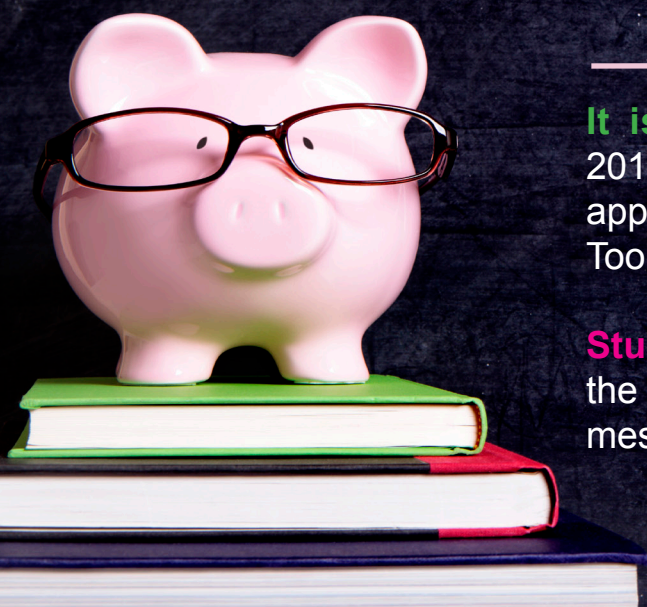




# DID YOU KNOW?

Beginning with the 2017-2018 academic award year there will be **MAJOR** changes to the Guaranteed Access Grant Program. The changes will consist of:

- **No application process** for students interested in applying for the Guaranteed Access Grant Program. Instead, the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) will notify potentially eligible students based on information reported on the FAFSA.



## IMPORTANT

**It is strongly encouraged** that when completing the 2017-18 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application, families should use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool when recording their required 2015 income information.

**Students may opt into** receiving communications from the Office of Student Financial Assistance through text messaging by visiting <http://mhec.maryland.gov>

- Students identified by OSFA for the Guaranteed Access Grant Program **will be formally notified via email/text** informing him/her of the required documents necessary to submit for consideration of the award. These items will include verification documents, high school transcript, and the High School Counselor Certification Form.  
If the student does not have available the high school transcript which contains the grades from his/her first semester of 12th grade, they may still submit the verification documents and High School Certification Form upon receipt of the notification.
- **For priority consideration students must file the FAFSA by March 1st. FAFSA applications filed after March 1st will only be accepted until April 1st and awards will be made based on the availability of funds.**
- **Students will have until July 1st** to submit all required documents to OSFA for consideration of the Guaranteed Access Grant. Documentation received after July 1st will not be reviewed.

