



Parent Program:

"Parents' Guide to Supporting Financial Aid Preparation for 11th Graders"

Overview:

This program aims to guide parents of 11th-grade students through the complexities of financial aid, ensuring they are well-prepared to support their children's college and career aspirations.

Program Structure:

The program is divided into 36 weekly sessions, each focusing on a different aspect of financial aid and college planning.

Week 1: Introduction to Financial Aid

- Overview of different types of financial aid: grants, scholarships, loans, work-study
- Importance of financial aid planning

Week 2: Understanding the Cost of College

- Breakdown of college costs: tuition, fees, room and board, books, and supplies
- Differences between public and private institutions, in-state and out-of-state tuition

Week 3: Creating a Financial Plan

- Setting financial goals
- Estimating college expenses
- Creating a budget for college

Week 4: Saving for College

- Benefits of early savings
- Different savings plans: 529 plans, Coverdell ESAs
- Tips for saving effectively

Week 5: Scholarships 101

- Types of scholarships: merit-based, need-based, special interest
- How to find scholarships
- Tips for applying for scholarships

Week 6: Federal Financial Aid Overview

- Understanding the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
- Importance of filling out the FAFSA
- Key deadlines and requirements

Week 7: State Financial Aid Programs

- Overview of state-specific financial aid programs
- How to apply for state aid

Week 8: Institutional Financial Aid

- Financial aid offered by colleges and universities
- How to apply for institutional aid

Week 9: Private Scholarships

- Finding private scholarships
- Tips for applying for and winning private scholarships

Week 10: The FAFSA Process

- Step-by-step guide to completing the FAFSA
- Common mistakes to avoid

Week 11: Understanding the Student Aid Index (SAI)

- What is the Student Aid Index (SAI)
- How to review and correct the Student Aid Index (SAI)
- How is the Student Aid Index calculated? (SAI)

Week 12: Helping your Teen Research Financial Aid Schools

- How to Research a College or Career School Financial Aid Offerings?
- An overview of out-of-pocket expenses
- Overview of Instate and Out of State Tuition and Fees

Week 13: Financial Aid Award Letters

- How to read and compare financial aid award letters
- Understanding the components of an award letter

Week 14: Federal Student Loans

- Overview of federal student loans: Direct Subsidized, Direct Unsubsidized, PLUS loans
- Interest rates and repayment options

Week 15: Private Student Loans

- Overview of private student loans
- Comparing private loan options
- Tips for choosing a private loan

Week 16: Work-Study Programs

- What is work-study
- How to apply for work-study
- Benefits of work-study programs

Week 17: Financial Aid Appeals Process

- When and how to appeal a financial aid decision
- Tips for writing a successful appeal letter

Week 18: Understanding Grants

- Overview of federal and state grants
- How to apply for grants

Week 19: The CSS Profile

- What is the CSS Profile
- How to complete the CSS Profile
- Key differences between the CSS Profile and the FAFSA

Week 20: Financial Aid Myths

- Common misconceptions about financial aid
 - Debunking financial aid myths
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Week 21: Special Circumstances

- How special circumstances (e.g., loss of income, medical expenses) affect financial aid
- How to report special circumstances

Week 22: Dependency Status

- Determining dependency status for financial aid
- How dependency status affects financial aid

Week 23: Verification Process

- What is verification
- How to complete the verification process

Week 24: Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

- Understanding SAP requirements
- How SAP affects financial aid eligibility

Week 25: Financial Literacy for Parents

- Basics of budgeting, saving, and managing debt
- Importance of financial literacy for supporting college-bound students

Week 26: College Financial Aid Debt Analysis

- Understanding the long-term implications of student loan debt
- Strategies for managing and minimizing debt

Week 27: Preparing for College Costs

- Creating a college budget
- Managing expenses while in college

Week 28: Loan Repayment Options

- Overview of different loan repayment plans
- Pros and cons of each repayment plan

Week 29: Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)

- What is PSLF
- Eligibility requirements for PSLF
- How to apply for PSLF

Week 30: Parent PLUS Loans

- Overview of Parent PLUS Loans
 - Application process and repayment options
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Week 31: Alternative Financing Options

- Exploring alternative ways to finance college education
- Crowdfunding, income-share agreements, and other options

Week 32: Financial Aid for Specific Populations

- Financial aid resources for minority students, students with disabilities, and other specific populations

Week 33: Planning for Graduate School

- Financial aid options for graduate students
- Differences between undergraduate and graduate financial aid

Week 34: Post-Secondary Options and Financial Aid

- Financial aid for community college, trade schools, and other post-secondary options

Week 35: Preparing for the FAFSA Renewal

- Importance of renewing the FAFSA annually
- Key deadlines and requirements for FAFSA renewal

Week 36: Final Review and Q&A

- Recap of the program
- Open Q&A session for parents

This comprehensive 36-week program will ensure that parents of 11th-grade students are well-equipped to navigate the financial aid process and support their children's college and career aspirations.