



IowaCollegeAid.gov
Your Financial Aid Connection

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Heather Doe
515-725-3417
515-975-6769 cell
heather.doe@iowa.gov

Student Financial Aid Information Available at the Iowa State Fair

Iowa College Aid to provide giveaways and free information about the college planning process.

Des Moines, IA., August 5, 2013 – With the start of the new school year just days away, many Iowa families will take advantage of the fun and entertainment of the Iowa State Fair before it's time to hit the books. Iowa College Student Aid Commission (Iowa College Aid) invites attendees to visit its Iowa State Fair booth, Aug. 8-18, to pick up free college planning and financial aid information. The booth will be in the Varied Industries Building along the south wall and will be staffed by Iowa College Aid employees ready to answer student and parent questions regarding postsecondary education.

It is never too early to start preparing for college and Iowa College Aid's booth will be stocked with information for parents of young children, high school students as well as adults looking to further their education. In addition, families can request a copy of Iowa College Aid's comprehensive planning guide, *Your Course to College*. The popular guide, recommended by counselors across the state, is full of everything that students and families need to know about college and career planning, financial aid, selecting a major as well as tips to help make the transition to college easier.

"It is extremely important for Iowa families to have access to neutral and reliable information to help them through the college planning and financial aid process," stated Karen Misjak, executive director of Iowa College Aid. "The Iowa State Fair offers an informal environment for students and their families to ask questions and learn more about the college planning process," said Misjak.

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Iowa College Aid is a state agency that assists Iowa students and their families as they explore, finance and complete educational opportunities beyond high school. Iowa College Aid administers more than \$68 million in state grant, scholarship and loan forgiveness programs and provides services and resources to help Iowans with college and career planning. To learn more about the programs available visit www.iowacollegeaid.gov or call toll free at 877-272-4456.

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About the Iowa College Student Aid Commission

Iowa College Aid provides college access, financial literacy, and outreach services to Iowa's students and families as they plan, prepare and pay for college. Iowa College Aid also administers state scholarship, grant, work study, and loan forgiveness programs totaling over \$68.0 million annually; provides I Have A Plan Iowa™, the state-designated career information system, free to all Iowans; partners with financial institutions in the state to offer an online financial literacy platform free to all Iowa high schools; conducts research and distributes higher education data; and offers Iowans assistance in obtaining student financial aid and college-related information. Additionally, Iowa College Aid is the administrator of the Federal GEAR UP Grant, a multi-year state-wide grant which is being used to provide early awareness programming and outreach initiatives to thousands of Iowa's students and families. Through its role, Iowa College Aid also serves as the state-designated administrator of the U.S. Department of Education's College Access Challenge Grant, which is designed to increase the college-going culture in Iowa. Iowa College Aid is also responsible for registering postsecondary institutions and other instructional schools under Iowa Code Chapter 261B and sections of Chapter 714. More information is available at www.IowaCollegeAid.gov.