A College Education: The Key to a Better Future

Hispanic Scholarship Fund

© Hispanic Scholarship Fund 2007
Session Overview

• Preparing for College
• Paying for College
• Preparing Scholarship Applications

© Hispanic Scholarship Fund 2007
Preparing for College

- College Prep Curriculum
- Challenge Yourself
  - Honors
  - Advanced Placement
  - International Baccalaureate
  - Community College courses

© Hispanic Scholarship Fund 2007
Preparing for College (cont.)

• Maintain Good Grades
• Make Up or Catch Up
• Ask for Help

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GPA</th>
<th>JOSE</th>
<th>JUAN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A=4</td>
<td>A=4</td>
<td>A=4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A=4</td>
<td>A=4</td>
<td>A=4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B=3</td>
<td>B=3</td>
<td>B=3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D=1</td>
<td>D=1</td>
<td>D=1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C=2</td>
<td>C=2</td>
<td>C=2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A=4</td>
<td>F=0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18/6=3.0</td>
<td>14/6=2.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

© Hispanic Scholarship Fund 2007
Standardized Tests

- High School Exit Exams
- PSAT/NMSQT®
- SAT®
- ACT®

For more information:
- www.collegeboard.org
- www.actstudent.org

© Hispanic Scholarship Fund 2007
The Well-Rounded Student

- Leadership skills
- Organizational skills
- Dedication
- Diversity
- Time management skills
- Special talents or experiences

© Hispanic Scholarship Fund 2007
Building Your Résumé

Important for:
• Personal statements
• Letters of recommendation
• Applications

What to Include:
• Extracurricular activities
• Course work & GPA
• Awards & accomplishments
• Work/ volunteer experience

Emily Brown
1640 Riverside Drive, Hilldale, CA 93505
760-555-1210 (tel), 760-555-1955 (fax)
ebrown@hildaleinternet.net

EXPERIENCE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS
Excellent organizational skills
Strong computer skills

Awards
Involvement in events or community
Earned “A” or “A+” in all computer classes.
Built personal computer from scratch.

VOLUNTEER HISTORY
Hilldale Public Library
American Red Cross

RELEVANT HIGH SCHOOL STUDIES
Technical writing; advanced composition; debate; video production; computer classes,

SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS
Hilldale High School Math Club 2003 - 2005
Vice-president — 2005
National Honor Society — 2003 - 2005
Clayton Middle School Library — 2000 - 2002
Student Librarian

EDUCATION
Hilldale High School 2003 - 2005
Graduation Date: 2007
Clayton Middle School 1999 - 2002

© Hispanic Scholarship Fund 2007
Cultivating Relationships

Communicate with:

- Teachers
- Counselors
- Employers
- Community members
- Church members/leaders
- Local organizations

© Hispanic Scholarship Fund 2007
Organize Yourself!

- Create an action plan
- Research colleges and universities
- Make a list of application deadlines
- Be aware of test dates
- Communicate with teachers, counselors and parents
Types of Institutions

- Technical College
  - Diploma, Associate Degree

- Community College
  - Associate Degree, Certificate Programs

- University
  - Bachelor Degree, Master Degree, Doctoral Degree, and Professional Degree
Choosing the Right Place for You

- Selection criteria
- Programs of study
- Cost
- Public vs. private
- Academic rigor
- Location
- Size
- Campus life
- Athletics

© Hispanic Scholarship Fund 2007
Sources of Financial Aid

- Federal
- State
- Institutional
- Community & Private
Financial Aid: Federal

- Grants
  - Pell Grant
  - Academic Competitiveness Grant
  - SMART Grant
- Loans
  - Stafford Loan – subsidized & unsubsidized
  - Perkins Loan
  - PLUS
- Work-Study
Financial Aid: Institutional

- Institutional Grants
- Scholarships
  - Based on need or merit
  - Special programs
- Loans

© Hispanic Scholarship Fund 2007
Financial Aid: Community & Private

- Scholarships
  - Based on need or merit
  - Special talents
- Internships
- College Savings Plan
- Banks/Private Lenders

© Hispanic Scholarship Fund 2007
Applying for Financial Aid: FAFSA

- FAFSA is required to receive federal aid and state aid
- Receive a FAFSA from:
  - Internet: www.fafsa.ed.gov
  - Telephone: 1-800-433-3243
  - School Counselor
  - Public Library
- www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov
- CSS PROFILE

© Hispanic Scholarship Fund 2007
1. Submit the FAFSA as soon as possible after January 1st (of senior year)

2. Receive the Student Aid Report (SAR)
   - Confirm the information
   - Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

3. Receive financial aid package from institutions where you have applied

4. Follow up with institution

5. Maintain copies of all documents

© Hispanic Scholarship Fund 2007
Cost of Attendance

**State University**

Cost of Attendance $15,000

- \(EFC\) $3,000

\[= \text{Aid Eligibility} \] $12,000

**Private University**

Cost of Attendance $30,000

- \(EFC\) $3,000

\[= \text{Aid Eligibility} \] $27,000
# Sample Financial Aid Award Package

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>State</strong></th>
<th><strong>Private</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pell Grant</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Scholarship</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Grant</td>
<td>$1,975</td>
<td>$9,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan-Stafford</td>
<td>$2,625</td>
<td>$2,625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Scholarships</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work-Study</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Aid**

- State: $11,600
- Private: $26,375

**Total Cost**

- State: $15,000
- Private: $30,000

**Net Cost (EFC + Remainder)**

- State: $3,400
- Private: $3,625
Preparing Scholarship Applications
What is a Scholarship?

A Scholarship is…

- Money that does not have to be paid back.
- Based on need and/or merit.
- Based on certain criteria that students must meet.
- Aid that students may need to report to colleges.

© Hispanic Scholarship Fund 2007
Researching Scholarships

• Begin EARLY!
• Do your research on the Internet, at school, and at the public library.
• Determine if you qualify.
• Create a list of scholarships organized by due dates.
• Apply to as many scholarships as possible.
Applying for Scholarships

Documents you might need:

- High school transcripts
- SAR from FAFSA
- Personal statements & essays
- Résumé
- Letters of recommendation
- Family income taxes
Writing Essays

• Read the essay questions
• Write a draft
• Review/ revise
• Proofread
• Incorporate changes
• Finalize

© Hispanic Scholarship Fund 2007
Letters of Recommendation

- Communication is key!
  - Distinguish yourself to teachers and counselors

- Make it easy for the recommenders
  - Share your résumé
  - Create a letter template
  - Provide sufficient time

© Hispanic Scholarship Fund 2007
HSF’s Top Ten Mistakes

1. Forgetting to delete the other scholarships’ name after cut & paste
2. Submitting after deadline
3. Incomplete applications
4. Not following instructions
5. Wrong copies of forms
6. Not submitting the FAFSA on time
7. Mistakes in the essays
8. Not answering questions correctly
9. Late letters of recommendation
10. No proofreading
HSF Scholarship Programs

• High School Scholarship
• Gates Millennium Scholars
• Community College Transfer Scholarship
• College Scholarship

Visit www.hsf.net for more information and the online application!
Thank You!

Hispanic Scholarship Fund
1-888-814-8410

www.hsf.net

© Hispanic Scholarship Fund 2007