

2-8-1991

02/08/1991 - EIU offering valuable financial aid information

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Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "02/08/1991 - EIU offering valuable financial aid information" (1991). *Press Releases*. 593.

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

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91-60

February 8, 1991

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU OFFERING VALUABLE FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

CHARLESTON, IL.-Area high school students and parents, faced with the ever-rising cost of a college education, can receive valuable information about available financial aid in a series of workshops scheduled at Eastern Illinois University.

All of the workshops, free and open to the public, will be held at 7 p.m. in Eastern's University Union on the following dates: Feb. 14 (Oakland Room); Feb. 18 (Effingham Room); and Feb. 26 (Effingham Room).

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Eastern's Financial Aid Director John Flynn said that in addition to participating in financial aid "high school nights" in Charleston and Mattoon and throughout the state, his office is offering expanded programming this month to include the on-campus workshops.

Flynn points out that it is never too early for high school students who plan to attend college to begin investigating financial aid opportunities.

"It just so happens the workshops coincide with Financial Aid Awareness Month. Actually, they are a direct response to a recommendation by Eastern's Task Force on Enhancing Minority Participation to provide accessible financial aid information to all students," Flynn said.

During the workshops, EIU Financial Aid Counselor Elmer Pullen will answer questions, clarify procedures and deadlines, and walk participants through the process of applying for financial aid, including how to complete the appropriate forms.

Flynn said he and his staff are more than willing to work with individuals on a one-to-one basis to help them through the financial aid process. "There are a lot of good programs available locally, as well as at the state level," he added.

In 1989-90, Flynn said 6,705 Eastern students, or 60.5 percent of the student body, received some type of financial aid, a 14 percent increase over the previous year. "Rising tuition and housing costs have created a greater need among students for financial aid, plus there are more state monies available to a diversified constituency," Flynn explained.

ADD 2/2/2/2

FINANCIAL AID

During the week of Feb. 11-15, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission and Illinois Association of Financial Aid Administrators are offering a financial aid toll-free hotline. Students and parents may call the hotline, 1-800-628-7939, from 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.