



# South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

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**For immediate release  
February 5, 2009**

Dr. Garrison Walters, Executive  
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## **Free Student Aid Workshop Available to South Carolina Students**

**Columbia, SC**--The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (CHE) in collaboration with the South Carolina Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (SCASFAA) is sponsoring a statewide college financial aid event, "College Goal Sunday" on **Saturday, February 28, 2009, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** at twelve locations around the state.

South Carolina College Goal Sunday is a statewide volunteer program that provides free information and assistance to students and families who are applying for financial aid for postsecondary education. College Goal Sunday brings together financial aid professionals from colleges and universities along with other volunteers to help college-bound students and their families complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form. This form is required for any student seeking federal and state financial aid, including grants and loans at all colleges in the country.

This free event will be hosted by **Aiken Technical College, Claflin University, Florence-Darlington Technical College, Horry-Georgetown Technical College, Richland County Public Library, Technical College of the Lowcountry, Tri-County Technical College, Trident Technical College, USC Lancaster, USC Sumter, USC Upstate, and Williamsburg Technical College.** Detailed information regarding each site may be found at [www.CollegeGoalSundaySC.org](http://www.CollegeGoalSundaySC.org).

Professional financial aid staff will be on hand at each site to assist students and parents with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA is the federal application that is required to receive federal financial aid including the Federal Pell Grant and student loans. Students and families participating are asked to bring their 2008 tax information.

"The FAFSA is a vital part of the process of funding a college education and helping families combat the financial barriers that typically prevent students from attending," says Dr. Karen Woodfaulk, Director of Student Services at CHE. Studies show that a student is 50% more likely to attend college when they complete the FAFSA.

College Goal Sunday South Carolina is made possible by a generous grant from the Lumina Foundation for Education. Lumina Foundation is a private, independent foundation that helps people achieve their potential by expanding access and success in education beyond high school. The Foundation addresses issues that affect access and educational attainment among all students, particularly underserved student groups, including adult learners.

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