

College students and FAFSA

Within Reach

Perry County
Job & Family
Services (J&FS) Column

Now that tax season is over, current and prospective college students will be hearing about the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). FAFSA is an annual application for federal and institutional student financial aid.

It is important for all college students to use FAFSA because nearly every student is eligible to receive some form of financial aid.

Financial aid comes in many forms. These financial aid programs include scholarships and grants which do not have to be repaid; loans which must be repaid with interest; and the federal work-study program which places students into campus jobs with the expectation that the income earned will be used towards tuition. Most forms of financial aid are generally provided on a first come, first serve basis; therefore, students should fill out their FAFSA form as early

as possible.

The FAFSA form is accepted as early as January 1st for the upcoming academic year; however, current year tax information is needed to successfully fill out the application. Individuals should visit perryjfs.org for a complete list of necessary documentation.

Applicants should also visit www.pin.ed.gov to obtain a Personal Identification Number (PIN) prior to scheduling an appointment with Perry JFS' Ohio Benefit Bank (OBB) counselor.

Our OBB Counselor can be reached at 740-342-3551 extension 684 for questions about FAFSA or to schedule an appointment for assistance in filling out the FAFSA application. Perry JFS is located at 212 Main St., New Lexington and is open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m..

(Information for this article was provided by Cassandra Argo, HarvestCorps member)