



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Free financial aid workshops begin Oct. 1 across Lake County

Grayslake, IL (September 26, 2016) University Center of Lake County is again collaborating with multiple partners across Lake County to schedule a series of financial aid workshops in high schools, colleges, libraries, and nonprofit organizations. Every workshop will be held in a computer lab so that students and families can electronically submit their 2017-18 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Volunteers trained by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission will be available to provide assistance; at least one volunteer at each site will speak Spanish.

The series will begin on October 1 in keeping with the U.S. Department of Education's new earlier schedule for processing financial aid applications. The FAFSA is required to access any federal student aid and to access the State of Illinois Monetary Award Program (MAP) funds. Many colleges and universities also rely on FAFSA data to determine eligibility for the institution's own financial aid funds. Students seeking financial aid to attend college from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 are encouraged to apply as early as possible.

College-bound high school seniors and their families, current college students, and adults planning a return to school will be welcome to attend any of these sessions (except those marked with an asterisk). It does not matter which college the student plans to attend.

Students should bring the following documents with them: a copy of 2015 Federal Tax information (parent and student 1040EZ, 1040A or 1040 and all W2 forms), recent bank statements, the student's driver's license and Social Security card or Student Alien Registration card if the student is not a U.S. citizen.

2016 Lake County sessions:

Oct. 1, 2016, Cristo Rey Saint Martin de Porres College Prep-Waukegan, 9am-12pm

Oct. 6, 2016, Cristo Rey Saint Martin de Porres College Prep-Waukegan, 5-8pm

Oct. 7, 2016, Round Lake High School, 3:30-10pm

*Oct. 11, 2016, Zion-Benton Township HS, 6 - 8 pm

Oct. 15, 2016, Waukegan High School-Brookside Campus, 9am-12pm

*Oct. 18, 2016, Zion-Benton Township HS, 6 - 8 pm

Oct. 19, 2016, Highland Park High School, 4-8pm

Oct. 20, 2016, Round Lake High School, 3:30-5:30pm

Oct. 22, 2016, College of Lake County-LSC-Waukegan, 9am-12pm

Oct. 24, 2016, SIUC-University Center-Grayslake, 6-8pm

Oct. 25, 2016, Mundelein High School, 5-8pm

Oct. 26, 2016, North Chicago Community High School, 5-8pm
Oct. 28, 2016, Youth Build of Lake County-North Chicago, 12:30-2:30pm
Nov. 1, 2016, Lake County High School Tech Center-Grayslake, 5:30-7:30pm
Nov. 2, 2016, Round Lake Public Library, 6-8pm
*Nov. 3, 2016, Zion-Benton Township HS, 6 - 8 pm
Nov. 5, 2016 Waukegan High School-Brookside Campus, 9am-12pm
Nov. 10, 2016, College of Lake County-Grayslake, 6-8pm
Nov. 16, 2016, North Chicago Community High School, 5-8pm
Nov. 22, 2016, Waukegan Public Library, 5:30-7:30pm
Dec. 7, 2016, North Chicago Community High School, 5-8pm
Jan. 4, 2017, Round Lake Public Library, 6-8pm
Jan. 11, 2017, Zion-Benton Public Library, 6-8pm
Jan. 21, 2017, Waukegan High School-Brookside Campus, 9am-12pm
Jan. 27, 2017, Youth Build of Lake County-North Chicago, 9:30-11:30am

*These workshops open only to students/families from that school district. Other workshops are open to the community.

To RSVP for any of these sessions or to download a flyer with the dates and locations, visit www.ucenter.org.

The workshops are being sponsored by the University Center of Lake County, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, the College of Lake County, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, TRIO Educational Talent Search, YouthBuild Lake County, Lake County Regional Office of Education, Lake County High School Technology Center, Waukegan Public Library, Zion-Benton Public Library, Mundelein High School, Round Lake High School, Waukegan High School, Cristo Rey St. Martin de Porres High School, Zion-Benton Township High School, North Chicago Community High School, and Highland Park High School, with support from North Shore Gas.

For more information, contact C. Myra Gaytan-Morales, Assistant Dean for Academic Programs & Services, University Center of Lake County, at (847) 665-4108 or mgaytan@ucenter.org or connect with us on Facebook via "Fafsa Campaign."

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