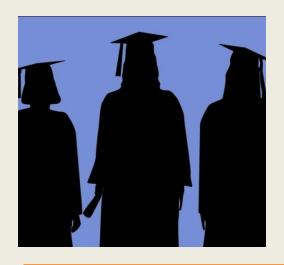
#### Program Brought to You By

#### INDIANA INSTITUTE FOR WORKING FAMILIES





## Jennings County College for Success Coalition







# Know2Go Student Event – Jennings County

February 2011

## Overview of Event

- Welcome and Introductions
- Put Some Hands on Cash for Your Education
  - FASFA Form Key Deadlines and Amendments
  - Tax Returns, Late Submission, and Tax Credits
  - Federal Financial Aid and Grants
  - State Financial Aid and Grants
  - Student Loans and Will You Be Able to Pay Them Back
  - Alternative Financial Aid Resources
- Additional Resources
- Questions
- Adjourn

# Jennings County College for Success Coalition

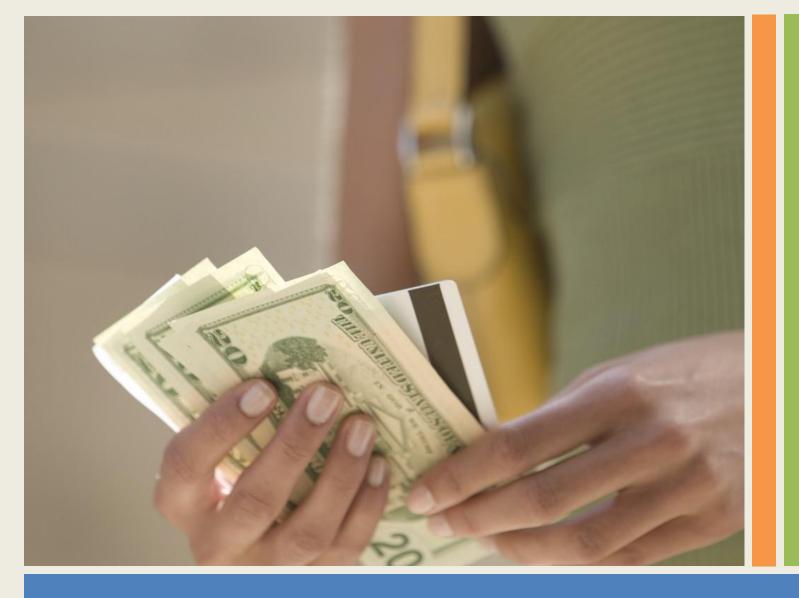
Supported By:







- Purpose
- Members
- Resource in Community for Students and Parents
- How to Contact Them?



## Put Your Hands on Some Cash

## FASFA Form and Key Deadlines

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA)
  - This form is required to obtain federal and state financial aid as well as to apply for student loans.
  - You can fill it out electronically or in paper format, if electronically you will first need to sign-up for a pin.
  - To fill out the form you will need your tax returns, student's social security number, and school codes. If you are considered a dependent student you will need your parents tax returns.
  - You can access the FASFA form, obtain school codes, and get more information at:

http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/index.htm

## FASFA Form and Key Deadlines

#### DEADLINES

- To receive financial aid from the State of Indiana, you must submit your FASFA by March 10, 2011 for the 2001-2012 school year.
- You can amend your FASFA up until May 16, 2011, and still receive state financial aid.
- For <u>federal financial aid ONLY</u> and apply for student loans the federal deadline is June 30, 2011. If you submit the form this late you will not receive any state financial aid!

# Tax Returns, Late Submission, and Tax Credits

#### Tax Returns

- As stated in the previous slides you need to complete your tax returns to complete the FASFA, however if you itemize the IRS will not be able to accept your 2010 returns until late February 2011.
- If you itemize, use 2009 tax returns for initial FASFA application, you can amend after your 2010 returns are completed.
- Make sure you are claiming all tax credits you are eligible for which may be able to help with college expenses!

# Tax Returns, Late Submission, and Tax Credits

#### Tax Returns

- As stated in the previous slides you need to complete your tax returns to complete the FASFA, however if you itemize the IRS will not be able to accept your 2010 returns until late February 2011.
- If you itemize, use 2009 tax returns for initial FASFA application, you can amend after your 2010 returns are completed.

## Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)

- A refundable federal tax credit for working individuals and families.
- In 2010, a worker with children making at or below \$35,535 to \$43,352 is eligible and a worker without children making at or below \$13,460 is eligible.

Eligibility Requirements for the Federal EITC, Tax Year 2010			
Number of Qualifying Children	Individual Filer	Joint Filer	Maximum Credit
Zero	\$13,460	\$18,470	\$457
One	\$35,535	\$40,545	\$3,050
Two	\$40,363	\$45,373	\$5,036
Three or more	\$43,352	\$48362	\$5,666

• If person was eligible and did not claim, can claim the EITC up to three years retroactively. For family with two children this could equate to \$14,708 (for tax year 2008, 2009, and 2010).

### State EITC

• Indiana has a refundable state tax credit based on 9% of the federal EITC.

Maximum Credit for State EITC, Tax Year 2010			
Number of Qualifying Children	Maximum Credit		
Zero	\$41		
One	\$274		
Two	\$453		
Three or more	\$510		

• You can also claim the state EITC up to three years retroactively. For family with two children this could equate to \$1,178 (for tax year 2008, 2009, and 2010).

#### How to Claim the EITC

- FEDERAL
  - Retroactively
    - Fill out Schedule EIC for applicable year
       (www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=150513,00.html)

#### **AND**

- Form 1040X, available at: http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1040x.pdf
- Current Tax Year (2010)
  - Fill out Schedule EIC with 1040

### How to Claim the EITC

- STATE
  - Retroactively
    - Fill out Schedule IN-EIC for applicable year
      - 2009 forms available at: http://www.in.gov/dor/4167.htm
      - Past years available at: http://www.in.gov/dor/3488.htm

#### **AND**

- Form IT-40X (<a href="http://www.in.gov/dor/3827.htm">http://www.in.gov/dor/3827.htm</a>)
- Current Tax Year (2010)
  - Fill out Schedule IN-EIC with IT-40

# Tax Returns, Late Submission, and Tax Credits

#### Tax Credits to Claim in 2011

- American Opportunity Tax Credit \$2,500 per eligible student (which expanded and renamed the alreadyexisting Hope credit, can be claimed for tuition and certain fees you pay for higher education).
- Lifetime Learning Credit Up to \$2,000 per return, for higher education expenses.
- <u>CANNOT claim both</u> American Opportunity and Lifetime Learning Credit. <u>CANNOT claim</u> Tuition and Fees Deduction with American Opportunity or Lifetime Credit.
- Student Loan Interest Deduction Up to \$2,500
- Tuition and Fees Deduction Up to \$4,000

#### •PELL

- Considered a foundation of federal financial aid, to to which aid from other federal and nonfederal sources might be added
- Need-based grant given to undergraduates based on student's EFC
- Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is the total amount of money a student/family is supposedly able to contribute toward college costs in a given academic year according to the <u>Federal Methodology</u>
- Federal Methodology (FM)
  - Formula used to figure a student's eligibility for federal grants, loans and/or work-study programs
  - Many states use the same formula to determine a student's eligibility for state grants, and many colleges use it to award their need-based scholarships

- Federal Supplemental Educational
   Opportunity Grant (SEOG)
  - Need-based grant awarded by the institution
  - Individual awards do not exceed \$4,000 per academic year
  - For undergraduates with exceptional financial need
  - Pell Grant recipients with the lowest expected family contributions (EFCs) will be considered first
  - Just like Pell Grants, the FSEOG does not have to be repaid

- Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program
  - Provides grants of up to \$4,000 per year to students who intend to teach in a public or private elementary or secondary school that serves students from low-income families
  - Must teach for at least four academic years within eight calendar years of completing the program of study for which you received a TEACH Grant
  - IMPORTANT: If you fail to complete this service obligation, all amounts of TEACH Grants that you received will be converted to a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan

#### Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG)

- Provides \$750 for the first year of study and \$1,300 for the second year
- To be eligible for each academic year, a student must:
- be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen;
- be a Federal Pell Grant recipient;
- be enrolled at least half-time in a degree program;
- be a first or second-year undergraduate student or a student in a certificate program of at least one year in a degree program at a two-year or four-year degree-granting institution
- have completed a rigorous secondary school program of study (after January 1, 2006, if a first-year student, and after January 1, 2005, if a second-year student); and
- if a first-year student not have been previously enrolled in an ACGeligible program while at or below age of compulsory school attendance; or
- if a second-year student have at least a cumulative 3.0 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale as of the end of the first year of undergraduate study

#### National Science & Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant (National SMART Grant)

- Available during the third and fourth years of undergraduate study (or fifth year of a five-year program) to at least half-time students who are eligible for the Federal Pell Grant
- Eligible Students
- be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen;
- be Pell Grant-eligible during the same award year;
- be enrolled at least half-time;
- be in the third or fourth year of an undergraduate degree program (or fifth year of a five-year program);
- be pursuing a major in physical, life, or computer sciences, mathematics, technology, engineering or a critical foreign language; or non-major single liberal arts programs, and
- have at least a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale as of the end of the second award year and continue to maintain a 3.0 GPA that must be checked prior to the beginning of each payment period (e.g., semester)

#### Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant

- Student who is not eligible for a Pell Grant but whose parent or guardian was a member of the U.S. Armed Forces and died as a result of service performed in Iraq or Afghanistan after September 11, 2001
  - Be under 24 years old or
  - Enrolled in college at least part-time at the time of the parent's or guardian's death
  - The grant award is equal to the amount of a maximum Pell
     Grant for the award year not to exceed the cost of attendance
     for that award year

#### Jobs/Work Aid

- Federal Work Study
  - A campus-based part-time employment program which provides jobs for students who show financial need

For more details and information on the federal programs we have discussed, visit <a href="https://www.studentaid.ed.gov">www.studentaid.ed.gov</a>

#### **Learn Where the Money Is**

www.indianacollegecosts.org/learn-where-the-money-is

# Indiana State Financial Aid Requirements

To qualify for consideration for one of Indiana's full-time grants the applicant must:

- Be an Indiana resident by December 31st the year prior to applying (December 31, 2010 for the 2011-2012 school year)
- Be a U.S. Citizen or eligible noncitizen
- Be a high school graduate or hold a GED
- Attend, or plan to attend, an eligible college or university
- FAFSA must be received by the federal processor by March 10<sup>th</sup>and be error-free by SSACI's edit correction deadline each and every year;
- Demonstrate need based on the FAFSA

#### **Indiana's Current Financial Aid Programs and Policies**

Program	Program Requirements	
Frank O'Bannon	•Attend (or plan o attend) full time (at least 12 credit hours) •Be working towards your first Associate or Bachelor's Degree	Covers only tuition and fees. Can not be used toward books, transportation or other supportive services  Exact amounts vary based on demand and funding, but this grant could pay up to 90% of your tuition.
•Sign-up take place in middle school •Sign a drug-free pledge •Attend (or plan o attend) full time (at least 12 credit hours) •Be working towards your first Associate or Bachelor's Degree		Covers only tuition and fees. Can not be used toward books, transportation or other supportive services
Part-Time Grant	<ul> <li>•Allows part-time enrollment or less</li> <li>•Distributed on a term by term basis rather than annually</li> <li>•The institution awards this grant</li> </ul>	Covers only tuition and fees. Can not be used toward books, transportation or other supportive services.  Minimum amount is \$50 per term, Maximums vary by institution

#### **Current Programs cont....**

Program	Requirements	Types of Costs Covered
Nursing Scholarship	<ul> <li>Allows part-time enrollment</li> <li>Agree, in writing, to work as a nurse in an Indiana health care setting for at least the first two (2) years following graduation, as a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse</li> </ul>	Covers only tuition and fees. Can not be used toward books, transportation or other supportive services It pays \$5,000 annually It also has a payback provision should you change majors.
Summer State Work Study Scholarship		
Indiana National Guard	•Allows part-time enrollment • The student must be in active drilling status. The unit commander is the sole determiner of this status. This applies to each academic term •Must Attend one of Indiana's 8 public institutions	

#### **Current Programs cont....**

Program	Requirements	Types of Costs Covered
Minority Teacher/ Special Services Scholarship	<ul> <li>Requires full-time enrollment</li> <li>A minority student (defined as Black or Hispanic) seeking a teaching certification; or any student (minority and non-minority) seeking Special Education teaching certification, or Occupational or Physical Therapy certification.</li> <li>Agree to work in Indiana for 3 years</li> </ul>	Covers only tuition and fees. Can not be used toward books, transportation or other supportive services.  It pays \$4,000 annually for Minority Students, and \$1,000 annually for non-Minority Students
Robert C Byrd Honors	<ul> <li>Achieve a minimum SAT score of 1940 from one single test or a 29 composite score on the ACT, or earn an average standard score of 620 or higher on the GED</li> <li>Be an outgoing senior in high school with a GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, or receive the GED the year you apply for the scholarship</li> <li>Complete an application by the deadline (April 29, 2011)</li> </ul>	Covers only tuition and fees. Can not be used toward books, transportation or other supportive services.  Funds are limited and vary from year to year.

### **Student Loans**

An education loan is a form of financial aid that must be repaid, with interest.

#### **Three Types:**

- Federal Student Loans- These loans are taken out in the Students name. There are two types of these loans:
  - Subsidized- This means the government pays the interest while you are in school.
  - Unsubsidized- This means that you pay all the interest.

### **Student Loans**

- •Federal Parent Loans- Parents of dependent students can take out loans to supplement their children's aid packages. The federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS) lets parents borrow money to cover any costs not already covered by the student's financial aid package, up to the full cost of attendance. These loans will be in the parents name!
- •Private Student Loans-Private Education Loans, also known as Alternative Education Loans, help bridge the gap between the actual cost of your education and the limited amount the government allows you to borrow in its programs. Private loans are offered by private lenders and there are no federal forms to complete. Eligibility for private student loans often depends on your credit score.

For the 2007-2008 School year, graduating Seniors with a Bachelor's Degree had an average cumulative debt of.....

\$27,803

#### Monthly payment:

\$250/ month for 15 years

Total amount paid over the life of the loan:

\$44, 982

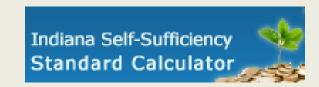
## Indiana Self-Sufficiency Standard

- Published by the Indiana Institute for Working Families, a program of IN-CAA
- Measures how much a family of a certain composition in a given geographic location needs to meet their basic needs without government or private subsides.
- The Standard is calculated for 70 family types in each of Indiana's 92 counties.
- Can be used in a number of ways including: a benchmark for evaluation and program improvement; as a guideline for determining eligibility and need for services; as a counseling tool; as a public education tool; and as a guideline for wage-setting and living wage campaigns.
- Report available at: <a href="http://www.incap.org/documents/FINAL%202009%20Indiana%20SSS%20R">http://www.incap.org/documents/FINAL%202009%20Indiana%20SSS%20R</a> eport%2010-26-09.pdf

### Indiana Self-Sufficiency Standard Calculator

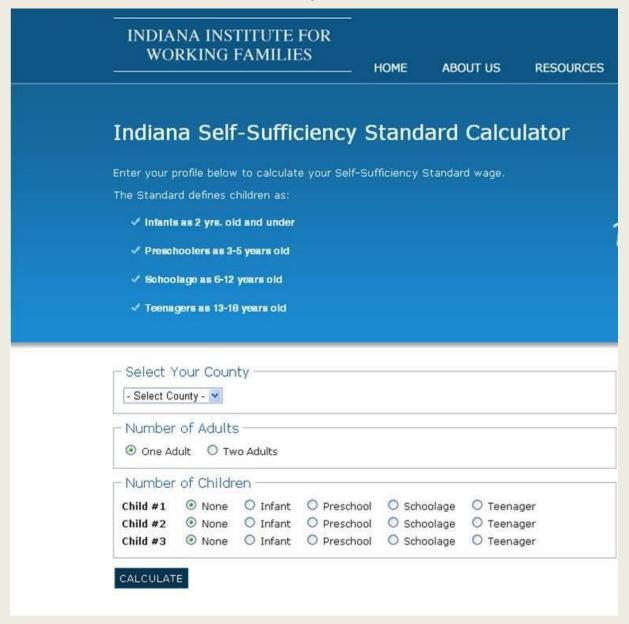
• In addition to the report the Institute is updating the Self-Sufficiency Calculator which is a interactive version of the Standard which includes all 70 family types for all 92 counties

Can link it to your web site



- •The calculator is available at: <a href="https://www.indianaselfsufficiencystandard.org">www.indianaselfsufficiencystandard.org</a>
- Expanded capabilities which include linking to jobs and education and that pay those wages will be available in 2011

### Indiana Self-Sufficiency Standard Calculator



# Will you be able to afford a \$250 a month payment?

In Jennings County a single adult, with no children needs to earn \$1344/month to pay for basic necessities.

When adding in the student loan payment those necessary earnings increase to \$1594/month.

# Will you continue to be able to afford a \$250 a month payment?

In Jennings County, two adults with an infant need to earn \$2908/month to pay for basic necessities.

When adding in the student loan payment those necessary earnings increase to \$3158/month.

#### How do I find which jobs pay these wages?

https://netsolutions.dwd.in.gov/hh50/



#### Here are some jobs in the Jennings County Region

Rank	Hot Jobs in the Jennings County Area	Openings Expected in 2012	<b>Education Required</b>	2009 Average Wage
2	Registered Nurse	125	Associate Degree	\$53,995
3	Truck Drivers	297	Moderate on-the-Job Training/Certificate/ Licensing	\$35,244
4	LPN or LVN	107	Certificate	\$35,555
5	Industrial Engineers	45	Bachelors	\$76,163
8	Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Mechanics	31	Long Term on-the-Job Training/Certificate	\$41,390
12	Carpenters	46	Long Term on-the-Job Training/Certificate	\$35,632
16	Bookkeeper/Accounting Clerk	74	Moderate on-the-Job Training/Certificate	\$30,808
20	Mechanical Engineer	104	Bachelors	\$68,856
27	Plumbers and Pipefitters	17 (by 2018 there will be 71 job openings)	Long Term on-the-Job Training/Certificate	\$34,003
42	Electricians	33	Moderate on-the-Job Training/Certificate/ Licensing	\$49,356

## Student Loan Tips

- Borrow only what you need. Loans must be repaid—even if you don't finish college, didn't like the education you received or can't find a job after you graduate. Never use student loans to pay off other bills or buy things you may want but don't really need.
- Borrow federal loans first. Federal loans (Perkins and Stafford Loans for students, PLUS loans for parents) have low fixed interest rates and flexible repayment plans. File a FAFSA at Fafsa.ed.gov to be considered for federal loans.
- Make private loans a last resort. Apply for a private loan only if federal loans and other aid you receive are not enough to cover your college costs.
- Avoid credit cards. Never use a credit card to make a tuition payment unless you can pay off the balance by your next credit card statement.

# How to Spot Deceptive Private Student Loan Practices?

- •Some private lenders and their marketers use names, seals, logos, or other representations similar to those of government agencies to create the false or misleading impression that they are part of or affiliated with the federal government and its student loan programs.
- The Department of Education (ED) does not send advertisements or mailers, or otherwise solicit consumers to borrow money. If you receive a student loan solicitation, it is not from ED.
- •Don't let promotions or incentives like gift cards, credit cards, and sweepstakes prizes divert you from assessing whether the key terms of the loan are reasonable.

# How to Spot Deceptive Private Student Loan Practices?

- Don't give out personal information on the phone, through the mail, or over the Internet unless you know with whom you are dealing. Private student lenders typically ask for your student account number often your Social Security number (SSN) or Personal Identification Number (PIN) saying they need it to help determine your eligibility. However, because scam artists who purport to be private student lenders can misuse this information, it is critical to provide it or other personal information only if you have confidence in the private student lender with whom you are dealing.
- Check out the track record of particular private student lenders with your state Attorney General (www.naag.org), your local consumer protection agency (www.consumeraction.gov), and the Better Business Bureau (www.bbb.org)

### Alternative Financial Aid Resources

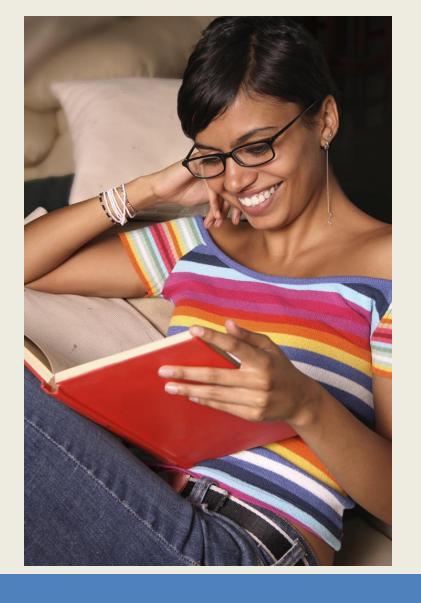
- Individual Development Accounts (IDAs)
  - \$3 to \$1 match savings program
  - Must be below 175% of FPG
  - Must attend 8 hour financial literacy class
  - Can receive up to \$6,400
  - Once you met saving goal for first year \$400
  - Once you receive state match (within 45days) can withdraw for qualified asset purchase

## Alternative Financial Aid Resources

- •Educational Development Accounts (EDAs) Provider:
  - No income qualification
  - Must be parent of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholar
  - \$2 to \$1 match
  - Can receive up to \$6,500
  - Must attend 8 hour financial literacy class
  - Once put savings in and receive match can start to withdraw funds for higher education purposes

### Alternative Financial Aid Resources

- Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) providers:
  - Human Services 812-372-8407
  - Eastside Community Center 812-376-7840
  - Community Action of Southern Indiana 812-288-6451
- Educational Development Accounts (EDAs)
  - Community Action of Southern Indiana 812-288-6451



## Additional Resources

### Additional Resources

**Learn More Indiana:** www.learnmoreindiana.org

KnowHow2Go:<a href="http://www.knowhow2go.org/">http://www.knowhow2go.org/</a>

College Access: <a href="www.Going2College.org">www.Going2College.org</a>

**Federal Free Scholarship Search:** 

https://studentaid2.ed.gov/getmoney/scholarship/

FAFSA4caster: <a href="https://fafsa.ed.gov/FAFSA/app/f4cForm?execution=e1s1">https://fafsa.ed.gov/FAFSA/app/f4cForm?execution=e1s1</a>

**Federal Student Loan Handbook:** 

http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/attachments/siteresources/11-12YFSL.pdf

## Questions?

• If you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to contact:

Jessica Fraser
<a href="mailto:jfraser@incap.org">jfraser@incap.org</a>
317-638-4232

Lisa Travis
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317-638-4232