

Education Bi-Weekly Update

January 5, 2010

FAME News

College Goal Sunday

January is here and so are the days leading up to College Goal Sunday. Mark your calendars for January 31, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. Check out the Web site at www.collegegoalsundaymaine.com and find College Goal Sunday on Facebook.

Ask FAME

Q: If a student is sentenced to a juvenile detention center, are they then considered a ward of the court upon release for purposes of Federal Student Aid (FSA)?

A: No, incarceration does not qualify a student to be a ward of the court for dependency purposes. The 2009-2010 FSA Handbook, Application and Verification Guide, page 28 provides the following clarification:

“A student is a ward of the court if the court has assumed custody of her. In some states the court may impose its authority over a juvenile who remains in the legal custody of her parents; such a student is not a ward of the court. Also, incarceration of a student does not qualify her as a ward of the court. In some states the phrase “ward of the state” is used. This is considered the same as a ward of the court for dependency status as long as the student is a ward of the state not due to incarceration.”

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Upcoming Events

- ◆ The **Grant and Scholarship Advisory Committee** is scheduled to meet on **January 7, 2010**.
- ◆ The **FAME Office will be closed on January 18, 2010** in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
- ◆ The **Educators for Maine Advisory Committee** is scheduled to meet on **January 20, 2010**.
- ◆ The **FAME Board of Directors** is scheduled to meet on **January 21, 2010**.
- ◆ **College Goal Sunday** is **Sunday, January 31, 2010**.

State Education Programs

Education Portal Information Center (EPIC) Online Grant and Loan Database

FAME's Education Portal Information Center (EPIC) Online Grant and Loan Database became available on January 4, 2010 so that you may certify and request payment for both the fall and spring semesters for the **State of Maine Grant Program**. If you have not yet requested funds for the fall semester, please do so as soon as possible. If you need assistance accessing the database, please contact FAME by email at faadmin@famemaine.com or by phone 1-800-228-3734. **Please remember that you must return to the Main Menu to request payment after certifying the enrollment status of your students.**

Washington D.C. Update

Congressional Holiday Recess Until January 5, 2010

Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) provisions:

Did you know...?

That the HEOA adds new provisions that require an eligible Title IV institution that provides on-campus housing to establish a missing student notification policy. This policy should:

- Inform each student that they have the option to identify an individual that the institution can contact no later than 24 hours after the time the student is determined missing;
- Provide each student a way to register confidential contact information;
- Advise each student under 18 years of age (who is not emancipated) that the institution must notify a custodial parent or guardian no later than 24 hours after the time the student is determined to be missing; and
- Require, if campus security or law enforcement personnel has been notified and makes a determination that a student is a missing person, the institution to initiate the emergency contact procedures that the student designated.

A full summary of the HEOA provisions are available on IFAP at:

<http://ifap.ed.gov/dpccletters/GEN0812FP0810.html>

NextGen College Investing Plan®

The Harold Alfond College Challenge Ends the Year with Over 2500 Maine Babies Enrolled

On July 17, 2009, Zachary was born at Maine Medical Center in Portland. On December 28, 2009, at only 5 months old, Zachary received a head start on his college education when he became the 2,500 Maine baby to receive the \$500 Harold Alfond College Challenge Grant.

As with all of Maine's resident babies under one year of age, Zachary was eligible for a \$500 grant from the Alfond Scholarship Foundation to start a NextGen College Investing Plan® (NextGen) account. As Zachary's mother said, "It's never too early to start saving. I think if you don't start right away, you forget how quickly time passes and, the next thing you know, they are off to school."

For more information about this program, go to www.500forbaby.org.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#)



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