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Friday, February 11, 2011

EMCC offers help accessing student financial aid

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For many college students, understanding and accessing financial aid for the chance to earn a degree isn't exactly a walk in the park.

That's why Estrella Mountain Community College is offering help with an event called "College Goal Sunday - Saturday Edition," from 2 to 4 p.m. Feb. 12 in Estrella Hall. The campus is at Dysart and Thomas roads in Avondale.

Students and parents will have a chance to get their financial aid questions answered, learn how to apply for scholarships and receive help filling out their Free Application for Federal Student Aid, otherwise known as a FAFSA.

Financial aid representatives will be available to help students in both Spanish and English.

In order to complete a FAFSA, applicants must have the following financial, tax and personal information:

- 2010 federal tax forms for each student and for parents if the students are 23 years of age or younger. If there are multiple incomes on the tax form, applicants must also have W-2 forms and information. If 2010 tax forms have not been completed yet, it is permissible for applicants themselves to estimate their income information on a FAFSA. Financial aid representatives are not permitted to assist with estimating tax or other income information.
- End-of-month balance on checking and savings accounts.
- Any other income received, such as Social Security Income (SSI), child support and alimony.
- Social Security number.
- Driver's license number.
- INS documentation if the student is an eligible non-citizen.
- Any other information determined may be needed to complete the FAFSA.

For information, visit www.collegegoalsunday.com.

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