Dear <<NAME>>,

This fall as your senior prepares for their next step after graduation, they will have the opportunity to apply for income-based financial aid for post-high school education and training. Applying for financial aid is free using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA) and gives you access to money to pay for technical, 2-year and 4-year colleges. Completing the FAFSA or WASFA does not require you to accept money, it instead allows you to see what money is available to support your student and then choose the funding options that work best for your student and family.

To receive most financial aid, students must complete the FAFSA or WASFA, with your help. The FAFSA and WASFA applications open on October 1 and school staff are available to help: **We invite you to join us at the upcoming <<INSERT EVENT TITLE>>, where you can learn more about financial aid, receive help completing forms, and get your questions answered.**

What to bring to the event, in addition to your student:

***For FAFSA and WASFA bring:***

* Your income information (bank statements, W-2 or pay stub and a 2017 tax return, untaxed income information, such as workers compensation, if applicable)
* Your student’s income information, if they have income (see examples above)
* Additional financial information such as child support statements, TANF or welfare information, real estate, investments or family business

***For the FAFSA only, also bring:***

* Your student’s Social Security Number or Green Card (Alien Registration) Number
* One parent’s Social Security or Green Card (Alien Registration) Number *(if they have one)*
* FSA ID (yours and your student’s FSA IDs)

Some important things to know about financial aid:

* Paying for college should not stop your student from pursuing a college education.
* Financial aid includes grants, loans, work study and scholarships.
* Washington state has financial aid for eligible undocumented students.
* Parents typically must provide their income information on the FAFSA and WASFA and can enter this information themselves (it does not need to be shared).
* Some colleges offer scholarships based on grades or merit, test scores, talents and skills and may require the FAFSA or WASFA for scholarship consideration.

We look forward to seeing you and your student at the upcoming event.

Thank you,

<<INSERT YOUR NAME>>

<<INSERT YOUR TITLE>>

<<INSERT YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION>>