

Springfield Promise Program

March Newsletter

Fill out
the
FAFSA
today.



Great News!

Some students, who submitted their FAFSA form in January, can now review their FAFSA Submission Summary. However, no one at this time can make corrections. Please know that we share your frustration. We encourage you to be patient and to continue to search for and apply for scholarships. The colleges and scholarship foundations are aware of the FAFSA delay and in many cases are extending their enrollment, scholarships, and financial aid deadlines beyond the traditional May 1 date to accommodate the challenges students and families are facing with FAFSA submission form. You will soon be able to review your awards from your colleges and achieve your dream of financing and attending the college/trade school of your choice. As always, we're here to help every step of the way. Reach out to your SPS Financial Aid Advisor with any questions or concerns.

Financial Aid Award Letters

If your senior has been accepted, submitted their FAFSA, and added the prospective colleges on their FAFSA, colleges will soon send your senior what we called a "Financial Aid Award" letter. This letter details your student's financial aid package. It outlines the Cost of Attendance (COA), all grants and scholarships received, and loans. The letter should estimate how much it will cost your senior to attend the school and what you and your senior will have to contribute once all grants and scholarships are factored in. It is intended to help you and your senior understand and fill the gap between your ability to pay and the college costs.

We recommend each senior to make an appointment to meet with an SPS Financial Aid Advisor to review their award letters before making a final decision on which school to attend. As we mentioned in previous newsletters, seniors with early action or regular decision college applications are in no rush to commit to a college at this time. So, take the time to review the award letters to make the best financial decision for you and your family.

Your student Needs Your Help to Reach Their College/Trade School Dream!

Attention contributors! Your dependent student needs your support to complete the FAFSA. They cannot submit the FAFSA without your signature and the completion of the parent section, and they cannot complete the student section without some personal information from you!

- Contributor's First and Last Name
- Contributors Social Security Number
- Contributors Date of Birth
- Contributor's Persona Email Address

Don't want to give your personal information to your student? We totally understand! Just make an appointment with your SPS Financial Aid Advisor so you can enter that information on the form yourself. We can meet in school or via Zoom to help you complete both the student and the parent sections. Let us know what works for you!

What happens if you don't contribute to your student's FAFSA form?

If your student is a dependent student (under 24 years old, not in foster care or ward of the state, and not a parent), you must complete the parent section of the FAFSA form and sign your student's FAFSA. If you don't, then your student will only receive loans which they have to repay later. Help them claim the free money they're entitled to as quickly as possible to advance their post-secondary education goals.

- Create Your FSA ID
- Give your students the necessary information they need to complete the student section.
- Complete the parent/contributor section.
- Sign

Fill out the FAFSA today in as little as 10 minutes if you already have an FSA ID. This year's form is streamlined and more accessible, with simplified income verification and fewer questions. Your student's future is just one form away.

Parents/Contributors With No Social Security Number

Contributors with no Social Security Number can now log in and complete their sections of the FAFSA once the student has sent an electronic invitation after starting an application. You first need to create an FSA ID and answer some TransUnion questions to verify your identity.

Career and Internship Fair

- Looking for job or internship opportunities for your student? SPS School to Career Program can assist. Attend their Internship \$ Career Fair, April 8 & 9 at the MassMutual Center. Over 60 businesses/workforce development programs will be recruiting. For more information contact Pam Mathison, Internship & Pathways Administrator, mathisonp@springfieldpublicschools.com.