- **November 13, 2012—Finding Financial Aid for College**  
6-7pm @ MAHEC  
(Cost is free but you must register.)

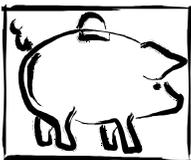
To register for any program or for additional information: email—[healthcareers@mahec.net](mailto:healthcareers@mahec.net) or call 828-257-4661.



## FAFSA Day February 23, 2013

FAFSA Day in North Carolina is a statewide event to provide students and their families free help to complete and submit their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) forms so they can be considered for federal and state financial aid for college. Last year, more than 4,700 students and families received help at hundreds of locations across the state.

Students can learn more about FAFSA Day, what to bring and how to register at [CFNC.org/fafsaday](http://CFNC.org/fafsaday) or by calling toll free 866-866-CFNC. Registration for the 2013 event will be open after October 15th.



# College Scholarships



Please check out our website for the scholarship database.  
New scholarships are also posted in the counseling center.

[www.ths.haywood.k12.nc.us](http://www.ths.haywood.k12.nc.us)

Also, make sure you check the college websites for scholarships specific to that school.  
There may be separate applications required!!!

## Financial Aid Vocabulary

- **FAFSA—Free Application for Federal Student Aid—** Students & parents will fill out the FAFSA if they are attending a 2-yr, 4-yr, public, private, in-state, or out-of-state institution. It is important to complete the FAFSA as soon as possible after January 1<sup>st</sup> of every year. Money is awarded on a first come-first awarded basis. Complete it on-line at [www.FAFSA.ed.gov](http://www.FAFSA.ed.gov)
- **EFC (Expected Family Contribution)** - A figure determined by a formula that indicates how much of a family's resources the government considers "available" for college expenses. The amount of the EFC will stay the same for every college you apply to - community state, or private. The amount of money you will need will be different because it is the difference between the cost of attendance and your family's expected contribution.
- **Award Letter**—This is a college's answer to your request for financial aid. It will let you know what combination of grants and loans the college will make available to you. If you apply to more than one college it is important to compare the financial aid packages.
- **Grant**—Money that is given to you for college expenses that DOES NOT have to be repaid. Federal Pell Grants are based on a combination of financial need, college costs, and your enrollment status (full or part-time).
- **Work-Study**—Campus-based and provide part-time jobs for students with financial need. Your school will provide work hours based on your award amount, class schedule, and academic standing.
- **Merit-Based Aid**—Any form of financial aid awarded on the basis of personal achievement or individual characteristics without reference to financial need. Also known as scholarships.
- **Federal Government Loans**—Money that is given to you for college expenses that has to be repaid (principle) along with the fees charged to you for borrowing the money (interest). Federal loans charge lower interest rates than money from other sources.

Dear Parents—

The counselors have been in each senior English class this year reviewing important college and scholarship information. We realize for many of our students, they may be first generation college students or they may be the oldest in their family. So this may be the first time that parents are helping with college applications and financial aid information. Any time you have a question or concern regarding college information, scholarships, etc., please do not hesitate to let us know!



**Kari Francoeur—Students Last Names A-G**  
**Joy Sollie—Students Last Names H-O**

## November To Do List

- Submit early decision and early action applications on time.
- Work hard at completing your college essays. Proofread them rigorously for mistakes.
- Follow up to ensure that letters of recommendation are sent on time to meet your deadlines.
- Send applications as early as possible for colleges with rolling deadlines (that is, admission decisions are made as applications are received).
- If you take the SAT or SAT Subject Tests this month, make sure your scores are sent to each of your colleges.

Information provided by [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).

