

KYW 1060AM. Aired: Monday, 16 March 2009

Local Group Offers Help Conquering Student Aid Forms

by KYW's John Ostapkovich

There's a push in Philadelphia to connect would-be college students with state and federal aid, but time's a-wastin'.

Hadass Sheffer, executive director of [Graduate! Philadelphia](#), says the FAFSA form, the gateway to financial aid, is not all that bad (despite many people's misgivings). Her group is taking reservations for in-person guidance at their 9th and Market office, during four sessions between now and May 1st:

"Now it's important to know that May 1st is the deadline, the drop dead deadline for Pennsylvania residents to get this free money so even if you're thinking about going back to college in September or December or even next January, now is the time to fill out the FAFSA."

Sheffer says the key to easier filing is having all the information at hand. That includes social security and driver's license numbers, income and tax information as well as net assets minus house.

You can find more details at www.graduatephiladelphia.org/ and www.phila.gov/residents/education/.

Workshop schedule:

March 27, 2009, 10:00 am - 11:30 am

April 17, 2009, 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

April 21, 2009, 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

May 1, 2009, 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm (last chance to be considered for over \$4,000 in PA State grants)

For reservations, call **215-574-1341**, Extension **107** or email info@graduatephiladelphia.org.