

Free Money

It seems these words are on the mind of every parent of a college bound student. Get your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) done. Fill out applications for colleges and scholarships. Let us not forget the important campus visits. The senior year of high school can be a very hectic time. So what is out there to help guide you through this new adventure in life?

Remember the phrase; hindsight is twenty/twenty? Four years down the road, you will know all kinds of information that would have been helpful to know when the whole college process started. This was the thought of a college graduate, and former Financial Aid Director, who both experienced and witnessed the stresses attending college creates. During her years as a Financial Aid Director, she shared helpful, practical tips to potential college students, in order to help prepare them for college.

Last year, she began to wonder if the practical information she had shared was available somewhere for potential college students. After searching the internet she decided she needed to fill this void. As a result, she started the website Prepare4College.com. Her goal was to give direction on the Financial Aid process, as well as to give tips that would help the college student save money in the long run. Tips like where to purchase textbooks for college. Of course, the college bookstore is one choice, but is it the best choice? If textbooks were purchased elsewhere, would you know what to look for when making the purchase? Not having all the information can lead to a costly mistake. After all, you can expect to spend a minimum of \$250-\$300 per semester on textbooks.

All college students will face new dilemmas. If they know in advance how to make eating out more affordable, what office supplies to have on hand, and the best alternatives for those long distance phone calls home, they can be prepared. If the college student starts out the year prepared, more of that precious Financial Aid stays in his/her pocket.

Knowledge is the key to making the college years both enjoyable and affordable. Ask questions, look at all the alternatives, and read, read, read. There is no better way to Prepare4College.com