



# Tuscola High School Senior Newsletter

March 2010

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## Financial Aid Terminology



**AID PACKAGE:** The combination of financial aid (loans, scholarships, grants, work-study) determined by the financial aid office of a college or university.

**AWARD LETTER:** An official document issued by a school's financial aid office listing all the financial aid awarded to the student. The award letter includes information about the cost of attendance and terms and conditions for the financial aid.

**COA (COST OF ATTENDANCE):** The total cost of attending a post-secondary institution for one academic year. This usually includes tuition, fees, room, board, supplies, transportation, and personal expenses.

**EFC (EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION):** Amount a family is expected to contribute to a student's education, based on family earnings, net assets, savings, size of family, and number of students in college.

**FINANCIAL AID AWARD LETTER:** A letter detailing total amount of financial aid for which a student is eligible.

**FINANCIAL NEED/ELIGIBILITY:** The difference between the Cost of Attendance (COA) at a college and the Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

**SAR (STUDENT AID REPORT):** A report, summarizing financial and other information reported on the FAFSA, sent to a student by the federal government. The student's financial aid need is indicated by the Expected Family Contribution (EFC), which is printed on the document.

## Congrats!

- \* Kyle Barth: UNC-CH
- \* Rebekah Bradley: Clemson
- \* Haley Christopher: UNC-Charlotte, WCU
- \* Meredith Corn: UNC-CH, ASU
- \* Maggie Corralejo: NCCU, WCU
- \* Christina Dill: New Mexico State University
- \* Michaela Finney: WCU
- \* Jesse Inman: WCU
- \* Rachel Justice: ASU, UNC-CH
- \* Rachel Kauffman: UNC-CH, ASU, Eastern Mennonite University
- \* Nena Rodriguez: WCU, ASU
- \* Hannah Samuelson: UNC-CH, ASU, College of Charleston
- \* Walton Shepherd: Mars Hill College, Southern Wesleyan University, WCU, Tusculum College, Wingate
- \* Alan Sitton: ETSU
- \* Sarahanne Smith: UNC-G, UNCW
- \* Meaghann Smith: UT, UNC-Charlotte,
- \* Caroline Stiles: ETSU
- \* Courtney Whitaker: NCSU, UNC-CH
- \* Miranda White: Warren Wilson



## Completed the FAFSA—Now What?

- NOW FEDERAL STUDENT AID WILL PROCESS YOUR APPLICATION AND SEND YOU A STUDENT AID REPORT (SAR).
- AN ELECTRONIC COPY OF YOUR SAR IS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE SCHOOL'S YOU'VE LISTED ON YOUR FAFSA.

A Student Aid Report (SAR) is a document you will receive after your FAFSA is processed. Your SAR will list all of the answers you provided on your FAFSA. You should review these answers carefully to make sure they are correct.

TIP: If you need to make any changes, select [Make Corrections to a Processed FAFSA](#) under the **FAFSA Follow-Up** section of the home page. You can also make corrections on the paper SAR, if you received one, and mail it back to the address provided.

Your SAR will contain your Expected Family Contribution (EFC), which measures your family's financial strength and is used to determine your eligibility for federal student aid. Your school will use this number to determine how much financial aid you are eligible to receive based on your school's cost of attendance.

Visit [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) for more information!



## Still Need to Complete the FAFSA?

Call Haywood Community College's Financial Aid Office at 627-4509 to get help completing the FAFSA, or stop by the Counseling Center to get a paper copy of the FAFSA.

# SELECTING A FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE

## \* HOW TO MAKE THE BIG DECISION \*

Now come the letters you've been waiting for: financial aid award letters. It is your task to sit down with your family and determine which aid award best meets your needs. While it may be tempting to jump at good news, you should wait until award letters from all the colleges come in before you make a decision.

- Don't miss the deadlines!
- First, be sure you understand the terms in each letter and are able to compare the awards. (Visit [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) to use the "Compare Your Aid Awards" tool).
- Contact your school's financial aid office if the aid package for your first-choice school is not enough.
- Once you have made a decision, you should carefully reread the entire aid award letter and accompanying materials to be sure you have filled in all the requested information. Sign the award letter and return the requested materials by the deadline.
- Notify the other colleges that you are declining their offers of aid so the awards can go to other students.
- Find out how and when the aid will be disbursed, how much aid will be applied directly to the bill, and how much the first bill will be so you can plan for the coming months.



Visit [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) for more information!

## Vaccines Recommended for College Students

- Tetanus-Diphtheria-Pertussis vaccine
- Meningococcal vaccine\*
- HPV vaccine series
- Hepatitis B vaccine series
- Polio vaccine series
- Measles-Mumps-Rubella (MMR) series
- Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine series
- Influenza vaccine
- Pneumococcal polysaccharid (PPV) vaccine
- Hepatitis A vaccine series



\* Recommended for previously unvaccinated college freshmen living in dormitories.

Visit [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) for more information.

## Graduation is Set!

Graduation will be at the Ramsey Center at Western Carolina University on Wednesday, June 9th, at 7:00 P.M.

Please let us know about any outside scholarships that you receive so that you can be recognized at graduation!

If you have not ordered a cap and gown, you must call Josten's at 828-681-1712. If you are borrowing a cap and gown from someone, you must still buy a diploma cover and a tassel.



## SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

The scholarship database can be found at [www.ths.haywood.k12.nc.us](http://www.ths.haywood.k12.nc.us).

Monthly updated scholarship information is available in the Counseling Center or in English boxes.

Haywood County Schools Foundation Scholarships are due to the Counseling Center by March 15th. Everyone should apply!

"People Helping People" Scholarship is due by April 1st. Make sure you stop by and get the application. It is two pages.

## Academic Awards Program

Tuesday—May 18th, 2010

(PTO will provide refreshments from 6:00-6:30pm and the program will begin promptly at 6:30pm)

TURN IN **ALL** OUTSIDE SCHOLARSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS TO MS. METCALF IN THE COUNSELING CENTER

More information coming soon.

