



# Eastern-in-the-News



## **‘FINANCIAL AID NUTS AND BOLTS’ FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS & FAMILIES**

Moorefield – Jan. 23, 2013 — On the opportunity ladder towards higher learning and skill development, and future career success, financial aid for college offers many families and students a vital leg up. To qualify for any federal college financial aid program — and for most state and institutional aid opportunities — students must complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). And with the New Year, FAFSA deadlines in West Virginia are fast approaching for priority consideration: March 1 for the PROMISE scholarship, and April 15 for the WV Higher Education Grant Program.

Graduating seniors, and/or their parents, who have questions or would like advice and assistance in filling out the FAFSA, can come to a nuts-and-bolts meeting at several locations throughout the Potomac Highlands. Amanda Sites, financial aid director at Eastern WV Community and Technical College, will offer a thorough presentation of the hows-and-whys of college financial aid for the coming year, including financial aid options, programs, and the application process. Sites will offer her presentation at the following at and on the following times, dates and places:

- Thursday, December 13: East Hardy High School, 6:00 pm
- Thursday, January 17: Tucker County High School, 6:00 pm
- Wednesday, January 23: Petersburg High School, 6:30 pm
- Wednesday, February 6: Moorefield High School, TBA (Day time)
- Thursday, February 7: Moorefield High School, 5:00 – 7:00 pm

“Many questions are asked, and guidance is available to all,” Sites said, noting that families and students need not be applying to Eastern to attend and participate. “This is a workshop open to anyone and everyone who would like support or assistance in completing the FAFSA.”

Even for families who believe that they may not qualify for federal aid, completing a FAFSA is still important, Sites emphasized, “because in West Virginia the FAFSA serves as the qualifying application for such state aid as the PROMISE scholarship and the WV Higher Education Grant Program.”

If a Sunday meeting is more convenient, Sites said, on February 10 families can find additional FAFSA support at the ‘College Goal Sunday FAFSA Workshop for Anyone,’ at several locations across the state, including Potomac State College in Keyser. Financial aid professionals will also be on site there to assist students and their families through the FAFSA process. For more information about Eastern’s financial aid opportunities, programs of study, workforce training and community education, call toll free: 877-982-2322; or check the College’s website: “[www.easternwv.edu](http://www.easternwv.edu)”.

Serving the residents of Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Mineral, Pendleton and Tucker counties, and fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College is

a comprehensive and equal opportunity community and technical college bringing the resources and assets of Education That Works to the families, communities and employers of the Potomac Highlands.

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