FAFSA Workshop
FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID

www.fafsa.ed.gov

WHEN: Thursday, April 4, 2013

WHERE: BCFS Health and Human Services'
Abilene Transition Center
1290 South Willis, Suite #55 Abilene, Texas 79605

TIME: Come and go from 4-6 PM

Refreshments will be served!

Please see the back of this flyer for important information regarding the FAFSA application. If you are not ready to file your FAFSA, please stop by any of the workshops for general information on financial aid and available scholarships.

BCFS
Health and Human Services • Est. 1944

DREAM • CREATE • SUCCEED
C.O.O.L.
ABILENE EDUCATION FOUNDATION
EST. 2007

What is the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)?

This is the form that every student must fill out in the spring of their senior year of high school, preferably in February. It gives the government, schools, and some scholarship foundations the necessary information to award you money for school. It is important to note that your child will not receive any government aid without a FAFSA being filed. To complete the FAFSA go to www.fafsa.gov. This application is FREE! If you complete it at .com or .org there could be a charge so ensure you complete it only at www.fafsa.gov.

What is the IRS Data Retrieval Tool?

The ***IRS Data Retrieval Tool*** allows students and parents to access the IRS tax return information needed to complete the FAFSA and transfer the data directly into their form from the IRS website.

In order to complete your FAFSA and use the ***IRS Data Retrievel Tool***, you and your parent(s) will need to have your 2012 tax return filed prior to completing a FAFSA application. If you do not use this tool, you will have to order an official tax trancript from the IRS.

The ***IRS Data Retrievel Tool*** will be available beginning February 3, 2013 for those who file as soon as possible on or after January 30, 2013, the date when the IRS will begin accepting electronically filed 2012 tax returns.

Gathering the Documents Needed to Apply

The FAFSA asks for information about you (your name, date of birth, address, etc.) and about your financial situation. Depending on your circumstances (for instance, when you filed taxes or what tax form you used), you might need the following information or documents as you fill out the FAFSA:

- Your Social Security Number (it's important that you enter it correctly on the FAFSA!)
- Your parent(s)' Social Security Numbers if you are a ***dependent student***
- Your Driver's License Number if you have one
- Your Alien Registration Number if you are not a U.S. citizen
- Federal tax information or tax returns, including IRS W-2 information for you (and your spouse, if you are married), and for your parents if you are a dependent student:
  - IRS 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ (Data Retrieval Tool)
  - Foreign tax return, or
  - Tax return for Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Marshall Islands, the
  - Federal States of Micronesia, or Palau
- Records of your untaxed income, such as child support received, ***interest*** income, and veterans non-education benefits, for you and for your parents if you are a dependent student
- Information on cash, savings and checking account balances; investments, including stocks and bonds and real estate, but not including the home in which you live; and business and farm assets for you and your parents if you are a dependent student

(Coincidentally, most of this information can be found on your tax return.)

Both student and at least one parent will need to create a four digit pin in order to electronically sign the FAFSA application. This pin will also enable both parent and student to access the new IRS data retrieval tool. *To create your electronic pin number visit* http://www.pin.ed.gov.