

**Look for these items below in this edition of the Scholarship Central newsletter:**

1. Now is the time to **complete the FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).
2. Important information for **High School Seniors** about College and Scholarship deadlines.
3. **Scholarship applications** are available in the Scholarship Central Resource room and on our web site.
4. **Upcoming Events** to Plan For

**Now is the time to complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid):**

You must complete and submit a **Free Application for Federal Student Aid** (FAFSA) to apply for federal student aid and to apply for most state and college aid. Applying online with **FAFSA on the Web** at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) is the fastest and most efficient way to file your FAFSA. Some college FAFSA deadlines may be as early as February 1, 2010, so you should know the FAFSA deadlines for each college to which you have applied. Be sure to submit your FAFSA data to all of those colleges by indicating their federal codes in the appropriate section of the FAFSA document. Sign your FAFSA with a Federal Student Aid Personal Identification Number (PIN). If you do not have a PIN, you can apply for one at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov). Your PIN allows you to electronically sign when you submit your FAFSA. If you are providing parent information, one parent must also sign your FAFSA. To sign electronically, your parent should also apply for a PIN. You will need the following information to complete the FAFSA:

- Your Social Security Number and your parents' Social Security Numbers if you are providing parental information.
- Your driver's license number if you have one.
- Your Alien Registration Number if you are not a U.S. citizen.
- 2009 federal tax information or tax returns (including IRS W-2 information) for yourself (and spouse if you are married) and for your parents if you are providing parental information. If you have not yet filed a 2009 income tax return, you can still submit your FAFSA but you must provide income and tax information.
- Information on savings, investments, and business and farm assets for yourself and your parents if you are providing parent information.

**WARNING!** Be wary of organizations that charge a fee to submit your FAFSA or to find you money for college. In general, the help you pay for can be obtained for free from your college access office, the colleges, or Federal Student Aid.

For free assistance with filing your FAFSA and information regarding Scholarship Central programs and services, contact advisor Terry Kopchak at The Muskingum County Community Foundation, 534 Putnam Avenue, Zanesville; by phone at 740-453-5192; or by email at [tkopchak@mccf.org](mailto:tkopchak@mccf.org).

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**Register online for College Goal Sunday** to get help completing your FAFSA and to get your questions answered.

College Goal Sunday is **Sunday, February 14, 2010 from 2:00 – 4:00 pm at Zane State College.**

Visit <http://www.ohiocollegegoalsunday.org>, click on the link for Student Registration and fill out the online form, choosing your location as "Muskingum - Zane State College".

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The [2010-2011 FAFSA on the Web Worksheet](#) is now available to download. The Worksheet has been redesigned in alignment with the 2010-2011 simplified version of FAFSA on the Web. The Worksheet is not intended to be a duplicate of the paper FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid); you fill it out and use it as a guide when you are working with the FAFSA on the Web.

## Attention High School Seniors:

Be sure to **check all deadlines** for college and scholarship applications! As your senior year moves along many of these deadlines will sneak up on you before you know it.

Check to make sure your college applications have been submitted. If you have not heard back from the schools you applied to – call to make sure nothing is missing in your application.

If you have not submitted your college applications yet, it is not too late to get started. Take time out of your schedule tonight to turn in a few applications even if you are not sure where you would like to attend. If you are stuck and not sure about your next step, let one of our advisors help you in the process.

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The following scholarship applications are available in the **Scholarship Central Resource Room** at the Muskingum County Community Foundation:

### **Ohio Township Association Scholarships**

Deadline is **January 29, 2010**. The OTA offers three \$1,500 scholarships for 2010. Student must reside in one of the 1,308 townships in Ohio. Applicants must submit: completed application; a 500-word essay; high school transcript; and two letters of recommendation. Finalists will be notified by March 30 and asked to participate in an interview. Finalists will be notified by March 30 and asked to take part in an interview. Scholarship winners will be notified by May 3.

### **The Sam Walton Community Scholarship**

Applications must be **submitted online by 5:00 p.m., central time, January 29, 2010**. A \$3,000 college scholarship available to graduating seniors with at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA and a demonstrated financial need.

### **The Wal-Mart Associate Scholarship**

Applications must be **submitted online by 5:00 p.m., central time, January 29, 2010**. A \$3,000 college scholarship available to Walmart associates or dependents of associates who are graduating seniors with at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA and a demonstrated financial need.

### **The Wal-Mart Higher Reach Scholarship**

Applications must be **submitted online by 5:00 p.m., central time, January 29, 2010**. Provides a college scholarship up to \$3,000 to Walmart associates who have been out of school for at least one year.

### **Walton Family Foundation Scholarship**

Applications must be **submitted online by 5:00 p.m., central time, January 29, 2010**. Administered by the Walmart Foundation, the Walton Family Foundation Scholarship is a \$13,000 scholarship paid out over four years. Applicants must be dependents of Walmart associates, have at least a 22 ACT or 1030 SAT (Critical Reading + Math) score and prove financial need.

### **John H. McConnell Scholarship**

Deadline is **March 1, 2010 (in office) by noon**. Intended to reward local high school seniors who demonstrate hard work, perseverance, leadership and community involvement. The scholarship winners will be selected annually by the Foundation's Board of Directors and announced in the spring at the end of each Blue Jackets season.

### **2010 Bar G Oil and Gas Scholarship**

All application materials must be **postmarked by March 15th, 2010**. A \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded in 2010 to a graduating senior from the Mid-East Technology Center in Zanesville to pursue higher-education opportunities. Applicants must be a resident of Muskingum County, planning to attend Zane State College starting fall term of 2010 and have a GPA of 2.5 or higher (on a 4.0 scale).

### **Carolyn Ann Weiner Scholarship**

Deadline is **March 15, 2010**. Two \$500 awards to college-bound high school seniors in Muskingum, Guernsey, and Morgan Counties. Nominations by guidance counselors, ministers,

principals or physicians are reviewed on the student's character and ability to succeed in spite of extraordinary challenges. One winner from Rosecrans and one selected other area high school.

### **Leasure Family Scholarship**

Deadline is **March 15th, 2010**. Scholarship awards for teachers who teach and/or live in Muskingum County. Teachers must currently be enrolled in a graduate program (having completed six quarter or four semester hours) at an accredited institution of higher education (full or part time). Consideration given to essay, recommendations, grades, and community involvement. Teachers whose employers reimburse their tuition are ineligible.

### **M-E Companies, Inc. Scholarships**

Applications must be **postmarked by March 31, 2010**. Two \$1,000 Scholarships open to graduating seniors from a high school in Adams, Athens, Fairfield, Hocking, Meigs, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Pickaway, Scioto, Vinton or Washington. Students must have a GPA of 2.5 or better. Selection will be based upon participation in activities, financial need, acceptance into a 4-year program, and two letters of recommendation. Download guidelines and application for more information.

If you would like any additional details about these scholarships, please contact Terry Kopchak at [tkopchak@mccf.org](mailto:tkopchak@mccf.org).

You may also download available applications and guidelines from the **Scholarship Central** web site at: [http://mccf.org/scholarship\\_central/students/pay\\_for\\_college/index.html#applications](http://mccf.org/scholarship_central/students/pay_for_college/index.html#applications)

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## **Upcoming Events to Plan For:**

### **So You Want to Go to College: Writing Successful Scholarship Essays**

Saturday, January 30, 2010

2:00 – 3:00pm

John McIntire Library

### **College Goal Sunday 2010**

Sunday, February 14, 2010

2:00 – 4:00pm at Zane State College

### **College Night 2010**

Thursday, March 25, 2010

6:00 – 8:30pm at the Campus Center of Zane State College/Ohio University-Zanesville

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Have a friend, family member or colleague who might be interested in **Scholarship Central** or **GEAR UP**?

Forward this e-mail and encourage them to join our mailing list by visiting:

[http://www.mccf.org/news\\_events/mailing\\_list.html](http://www.mccf.org/news_events/mailing_list.html)

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If you have any questions about **Scholarship Central** or **GEAR UP**, feel free to call us at 740-453-5192 or visit our web site at:

<http://mccf.org/>

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