

Oct. 15, 2008 <FOR Oct. 20, 2008 column>

TO: News Room: ATTN: Schools Section
Peninsula Clarion <safe:morris>

FROM: Suzie Kendrick
Kenai Peninsula College Advancement

Spring schedule available for planning

Efforts continue to make course schedules available earlier so Kenai Peninsula College students can more effectively plan for the next semester. The spring 2009 schedule class list is now available from the home page of the KPC Web site.

In an effort to ensure that admitted, degree-seeking students are able to secure the courses they need, these students will have priority registration beginning at 12 a.m., Nov. 10. Web registration for the general public will open Nov. 17.

Faculty and administration are currently finalizing the fall 2009 schedule. The draft list of fall 2009 courses will be made available in the spring schedule.

The spring semester list of classes, both campus-based and web-based, will be mailed to all central peninsula households in November. In an attempt to continue sustainability practices and reduce costs, the complete course schedule booklet will have a limited printing and will only be available on-campus. The entire booklet will be available for download from the KPC Web site.

Financial planning for college

It has never been more important for parents and their college-age students to make every effort to secure financial aid to attend college. Last year, KPC's Financial Aid Coordinator Carrie Burford, together with area high school counselors, homeschool representatives and representatives from the Alaska Commission on Post Secondary Education held the first centralized Financial Aid Night (FAN) at the Soldotna Sports Center. Prior to last year, Burford traveled to area high schools for financial aid nights where she provided information about securing various forms of financial aid in a general format, not just specific to KPC.

Last year's FAN was very successful. This year the event will be held Nov. 13 at the Soldotna Sports Center. The event details are still being finalized and will be reported in this column when they become available.

Topics covered at this year's workshop include the Free Application for Federal Student Aid process, academic competitive grants and smart grants, the Alaska Advantage Program,

Alaska supplemental loans and other grant and scholarship programs. Checklists will be provided that include college preparation timelines, how to identify the right college or technical school, standardized testing requirements and the application processes. The FAN event reinforces that the time to start planning for college is during the freshman year in high school.

For more information about this community event, contact the KRC financial aid office at 262-0332.

Time is right to apply for scholarships

Current University of Alaska students are encouraged to apply for UA Foundation 2009-2010 Statewide Scholarships. Approximately 50 scholarships will be offered with awards ranging from \$500 to \$8,000. Requirements vary depending on class standing, GPA, major and high school or hometown location. Applications can be submitted online at www.uaonline.alaska.edu choosing scholarships under the student services menu. Current students need to log in with their student ID and PIN. Applications must be received by Feb. 16, 2009.

Prospective students, including new freshmen and transfer students have the opportunity to apply for these scholarships but they must also submit an application for admission prior to Feb. 16, 2009 to be considered for the scholarships.