WCJC ANNOUNCES FREE COLLEGE INITIATIVE



Wharton County Junior College's Director of Financial Aid Leslie Kolojaco looks over marketing materials detailing the Free College Initiative, which offers full tuition and fees scholarships to qualified students.

Wharton County Junior College recently announced a Free College initiative offering full tuition and fees scholarships to qualified students majoring in certain healthcare professions programs at the college. Students must be registered in a minimum of six semester credit hours and enrolled in the Licensed Vocational Nursing, Health Information Technology, Emergency Medical Services or Human Services programs at WCJC. The purpose is to encourage persistence and completion of certificates and degrees leading to employment in high-need allied health occupations.

The simplicity of the <u>Free College</u> initiative is that it not only pays for qualified students' tuition and fees for the Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 semesters, it also offers a seamless process for being considered. Students do not have to complete a scholarship application because, one to two weeks after they register, the scholarship will be applied to their accounts.

"These scholarships will pave the way for students to obtain the necessary skills and credentials to enter careers in high-need allied health professions," said WCJC's Director of Financial Aid Leslie Kolojaco. "WCJC is proud to make this investment in the next generation of skilled healthcare professionals."

Students must meet the following criteria in order to be considered for a scholarship:

- Reside in one of the following areas: Aransas County, Bee County, Calhoun County, Colorado County, Dewitt County, Goliad County, Gonzales County, Jackson County, Lavaca County, Matagorda County, Refugio County, Victoria County, Waller County, Wharton County and the Needville Independent School District.
- Be enrolled in a minimum of six semester credit hours in an eligible program through the term census date.
 - Have a 2023-2024 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file with WCJC.

Students majoring in the approved programs are encouraged to check their WCJC accounts within two weeks after registering for the term. Contact the WCJC Financial Aid department at finaid@wcjc.edu for more information or click on the following link: https://www.wcjc.edu/FREECOLLEGE/