



CITY OF CHICAGO
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
ROOM 107 CITY HALL

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**FINANCIAL AID FORM ASSISTANCE OFFERED TO STUDENTS
AT CITY CLERK DEL VALLE'S OFFICE**

Tax Assistance Program provides help to individuals completing the FAFSA form.

Beginning March 13, all prospective college students, parents and adults continuing their education are encouraged to visit City Clerk Miguel del Valle's office in Room 107 of City Hall, 121 N. LaSalle St., on Tuesday evenings from 5:30–8:30 p.m. to receive one-on-one assistance to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This free service is provided by the Tax Assistance Program (TAP) in partnership with Mayor Richard M. Daley and City Clerk del Valle and will be offered at the Clerk's office through April 10.

"Every year, thousands of dollars of federal aid marked for students is unclaimed because parents and students do not complete and submit these forms," stated del Valle. "Some people assume they are not eligible because of their income level; while others may be intimidated by the application's worksheets—but the reality is that practically every student is eligible for some form of financial aid. I strongly urge anyone planning to enroll in college to take advantage of the services offered by the Tax Assistance Program."

FAFSA form assistance sessions at the City Clerk's office are a free service. There are no age or income restrictions for students and families who need financial aid form assistance. Students should bring the most recent copy of their own tax return and that of their parents and will also need to know their parents' Social Security numbers and birthdates. For these reasons, it's recommended that parents accompany their child to the financial aid form session.

"Thanks to City Clerk del Valle and Mayor Daley, parents, students and adults returning to college can now get help applying for financial aid at City Hall," said Robert M. Burke, Founder, Chairman and CEO of TAP. "We are thrilled to work with elected officials that understand the importance of education," added Burke.

The FAFSA is the first application to be completed in order to apply for virtually all types of financial aid for higher education. It is used in applying for student aid programs, including Pell Grants, Stafford Loans and campus-based programs. The FAFSA collects the information required to determine need and eligibility for financial aid.

Many colleges and universities have priority deadlines to submit the FAFSA between March 1 and April 15; making this an opportune time for students to take advantage of this free service. In addition to FAFSA assistance, informational materials for the College Illinois! 529 Tuition Program will also be available at the Clerk's office.

The Tax Assistance Program is a fast-paced entrepreneurial nonprofit organization dedicated to providing innovative and free financial services to hardworking, low-income families. Since 1994, TAP has served 60,000 families, creating an economic impact of more than \$100 million. TAP enables the working poor to claim tax credits and refunds as well as overcome barriers to mainstream financial resources by linking skilled volunteer professionals to their communities. For more information about the services offered by the Tax Assistance Program, please visit www.taxassistance.org or call (312) 466-0771.

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