

**Dates to Remember:****SAT Tests:**

Test Date: Jan. 28

Register by: Dec. 30

Test Date: Mar. 10

Register by: Feb. 10

**ACT Tests:**

Test Date: Feb. 11

Register by: Jan. 13

Test Date: Apr. 14

Register by: Mar. 9

**FAFSA 2011- 2012****Application**

Start After Jan. 2

Finish Before Mar. 1

**College Goal Sunday**

Druid Hill Y Family Center

1/22/12, 11a.m.— 5p.m.

**Baltimore Community  
Foundation Scholarship**

Deadline: 4/1/2012

**CollegeBound's  
Last Dollar Grant &  
Competitive Scholarship  
Online Application**

Deadline: 3/1/2012

**Central Scholarship Bureau**No Interest Loan /  
Scholarship

Deadline: 4/1/2012

**NCAA Workshop**

12/10/2011, 9a.m. - 1p.m.

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Maryland**CollegeBound Foundation**

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# College Connection

NORTHWESTERN HIGH SCHOOL

WINTER 2012

## A message from your CAPS

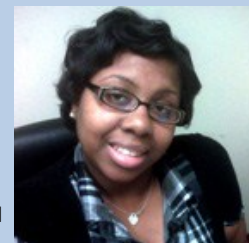
**Myth:** College is not affordable.**Fact:** College IS affordable, if you are willing to look for it, and continue to earn it!!!!

**How do I know this to be true?** I have seen many students from Baltimore City having various academic, economic, and social backgrounds pay for college through scholarships, grants, work-study, loans, and other sources. That's right! **These students followed these tips in order to help them pay for school:**

- **Apply for financial aid ON TIME!** – Maryland's FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) application is due **March 1<sup>st</sup>**. In order to be eligible for state grants and scholarships, students **MUST** apply by this date. As much as \$14,000 a year is available for eligible students.
- **Look for scholarships early!** – As unique as our students are, there are scholarships for every type of student. The key is to research early and be ready to apply by the deadlines. Some scholarships require essays, proof of income, and/or a special application. In order to be ready for the different requirements, it is best to know what is needed early. Try [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com), [www.findtuition.com](http://www.findtuition.com), [www.bcf.org](http://www.bcf.org), and [www.collegeboundfoundation.org](http://www.collegeboundfoundation.org).
- **Use the resources in the high school.** – Talk to guidance counselors, CAPS, teachers, and administrators for ideas, resources, and other ways to fund a college education. Make these people **YOUR BEST FRIENDS!**

As always, I welcome your questions and am here as a valuable college access resource!

Happy Money Finding!



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### Social Networking and College Admission

You've been working hard trying to get into college—researching schools, refining your essay, collecting glowing recommendations, studying on nights and weekends for the SATs or ACTs, maybe even preparing for a campus interview. Throughout all of this process, you've made a great impression as a serious, promising college student. Wait, though. Before you can relax on the couch to watch your favorite TV show, there's one more detail to take care of—your Facebook profile.

### Social Networking Profiles: Private or Public Information?

Whether it's through Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Flickr or another social media service, students are online—online sharing details with friends, online for everyone to see. These sites help you keep in touch with friends and allow you meet new people. Many students spend hours each day updating their profiles, messaging their friends and clicking through photo albums. It's harmless fun, right? Now, how would you feel if your teachers saw your profile? A college admission officer?

You might not like it, but you should know that adults—from your schools, families and even law enforcement—are looking at your pages. Whatever you post, it never goes away. Once your information is online—even if you take it down—it becomes public information, as your page can be saved on anyone's computer.

### What You Can Do

First, be safe! Never post personal information such as your address, daily schedule, phone number, etc. Check out these safety guidelines from the [Center for Safe and Responsible Internet Use](#) and [Wired Safety](#).

- Make your profile private so that strangers can't look at your information, and be cautious about adding new friends who you do not personally know.
- Take down any questionable photos or exchanges between you and your friends. Give it the "Grandma Test." If you wouldn't want your grandmother to see it, then you don't want other adults to either. Remember, pictures and references of you on your friends' pages can be damaging too. You can ask them to take down this kind of information.

## Student Athletes



If you are a senior who plans to participate in National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I or II sports as a college freshman, you must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center at [http://web1.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA\\_EMS/NCAA.jsp](http://web1.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA.jsp).

You can also download the most recent copy of “The Guide for College-Bound Student-Athlete” at [www.ncaapublications.com/productdownloads/CBSA.pdf](http://www.ncaapublications.com/productdownloads/CBSA.pdf). The guide provides a summary of the rules and regulations in an easy-to-read format. Guidelines relate to recruiting, eligibility, financial aid and college freshman eligibility requirements for Divisions I and II.

If you are interested in playing collegiate sports at a National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) institution, NAIA eligibility is separate from NCAA eligibility certification and has different sets of rules and certification processes. Register online with the NAIA Eligibility Center at [www.playnaia.org](http://www.playnaia.org).

If you are interested in participating in National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) sports, there are great opportunities in over 20 sports.

Students and parents—do you need help sorting through the varying collegiate sports requirements and opportunities available through the NCAA, NAIA or NJCAA? CollegeBound Foundation can help! You are invited to attend our NCAA Eligibility Workshop on Saturday, December 10th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Notre Dame of Maryland University, Knott Auditorium.

Register for this free seminar online at <http://www.collegeboundfoundation.org/whatsnew/events.html> by November 18th.

## Show Me the Money

Need money for college? There are a number of free resources locally that will help you:

- ◆ Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
- ◆ Find scholarship and financial aid resources and how to apply

These resources include:

- ◆ High school Counselors or CollegeBound Specialists
- ◆ Financial Aid Counselors at your nearest college or university
- ◆ College Goal Sunday Volunteers —locate a date and site near you at <http://collegegoalsundaymd.org/register.cfm>.



In order to complete the FAFSA this season, you and your parents will need the following:

- ◆ Social Security number (can be found on Social Security card)
- ◆ Driver's license (if any)
- ◆ 2011 income tax return (if completed)
- ◆ 2011 W-2 Forms and other records of money earned
- ◆ 2011 untaxed income records - Social Security, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, welfare, or veterans benefits records
- ◆ Your 2011 bank statements
- ◆ 2011 business and investment mortgage information, business and farm records, stock, bond, and other investment records
- ◆ Your alien registration card (if you are not a U.S. citizen)

## CollegeBound's Grants

The CollegeBound Foundation Last Dollar Grant is a need-based award for Baltimore City Public High School graduates whose expected family contribution and financial aid package total less than the cost to attend college. Students who are awarded a CollegeBound Foundation Last Dollar Grant are eligible to receive a grant of up to \$3,000 per year, renewable for up to five (5) years of college or the maximum amount of \$15,000. This money is gift money which does not have to be repaid.

### Eligibility:

- ◆ Family income must not exceed \$75,000. If unmet need is greater than \$5,000, the student must provide documentation detailing how the gap will be financed.
- ◆ Student must contribute at least 15% through self-help (student loans or work study).
- ◆ Attend a Maryland four-year college or university.
- ◆ Applications will be available online on December 1st at <http://scholarships.mycbf.net/stars>

