

## ***College Information and Financial Aid: The Internet Connection***



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## **Why Use the Internet**



- Current information – updated often
- Quick access to information
- Comparison shop at home
- Depth of college information
- Access to scholarships and financial aid

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## **What is Available Online**



- Virtual viewbook
- Application
- College catalog
- Financial aid applications
- Financial aid early estimators
- Scholarship sites

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## Virtual Viewbook

- Photographs and/or campus tour
- Campus activities/sports
- Admissions data
  - Freshman class profile
  - Filing deadlines
  - Admissions requirements
- Financial aid/scholarship information
- Academic and disability support service

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## Application

- Downloadable application
  - PDF format
- Apply online
  - All at once
  - Establish an account and work in increments
- Almost all applicants now apply online and that is the preferred method

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## College Catalog

- Entrance and exit requirements
- Requirements for specific majors
- Course descriptions
- Rules and regulations
- Similar to a contract between student and college

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## Financial Aid Application

- [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#)
  - Everyone should file
  - Advantages of applying online
  - Apply early for a [PIN](#)
- [CSS/Financial Aid Profile](#)
  - Required by selected colleges

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## Financial Aid Early Estimators

- Value of early planning
- Suggested sites
  - [College Financial Aid Calculators](#)
  - [FINAID Calculators](#)
  - [FAFSA4caster](#) (from the US Dept. of Education)

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## Scholarship Sites

- The more local, the better
  - Contact the Career Center Specialist or Guidance Counselor in your school
- Additional suggested sites
  - [Fastweb](#)
  - [Mach 25](#)
- Be aware of scholarship [scams](#)

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## Web Resources

- [WSHS Career Center – Special Needs Resources](#)
- [Fairfax County Public Schools Career Connections](#)
- [FCPS Office of Special Education](#)
- [FCPS Career and Transition Programs and Services](#)
- [FCPS Parent Resource Center](#)

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## Web Pages to Access for Info

- FCPS Career Connections
  - <http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/SchoolCounseling/CareerConnections/index.htm>
- Virginia College Quest
  - <http://www.vacollegequest.org/>

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## ***College Information and Financial Aid: The Internet Connection***



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