



Online event will help students with financial aid applications

By John Martin
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To help families file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) before the March 10 deadline, Learn More Indiana is hosting a free online event Friday.

FAFSA Friday will be held at www.learnmoreindiana.org/FAFSAFriday. Students and their families can access seven short step-by-step videos that will walk them through each section of the financial aid form.

In addition, financial aid advisors will be available to answer questions during the event, which is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and then again from 5 to 8 p.m., central time, on Friday.

"Meeting the March 10 deadline is critical for Hoosier families," said Stan Jones, Indiana's Commissioner for Higher Education. "FAFSA Friday is a great opportunity for students and families to get last-minute help from home with filing the FAFSA."

Friday's event is the first of its kind in the nation, according to Learn More Indiana.

To be considered for the largest possible amount of state and federal financial aid, anyone attending college this fall needs to submit the FAFSA by Indiana's March 10 deadline.

Submitting the FAFSA is also necessary to be considered for the majority of government-backed loans.

Last year, the federal government gave out \$83 billion in college financial aid. In addition, Indiana provided more than \$233.5 million in state financial aid through nearly 73,000 grants.

Simply because they did not file on time, 150,000 Hoosiers missed out last year on \$230 million in free cash for college, according to Learn More Indiana.

In addition to FAFSA Friday, Learn More Indiana provides additional information online to help families understand how to pay for college.

To download Indiana's Guide to Paying for College: Step-by-Step Tips To Help High School Seniors Apply for Financial Aid and view other helpful resources, visit www.learnmoreindiana.org/cashforcollege.



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