



Press Contact:

Michelle Larkin
Gregory FCA
610-642-8253
michelle@gregoryfca.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Post University Admissions Expert Offers Tips For Navigating the College Financial Aid Process

Increased competition for aid requires multi-faceted strategic plan

WATERBURY, Conn.—March 1, 2011—High school seniors are currently receiving those long awaited letters of acceptance from colleges. Now the next crucial phase begins: figuring out how to pay the cost of tuition, room and board.

“In this economy, financial aid is being sought by most students entering college, regardless of their family’s economic situation,” says [Jay Murray](#), Director of Admissions at [Post University](#), a student focused university offering on-campus and online programs for learners of all ages.

“Now, more than ever, the early bird gets the worm when it comes to financial aid packages.”

That means filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid ([FAFSA](#)) as early as possible, says Murray, who has seen thousands of applications come across his desk during his more than 18 years as an admissions officer at three colleges.

“You can’t wait to file the FAFSA until after you file your income tax return,” says Murray. “There is only a finite amount of money available, and the earliest applicants have the best chance of receiving the assistance they need.”

Murray is available for interviews to detail the steps families should take to navigate the complex financial aid labyrinth. Overall he has ten tips which include:

1. File the FAFSA as soon as possible in advance of each school’s preferred filing deadline. If you haven’t filed your income taxes yet, collect your W-2 forms and 1099s and use them as the basis for applying quickly.

2. Develop a relationship with the school's financial aid office by getting on the phone and explaining your family's individual situation.
3. Once you receive an offer of aid, analyze it carefully to determine the amount that actually comes from loans that will have to be repaid. "Not all aid is created equal," says Murray. "Grant aid does not need to be repaid, but loans do."
4. Never pay for any service to locate scholarships or assist in filling out the FAFSA--all information is available for free.

To schedule an interview with Jay Murray or for more information on these and other tips for securing financial aid, contact Michelle Larkin of Gregory FCA at 610-642-8253 or michelle@gregoryfca.com. You can also visit the Post University [blog](#).

About Post University

Founded in 1890, Post University is a student-focused, career-driven university committed to providing students with the knowledge, personal skills and experience required to be leaders in their chosen fields. Located in Waterbury, Conn., Post University provides a wide array of degree programs for on-campus and online students of all ages. It is known for its quality, career-driven academic programs, small classes, and competitive NCAA Division II athletics. Its nearly 6,000 full- and part-time students come from the United States and abroad, and are supported by faculty whose mission is to prepare students to compete and succeed in today's global workplace. To learn more about Post University, visit www.Post.edu or call 800-345-2562.

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