## **SHOWCASE SATURDAY**

Prospective students and parents are invited to campus Feb. 23 or March 30 for Showcase Saturday, an introduction to SFA. Registration begins at 11 a.m. at the Baker Pattillo Student Center on campus.

The program showcases representatives from multiple SFA departments presenting information relevant to life as a Lumberjack, such as financial aid, residence life, academics and the Student Activities Association. Parents are encouraged to attend with their student.

Call (936) 468-2504 for details.



### WEBSITES OF INTEREST

collegeforalltexans.com fastweb.com studentaid.ed.gov going2college.org unigo.com

#### CONTACT YOUR COUNSELOR

(by first letter of student's last name) (936) 468-2403 ★ finaid@sfasu.edu

Necole Beason, A-D ibeason@sfasu.edu

LaShanda Parkhurst, E-K lbparkhurst@sfasu.edu

Sara Williams, L-Q wilkersosa@sfasu.edu

Donna Lee, R-Z leedm@sfasu.edu

#### FINANCIAL AID AWARDS

Students eligible for 2019-20 financial aid awards will receive an award notification letter with instructions on how to accept or decline the award using your mySFA account. Awards will be canceled after 60 days if no action is taken.

#### DATA RETRIEVAL TOOL AVAILABLE

Now that the 2019-20 Free Application for Federal Student Aid is open, students can start completing the application and sending it to schools they are interested in attending.

The Data Retrieval Tool works to help students and parents link their tax information from the IRS to the FAFSA. This will help ensure no tax information mistakes are made and limit the chances of being selected for verification by the U.S. Department of Education.

## **SUMMER FINANCIAL AID 2018-19**

Summer registration opens April 2 for Maymester, summer I and summer II sessions. If you plan to attend summer sessions and receive financial aid, you must complete the 2018-19 FAFSA online using your 2016 tax information. Be sure to check your mySFA email account for notifications from us.

# **DEPENDENT VS. INDEPENDENT**

High school seniors are independent in many ways. However, the FAFSA has specific criteria for being classified as independent for financial aid purposes.

Most students entering college immediately after completing high school don't qualify as independent students. Independent students are not required to include parental information on the FAFSA. Most high school seniors will need to provide parental data when filling out the FAFSA.

If a student has extenuating circumstances, we recommend contacting the financial aid office at the college the student plans to attend. Counselors can review student situations on a case-by-case basis. Communication is key when trying to determine a student's dependency status.

