

## What's Next Handout / FAFSA Completion Reminder

# ***I Applied. What's Next?***

**Congratulations!** You are now on the path to college. This is what you can expect next.

### **Follow-up**

Make sure you have taken care of all supporting documents required for your college applications:

- Submitted your application fee (or a fee waiver or deferral form)
- Asked your school counselor to send your official transcript to the college
- Submitted your additional essays as required
- Asked your references or school counselor to send letters of recommendation
- Requested official transcripts you might have from any other college courses you may have taken outside of high school
- Requested official test scores required -- SAT, ACT, AP, IB or TOEFL

### **Apply for Financial Aid**

You'll need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the FAFSA, which is your key to aid to help pay for college. **The deadline to submit the FAFSA in Maryland is March 1<sup>st</sup>.** This should be done as soon as possible after October 1<sup>st</sup> when it is available

online at [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov). You can find FAFSA help available beginning in October at [StartHereGetThere.org](http://StartHereGetThere.org), when you can also

learn about types of federal and Maryland State financial aid that may be available to you.

Look for FAFSA completion workshops and College Goal Maryland events that can provide one-on-one assistance for completing your FAFSA. They'll be scheduled in many locations across Maryland with dates and times posted on [StartHereGetThere.org](http://StartHereGetThere.org).

### **When You Will Hear from the Colleges**

You should receive acceptance letters and financial aid award letters by April.

### **Know your deadlines**

Make sure you know **all** your college deadlines so you don't miss any important decisions that may impact you later. There are deadlines for:

- Financial Aid (varies by college)
- Acceptance (usually by May 1<sup>st</sup>)
- Residence choices (varies by college)

### **While you are waiting**

Spring seems far away, but take some time to thank those people who have helped you on your path to college...counselors, your recommenders, mentors, coaches or anyone else who has been an

inspiration for you to go to college. **Be proud! You are pursuing your education after high school!**