

# ***MASON CAN UPDATE***

NEWS FROM THE MASON COUNTY  
COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK

## **November 2020 UPDATE**

**Mason CAN Encourages FAFSA  
College Q&A Sessions Continue  
Financial Support to Stay Connected  
FAFSA Completion by March 1: Free Tee  
Mason CAN Welcomes New Leaders  
Accessing TIP Funding gets Easier  
Missed the October Q&A Sessions?  
Partner News  
Promise Scholar Success Coaching  
Futures for Frontliners closes Dec. 1  
Discovering Manufacturing Week  
Flyers: Nov/Dec Q&A Sessions**

## **Mason CAN Sets Goal for FAFSA!**

In October, Mason CAN's Leadership Team met and provisionally approved these goals for Mason County in 2020 and beyond. A small team will explore local data:

- FAFSA Completion Goal: 75% of seniors complete each year (See Paying for College page 3)
- College Access Goal: 67% of graduates enroll in college (any post-secondary program) within 6 mos. of graduation
- College Completion Goal: 60% of graduates complete a credential within 6 years of graduation.

On November 9th, the Leadership Team will meet with the Promise Zone to explore how Mason CAN and the Mason County Promise could collaborate more to support student success.

## **College Q&A Sessions Continue**

In October, a.k.a. "College Month," Mason CAN held 12 online sessions featuring Michigan's public universities, local community colleges, and financial aid and scholarship resources. In November, "College Cash Month," and December, Mason CAN will hold 15 College Q&A sessions, and a week of sessions devoted to helping students and families understand the intricacies of "Paying for College." Mason CAN, Oceana CAN, and Launch Manistee Network are teaming up to hold these events in an effort to support our local students and schools. For dates, times and registration info, see page

## **Financial Support for Families to Stay Connected to the Internet!**

Financial Assistance is available to pay for home internet or SAT retakes for Juniors, Seniors & WSCC first-year students (up to 29 credits) and their families. Connect with your school's United Way Family Link Community Schools Coordinator for info. Email Mason County Family Link to get support for connectivity at home:  
For LHS: [becky@masoncountyuw.org](mailto:becky@masoncountyuw.org)  
For MCC/MCE: [joellen@masoncountyuw.org](mailto:joellen@masoncountyuw.org)  
For WSCC: [angie@masoncountyuw.org](mailto:angie@masoncountyuw.org)  
Other Mason County Schools (including home schooled youth:  
[lynne@masoncountyuw.org](mailto:lynne@masoncountyuw.org)

## **FAFSA Completion by March 1: FREE Promise T-SHIRT!**

FAFSA completion is important for all seniors who are considering any kind of education after high school. Mason County Promise has sweetened the deal for seniors who complete their FAFSA by March 1, 2021: Students who apply for the Promise and complete their FAFSA get a free Promise T-shirt for Decision Day on May 1. More incentives are in the works so that Mason County can encourage students and families to complete the process, and never spend any more money on college than they have to! In 2018, Michigan's families left \$100 million of federal and state aid unused. Let's encourage FAFSA completion and college enrollment so students pay less now to earn more later!

### **Accessing Tuition Incentive Program (TIP) Funding Gets Easier!**



Did you know: TIP no longer has a separate application process? Just do the FAFSA! TIP is also available for students to use for up to 10 years after graduation! TIP pays for 12 credits a semester toward an associate degree for many Michigan students who had Medicaid health insurance after age 9.

### **Mason CAN Welcomes New Leaders!**

In October, Mason CAN welcomed three new leaders to its Leadership Team: Brandy Henderson-Miller, CEO and President of the Ludington & Scottville Chamber of Commerce; Shelly Keene, Executive Director of Michigan Works West-Central; and Wendy Wells, Interim Talent Pipeline Coordinator at West Shore Community College. They will join a team of leaders helping to envision local goals, develop CAN structure, and strengthen work with the Mason County Promise. Mason CAN is grateful for our leadership's collaborative efforts to support college readiness, access, and completion

### **Missed the October College Q&A Sessions?**




High School students and families can learn all they need to know by accessing past sessions.

Visit [MasonCountyCAN.org](https://MasonCountyCAN.org), and click on the Resources for Students page to get the link to our YouTube channel where you can find out current admission information from Michigan's universities and community colleges. Plan to join us live for our 4PM College Q&As in November, and our 7PM Paying for College Sessions!

## **PAYING FOR COLLEGE VIRTUAL INFORMATION SERIES**

Sessions start at 7:00 PM

H.S. seniors & parents from Manistee, Mason & Oceana Counties  
Sign up for THE ZOOM LINK: <https://forms.gle/q7VrhFVYQx6EgMtq6>  
or SCAN the QR code below with your phone camera

<p>November 9: 7PM Understanding Financial Aid Application &amp; Award Processes</p> 	<p>November 10: 7PM FAFSA 101</p> 	<p>November 11: 7PM Scholarships 101 Scholarship Searches, Essay Writing</p>	<p>November 12: 7PM Understanding Student Loans</p> 
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FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR LATIN@ STUDIES

Ferris Adelante: FAFSA, TIP, y Becas  
para estudiar a Ferris State  
Presentación Bilingüe  
18 Noviembre 6:30-8:30 PM

Parents and students can sign up for any events above, and, if requested, your local College Access Network specialist will reach out after the event to connect you with FAFSA help and resources during the week of November 16th.



# Mason CAN Partner News

OPPORTUNITY EXTENDED:  
SIGN UP BY NOVEMBER 9TH!  
LINK IN PROMISE CANVAS


## PROMISE SCHOLAR SUCCESS COACHING

Earn a giftcard incentive by completing Fall 2020 requirements before Dec. 4. Open to current Promise Scholars at WSCC. See Canvas for details.

## Mason County Promise Launch Virtual Success Coaching for Fall 2020 for Promise Scholars; WSCC Selected to Host MCAN Completion Coach!

125 Promise Scholars at WSCC now have the opportunity to participate in virtual Success Coaching for fall 2020. First year scholars have online discussions, Zoom meetups, and are encouraged to meet with an advisor to earn a participation incentive. Returning Promise Scholars can also participate and earn incentives. WSCC has also been selected for a College Completion Corps Success Coach, who will serve Promise Scholars in Winter 2021, to help build their academic skills, strengthen their campus involvement, and navigate college with the aim of completing their program at WSCC.

## FUTURES FOR FRONTLINERS



## Futures for Frontliners closes Dec. 1

More than 60,000 Michiganders have already applied for the Futures for Frontliners (FFF) program funding. FFF is a Michigan-based program that Mason County adults without a degree can access if they who worked half-time or more outside of their home in a "frontline" job for 11 weeks from April-June 2020 during the pandemic. FAFSA completion is required. *The application closes December 31st.* Apply at [michigan.gov/frontliners/](http://michigan.gov/frontliners/)

## DISCOVER MANUFACTURING™

SAVE THE DATES: NOV. 9-13, 2020

### VIRTUAL DISCOVER MANUFACTURING WEEK

Virtual Q&A Sessions at 9 AM and 1 PM each day  
Incentives for Participation: Daily Classroom Prize & Student Scholarship Opportunities  
More information to come!

**Classrooms & teachers can still sign up! Educators can still register to participate or to get links after presentations. Mason County is proud to feature FloraCraft among the top manufacturers who will present to local high schools. Over 10,000 West-Michigan high school students have signed up! Link to sign up: [www.discover-manufacturing.com](http://www.discover-manufacturing.com)**



QUESTIONS? Contact: Jody  
Email: [Jodym@ludington.org](mailto:Jodym@ludington.org)  
Phone: 231-239-8224  
Web: [MasonCountyCAN.org](http://MasonCountyCAN.org)

**2020 COLLEGE Q&A  
&  
PAYING FOR COLLEGE  
SESSIONS SCHEDULE  
NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2020**

Juniors, Seniors & Families, to sign up:  
<https://forms.gle/u3hVyZKxspvd4Vvu9>  
or SCAN the QR Code



<b>MONDAY VIA ZOOM</b>	<b>TUESDAY VIA ZOOM</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY VIA ZOOM</b>	<b>THURSDAY VIA ZOOM</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 2: 4:00 PM LAKE SUPERIOR STATE UNIVERSITY WITH STACY POST</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 3: 4:00 PM HOPE COLLEGE WITH NATE HAVEMAN</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 4: 4:00 PM UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN WITH CHLOE HYPES</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 5: 4:00 PM ALBION COLLEGE WITH JACKI DOTTS</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 9: 7:00 PM UNDERSTANDING THE FINANCIAL AID AWARD PROCESS</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 10: 7:00 PM FAFSA 101 &amp; FSA ID</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 11: 7:00 PM SCHOLARSHIPS 101 COMMUNITY FOUNDATION</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 12: 7:00 PM UNDERSTANDING STUDENT LOANS</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 16: 4:00 PM MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY WITH LAUREN KENNEDY</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 17: 4:00 PM SPRING ARBOR UNIVERSITY WITH KAYLYNN RUGER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 18: 4:00 PM CALVIN UNIVERSITY WITH HANNAH VAN'T HOF</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 19 4:00 PM ALMA COLLEGE WITH SHELLY BUSCHLE</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 30 4:00 PM LAWRENCE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY WITH EMILY WEGNER</b>	<b>DECEMBER 1 4:00 PM AQUINAS COLLEGE WITH JACK PILLARD</b>	<b>DECEMBER 2 3:00 PM NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE</b>	<b>DECEMBER 3 4:00 PM BAKER COLLEGE OF CADILLAC</b>
			<b>DECEMBER 7: WINTER BLAST</b>  <b>2:00 PM OAKLAND UNIVERSITY</b> <b>3:00 PM KETTERING UNIVERSITY</b> <b>4:00 PM NORTHWOOD UNIVERSITY</b>

No sessions during Thanksgiving break!

COLLEGE Q&A SIGN UP:  
[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/U3HVVYZKXSPVD4VVU9](https://forms.gle/u3hVyZKxspvd4Vvu9)  
OR SCAN

