

If you have college students or are a college student yourself who may be having some anxiety about COVID-19, here are some helpful tips and sites to keep you on track during the time you may be out of work/school, and a few things you can be doing with any free time you may have at home.

- 1) FALL 2020 Students: File your 2020-2021 FAFSA online at www.FAFSA.gov. You will use your 2018 tax information (taxes filed in 2019). If you are a WV resident, complete the FAFSA by April 15th, 2020 to meet the WV Higher Education Grant Deadline.
- 2) If you have questions concerning your FAFSA or Federal Student Aid programs, but your school's financial aid office is closed or limiting visitors, call 1-800-4FED-AID or access 24/7 online help at: <https://studentaid.gov/help-center/contact>.
- 3) The College Foundation of West Virginia also has an online 24/7 chat help that can answer basic questions regarding federal and state aid. Follow this link: https://secure.cfww.com/Financial_Aid_Planning/Scholarships/default.aspx and click on "Questions? Ask SAM" in the lower right-hand corner.
- 4) Use your time at home wisely. NOW is a great time to apply for scholarships! CFVV is a great place to start. Follow this link to create a scholarship profile and apply for awards that pertain to you: https://secure.cfww.com/Financial_Aid_Planning/Scholarships#/Landing . Also check out your institution's web page to apply for institutional scholarships. Other useful search engines include Fastweb, CollegeBoard and Unigo. Just remember: never pay to apply for a scholarship!
- 5) If you have already graduated but are currently out of work and having trouble making student loan payments, you will want to contact your loan servicer and ask for a forbearance. A forbearance allows you to postpone payments on your student loans due to hardship for a period of time. If you aren't sure how to find your loan servicer information, visit <https://studentaid.gov> , log in, and click on "view loan servicer details" in the lower right-hand corner of the My Aid box in the middle of the screen. You could have multiple loan servicers, so make sure to check each loan's servicer.
- 6) WVNCC Students: Don't forget you can review and follow your Financial Aid status 24/7 online through your NOW account at www.wvncc.edu. More details on communication from the Financial Aid Office will be posted on our website and/or sent by e-mail to your Northern e-mail address.

Did You Know? The WVNCC Financial Aid Office has several virtual assistance options available to you. *Please email or call us for more details:*

FinancialAidOffice@wvncc.edu

304/214-8844

Chat with us online at www.WVNCC.edu (lower left corner of homepage)