Financial Support for College
Financing College:

- Worthwhile investment
- Job and career opportunities
- Contribution to society
- Preparation to work in a global scale
- Enhance quality of life

Is college worth the investment?
The More You **LEARN**, The More You **EARN**!
Understand College Costs: How can you tell what college really costs?
Average Tuition Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Institution</th>
<th>Projected Four-Year Tuition and Fees*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Today (Enrolling 2012-2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private College</td>
<td>$127,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public/University (In-state Resident)</td>
<td>$ 37,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Years Community College &amp; Two Years Private College</td>
<td>$ 73,700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

George Mason University 2013-2014 Tuition Costs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>In-State</th>
<th>Out-of-State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition &amp; Fees</td>
<td>$9,908/year</td>
<td>$28,592/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room (residence hall)</td>
<td>$6,785</td>
<td>$6,785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board (base plan)</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per Year Total</td>
<td>$20,693</td>
<td>$39,377</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Paying for College

• Do not let financial situation deter you from pursuing college
• Start early
• Know the different types of financial aid available
• Know the resources available to you
• Research

Where should you look for financial aid?
Federal Financial Aid

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- **Grants**—student aid funds that do not have to be repaid (other conditions apply).

- **Work-Study**—a part-time work program to earn money while you are in school.

- Federal Loans—student aid funds that you must repay with interest.

Learn about loans: Nervous about taking out college loans?
State Financial Aid

State Scholarship Money to Assist students:

• Commonwealth Award
• Virginia Guaranteed Assistance Program
• Tuition Assistance Grant Program
• College Scholarship Assistance Program
Institutional Financial Aid

Money from the College Institution Itself:

- Need-based or merit-based grants
- Scholarships
- Loans: Student and Parent loans
- Work-study

Search for Scholarships: Money is out there to help you - just look
Private Financial Aid

Money Available from local community and businesses to Assist students:

• Local businesses (potential networking opportunities)
• Civic groups
• Churches
• Private benefactors
• National organizations

Hear how others pay: Even small scholarships add up
Website Resources

- Career and Education option in VA: 
  https://www.vawizard.org/ 
  www.virginiamentor.org

- SAT Registration and College Prep: 
  https://collegeboard.org

- FAFSA Registration and College Prep: 
  https://fafsa.ed.gov/

- Scholarship Search: 
  www.fastweb.com

- College Savings Plan: 
  http://www.virginia529.com/
Know your Resources:

• EIP Office Support
• Guidance Counselors
• Career Center at your high school
• Financial Aid office at your university
• Local Community Organizations
The Key to College Planning

• Get an early start

• Take the right classes to prepare for college while in high school

• Know the college admission requirements

• Create an action plan for financial expenses (tuition, books, on-campus living, etc)
9th Grade Action Plan

Summer Before High School

• Visit a college campus together.
• Get the facts about what college costs.
• Show your child how to explore career ideas.
• Come up with fun reading ideas; make reading enjoyable to become a daily habit.

Fall

• Make sure your child meets with the school counselor. Your child should schedule a meeting to talk about college and career options and to choose the most-appropriate classes.
• Help your child set goals for the school year.
• Make a plan to check in regularly about schoolwork. Keep up with your child's tests, papers and homework assignments, you can celebrate successes and head off problems as a team.
• Talk about extracurricular activities. Getting involved in clubs and other groups is a great way for your child to identify interests and feel more engaged in school.

Visit https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org – great resource to plan for college
Questions
Upcoming Dates

**Event: 2nd Saturday Session**
**Date:** April 26, 2014  
**Time:** 10am-2pm  
**Place:** Mason’s Fairfax Campus

**Description of event:** 8th graders and their families pay a visit to Mason’s Fairfax Campus to engage in a Financial Planning and College Admissions Workshop, EIP Alumni Panel, Campus Tour, and lunch at Southside Restaurant.

**Event: New Student Senior Reception**
**Date:** Wednesday May 28, 2014  
**Time:** 6pm  
**Place:** Mason’s Fairfax Campus

**Description of event:** EIP and school division partners will acknowledge 8th graders who have completed the Prep Program, and EIP seniors who are graduating from HS.

**Event: The Edge**
**Date:** Saturday June 7, 2014  
**Time:** 10am-3pm  
**Place:** Mason’s Prince William Campus

**Description of event:** Outdoor leadership experience

**Date:** July 7-25, 2014  
**Time:** 9am-2:30pm  
**Place:** Mason’s Fairfax & Prince William Campus