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## **College-bound students can get free help filling out federal financial aid forms**

**PUEBLO** – Area high school seniors planning to attend college as well as continuing college students will have a great opportunity to get assistance in filling out their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form on Sunday, Feb. 21. As part of a state-wide program titled College Goal Sunday, financial aid experts will be on hand to provide free help from 2 to 4 p.m. in Pueblo Community College's Hoag Theatre.

Filling out the FAFSA form is the critical first step for students who plan to pay for college with the help of grants, scholarships, student employment and student loans. It is used by the U.S. Department of Education to determine a student's financial need.

Rosina Chaparro, Financial Aid Advisor at PCC, said College Goal Sunday is an excellent vehicle for students to get their FAFSA forms processed early.

"The professionals who will be there will take all of the worry out of students needing to fill out their FAFSA form and they will provide one-on-one help," Chaparro said. "Plus, there will be workshops where students can learn about loans, scholarships, grants and work-study money that is available to them for college."

In addition, a \$1,000 college scholarship will be awarded via a drawing from the names of those in attendance.

Students should bring their 2009 income tax return, or their parents' 2009 return. If they haven't done their tax returns yet, they should bring their 2009 tax information or their last paycheck stub received at the end of December 2009. Parents are encouraged to accompany students.

Hoag Theatre is in the lower level of PCC's Davis Academic Building, which is located at the corner of Orman Ave. and Arthur St.

For more information, contact Chaparro at 549-3022 or [Rosina.Chaparro@pueblocc.edu](mailto:Rosina.Chaparro@pueblocc.edu). More information also is available at [www.CollegeGoalColorado.com](http://www.CollegeGoalColorado.com).

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*Founded in 1933, Pueblo Community College is a premier teaching institution focused on providing academic and service excellence to help its students acquire the 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills needed to better their lives. An educational and technological leader, PCC fosters economic development and utilizes strong partnerships in the communities it serves through its Pueblo, Fremont and Southwest campuses.*