

GALION HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

FINANCIAL AID 2017-18

GALION HIGH SCHOOL FINANCIAL AID MEETING: **NOVEMBER 4 AT 9:00 a.m.** IN GHS CAFETORIUM. A FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATOR FROM THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY WILL PROVIDE OVERVIEW OF PROCESS AND WILL ASSIST ANYONE WHO WANTS TO COMPLETE THE FAFSA ON LINE THAT MORNING. THE INFORMATIONAL PART OF THE MEETING TAKES APPROXIMATELY 50 MINUTES. IF YOU WANT TO STAY AND COMPLETE YOUR FAFSA ON LINE, BRING A LAPTOP PREFERABLY YOUR SCHOOL-ISSUED ONE.

.....

HOW TO APPLY FOR AID:

*The start of the financial aid period for the 2018-19 college year is October 1.

*The sooner one applies for aid, the better even though printed deadlines may indicate otherwise.

*All students are strongly encouraged to file a FAFSA regardless of financial status.

*Students need to be aware of individual college's priority financial aid deadlines. Some may be as soon as December 1.

STEP ONE -HOW DO I GET STARTED?

- Student and one parent need to get an FSA ID; go to StudentAid.gov/fsaid.

Note: The FSA ID replaces what used to be called the PIN number. If a parent thinks he has a PIN number from another child's financial aid days, the parents need to now get an FSA ID. If the parent already has an FSA ID for himself as a student or for another child's FAFSA, he does **not** need to get another one; he should use the one he already has for this student's FAFSA.

- Make sure your names match your names on your Social Security account.
- Once you both have your FSA ID make sure you keep it secured and know where it is at all times; trying to retrieve it from the system can be difficult and could hinder your process.

STEP TWO –WHAT INFORMATION DO I NEED TO COMPLETE THE FAFSA ON LINE?

- Social Security Number
- Driver's license
- FSA ID
- Investment and/or current bank statements
- Income Tax Records for 2016 (2015 Information); recent rule changes allow for using "Prior-Prior Year" information
- If you use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool, make sure name, address, etc. that you enter for FAFSA matches your name, address, etc. from your tax return. For example, if your tax return has your middle initial, then your FAFSA name should also have the middle initial. Likewise, if "road" is abbreviated "Rd." on your tax return, then enter it that way in the FAFSA. This option is an excellent tool if the system can make the match. In the past, some of these subtle differences have slowed down that process.