

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions

Texas A&M University—Commerce

ISSUE 01 JANUARY 2013



Statewide Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Initiative

High school counselors across Texas have access to verifiable and actionable information to use in increasing FAFSA completion among their student population.

ApplyTexas.org

- **2012 Senior data is now available through mid-January 2013**
- ◆ **New FAFSA cycle will begin in February**
- ◆ **Will be updated weekly beginning in February 2013 through the remainder of the academic year; however, updates to seniors' FAFSA status may take about two weeks to appear in each week's report.**
- ◆ **Report will provide data fields to identify students:**

Last Name

First Name

Middle Initial

Date of Birth

- ◆ **FAFSA data fields in report:**

Completion Status (Saved, not submitted / Not Completed / Completed)

Submission Date

Processed Date

Selected for Verification (Y/N) \

Counselors may access this information by logging in to the ApplyTexas High School Counselor Reporting Suite. Student data is being pulled directly from the U.S. Department of Education's FAFSA form. Students who do not answer the high school question will not appear on the report. To increase the accuracy of the report, please make sure students do not skip this question since it's not a required question on the FAFSA form.

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ApplyTexas—FAFSA Initiative

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

High school counselors across Texas now have access to verifiable and actionable information to use in increasing FAFSA completion among their student population. Counselors may access this information simply by logging in to the ApplyTexas High School Counselor Reporting Suite. Counselors who do not have an account can sign up by visiting <https://admin.applytexas.org> for instructions.

The new initiative was designed to assist local secondary school counselors and administrators in determining which of their students have completed a FAFSA form for the upcoming school year which is based on the success of a 2010 pilot.

Please note the following important facts about the FAFSA Initiative:

- Data for this year's seniors will be populated weekly beginning in February 2013 through the remainder of the academic year; however, updates to 2013 seniors' FAFSA status may take about two weeks to appear in each week's report. (Currently and through mid-January 2013, the available data provided includes FAFSA information for the 2011-2012 seniors.)
- Counselors will identify the students through the students' first and last name and date of birth listed in the report.
- One of the report's data fields provides the submission date. An analysis of submissions by date can help schools evaluate school-sponsored FAFSA events and/or compare to last year's data to set goals for improvement.
- "Verification status" is an important data field. This identifies students who have been selected for verification and thus, must complete additional steps, including: obtaining an IRS income tax transcript and submitting additional forms to each institution they plan to attend. To avoid the additional verification steps, counselors should encourage students to utilize the IRS tool within the FAFSA. This tool allows FAFSA to obtain the student's and parents' financial information directly from the IRS. To be able to use this tool, students must wait 2-3 weeks after income taxes are submitted online.

If you have any question or comments, please send an email message to ApplyTexasApplication@theccb.state.tx.us. Your feedback is very important to us!



UNCF Empower Me Tour

Texas A&M University-Commerce is partnering with United Negro College Fund (UNCF) and Wells Fargo to help create more opportunities for students. The tour platform was created to empower a movement among young people, motivating them toward academic excellence, personal responsibility and fiscal health through relevant program content and celebrity engagement. Now in its fourth year, the tour delivers holistic touch points, engaging young people at crucial life stages through self-efficacy, personal finance, college readiness and career success messaging.

The UNCF Empower Me Tour will be held at A&M-Commerce Saturday, February 23, 2013 from 8: 00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

[To Register or for additional](http://www.empowermetour.org) information about the UNCF Empower Me Tour, please visit <http://www.empowermetour.org>



The poster features the UNCF emt logo at the top, presented by Wells Fargo. Below the logo are logos for sponsors: UNCF, Wells Fargo, MAXIMUS, FedEx, and P&G. The main text reads: "Calling all Students, Parents & Educators THE UNCF EMPOWER ME TOUR OFFERS FREE... College Prep Workshops Career Success Workshops Celebrity Panel Discussions and Meet & Greet Live Entertainment and DJ Contests and Giveaways". The event details are: "February 23, 2013 Texas A&M University - Commerce 2600 South Neal Street Commerce, TX 8am-2:30pm". At the bottom, it says "Register TODAY empowermetour.org" and shows a photo of four diverse young people.



Mane Event Preview Day—March 2, 2013

START YOUR LEGACY HERE!



YOU'RE INVITED TO THE
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE

MANE EVENT

PREVIEW DAY
MARCH 2, 2013 AT 8:30 A.M.



A MEMBER OF THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Join us March 2, 2013 for our Mane Event Preview Day! As you know, choosing the right college is an important decision. Our preview day is a special day of programs for you and your family. This day is designed to be informative and exciting...please don't miss this opportunity to see and experience all that we have to offer you! We will showcase all areas of the university ranging from academics to campus activities. We encourage you to [register online](#), so that we can prepare a special day for you and your guests! Check out our [tentative schedule](#) to get a feel for the day. You will have an opportunity to speak with representatives from Admissions, Residential Living and Learning, Financial Aid and Scholarships, Veterans and Military Services, Hispanic Outreach and a multitude of student organizations. Our faculty have planned a great day of interactive sessions for you where they will provide a glimpse into our degree programs and majors. For further information, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 903-886-5000 or toll free at 888-868-2682.

If you are a high school junior, senior or a transfer student, this event is for you! There is no charge to attend! We welcome your family and friends! Make sure to bring your classmates along to increase your chances in the scholarship drawings!!! A friendly atmosphere awaits you at Texas A&M University—Commerce...come see for yourself and Start Your Legacy Here!



Upcoming FAFSA/TASFA Super Saturday

Did you know there is \$\$\$ AVAILABLE for you to go to college?

High school seniors, come fill out the FAFSA/TASFA and take a giant step towards your future! Every year, students who think they might not qualify miss out on free \$\$\$ for college by not applying! **Don't miss out!**

- Free one-on-one help filling out federal (FAFSA) and state (TASFA) forms for college financial aid
- Scholarship and door prize drawings
- Please get your pin from www.pin.ed.gov
- College Information Fair
- Bring you parent and student 2012 completed tax return with W2 statements

Comments? ISSUE 01 JANUARY 2013

Let us know what you think. We would love to hear your feedback and suggestions!

Want more information? Let us know what you would like to see!

admissions@tamuc.edu

Lake Highlands & Molina High Schools

February 16th

10 A.M.—2 P.M.

Texas A&M University—Commerce

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