

CREATIVE EDUCATION PREPARATORY INSTITUTE 1

TO: PARENTS AND STUDENTS OF THE CLASS OF 2012
FROM: ESTHER ARCHIBEQUE, COUNSELOR
RE: FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

Students are very fortunate that the State of New Mexico uses proceeds from its lottery sales to pay tuition for any student who attends a public college or university right after high school graduation. This is referred to as the **Lottery Scholarship**. This scholarship is awarded to students **after** they complete their first semester at a public New Mexico college with a 2.5 GPA. Because the Lottery Scholarship is not available to students until their second semester in college, colleges offer a **Bridge To Success** scholarship which will pay for tuition for the first semester. To get this scholarship parents are **required** to fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) starting in **January**, but no later than **May 1st, 2012**

HERE ARE 4 EASY STEPS TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID:

1. Go online to <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>.



2. Complete the FAFSA using the requested tax returns or income tax information.
3. **File electronically** – Apply for a **PIN online**: submit your application online using your PIN to sign your application electronically. Students who file the application electronically must mail the signature page to the address designated:
OR
File by mail – Mail the completed paper application. You may request a paper application be sent to you by calling 1-800-4FEDAID. Submitting by mail will increase processing time.
4. Within 2-4 weeks, you will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR). This report will let you know what other aid you are eligible for such as pell grants which are awarded based on financial need.

It is encouraged that you fill out the FAFSA as soon as possible to make sure that you get funds for which you may be eligible before they run out. Also, if you have questions or need assistance filling out the FAFSA, please call me at 314-2374 ext. 238.