

The Daly Harold

Year End Planning Edition

2014

Affordable Health Care Act--Important

Starting this year you will be receiving one of the following to prove you have health insurance, a 1095-B or 1095-C form. If you do not receive one of these forms you will need to show us your health insurance card as proof that you have health insurance.

If you obtained health insurance through the Health Insurance Marketplace you will need to provide the 1095-A. If you did not receive this, you will have to access the marketplace through the internet and download the document.

You will have to mail or bring in all of these forms with you when it is time to complete your taxes. Not having these forms will delay the completion of your tax return.

Fees for not having health coverage

The fee in 2014 will be the higher of these two amounts:

- 1% of your yearly household income. The maximum penalty is the national average premium for a bronze plan.
- \$95 per person and \$47.50 per child under 18. The maximum penalty per family is \$285.

The fee in 2015 will be the higher of these two amounts:

- 2% of your yearly household income. The maximum penalty is the national average premium for a bronze plan.
- \$325 per person and \$162.50 per child. The maximum penalty per family is \$975.

The fee after 2015 increases every year. In 2016 it will be 2.5% of income or \$695 per person. After that it's adjusted for inflation.

Organizers for Tax Preparation

If you used your tax organizer last year and returned it to us, you will be sent a tax organizer from us in late December to help you organize your 2014 tax information.

If you do not get an organizer by 12/31/2014 and you want one, call Aneta at 630 860-1358 or email her at Aneta@JaegerDaly.com and request one. She will be happy to get one mailed to you right away.

Referral Credit

Referring a friend for a tax appointment can get you and the new client a \$25 gift certificate.

Please make sure to tell your friends that when they schedule the appointment that they let us know who referred them.

Once the appointment has been completed we will send each person a \$25 gift certificate that you can use at your next appointment.

We are prepared to expand and would appreciate referrals.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) 2015-2016 School Year

Starting January 2nd, we will be completing all of our FAFSAs electronically. We will be able to get them all out providing we have all the information we need (PINs and signed Client Agreements) by the end of January 2015. This will be in plenty of time for any deadlines that your colleges may have. Most schools do not have deadlines earlier than February 1st, 2015.

PIN Numbers

Students and parents are able to apply for and receive a "real-time" PIN on the Department's PIN Web site (www.pin.ed.gov).

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Don't Lose Aid Because You Miss Deadlines

Some colleges will have early deadlines and we don't want to miss them. This means you shouldn't wait to have your taxes completed before filling out the FAFSA. We will use estimated tax numbers for 2014 and then update them at a later date when the final returns are completed. FAFSAs for the 2015-2016 school year cannot be submitted until after January 1, 2015.

Illinois MAP Grant

If you have an EFC or think you might have an EFC due to special circumstances under \$9000, it is very important that you have your FAFSA form filed prior to March 1st.

As of the end of March 2014, the Illinois government was turning away students who had a qualifying EFC due to the fact that they had already run out of money.

Make sure you have all requested information to College Planners Inc. as early as possible.

CSS Profile (Supplemental Financial Aid Form)

- Check with your colleges to see if it is required.
- If required, register at profileonline.collegeboard.com
- Once registered send us your user name and password, along with a check for \$100.00 payable to College Planners, Inc.
- If we are missing any information you will be contacted by our office.
- Once the form has been completed, we will send you an email with further instructions on how to complete the process.
- If you have not heard anything back within 10 days from CSS Profile after you have submitted the form, you can either contact your colleges or call CSS Profile at (609) 771-7725.
- The CSS Profile is used by colleges to use for "Institutional Methodology" to determine aid packages as it relates to the colleges institutional funds.
- Most colleges do not require this form.

For Rent - 1N131 County Farm Rd, Winfield, IL

Beautifully renovated second floor office space available, please call Sherry May at 630-860-1358 for more information.

Financial Aid Facts

Can we do anything to impact our financial aid eligibility?

Yes, college financial aid planning is much like to income tax planning. If you are an expert with federal income tax rules, you can legally plan to pay less tax. If you are an expert with federal methodology for determining college financial aid, you can legally plan to increase financial aid eligibility under certain circumstances.

Is it true that middle income families do not qualify for aid?

Absolutely not true. We have clients with six figure incomes receiving financial aid. We also have clients with less than six figure income that do not receive financial aid. Income is an important factor in the equation, but it is not the only factor.

What does your "Expected Family Contribution" (EFC) really mean?

When your FAFSA is processed, a formula is applied to the information you provided. Congress established this formula. The formula result is your EFC. If your EFC is below a certain amount, you'll be eligible for a Pell Grant assuming you meet all other eligibility requirements. For other aid programs, the financial aid administrator at that college takes their cost of attendance and then subtracts your EFC, the amount of Pell Grant you are eligible for, and any aid you will get from other sources. The result is your remaining need or aid eligibility.

The fact that you have remaining need does not guarantee that the college will provide financial aid to fulfill all of that need. Many colleges will assess financial data (beyond what the Federal form requires) to determine need for their own funds (institutional aid). Your expected family contribution is not necessarily what you will pay toward college costs, but more likely the minimum you'll pay.

H.S. SENIORS- BY NOW YOU SHOULD HAVE:

1. Completed all admissions applications.
2. Completed all scholarship applications.
3. Met with College Planners, Inc.

We have added a forms section within our site for common forms that we may require. Please check back often for new updates and improvements!

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