Weird Ways Your Students Are Paying for School

Kurt Vesecky
Regional Director
Turning the Financial Aid Office into the Student Financial Success Office
Financial Success Means Overall Success
Our SFS Office Vision

ADVISING

ROUTINE SUPPORT

ADMIN
The Undeniable Truth: The cost to attend college continues to rise.
Please pay for my college tuition
@BillGates I’m poor

5:18 PM - 5 Sep 2019 from Isla Vista, CA
Big Barrier: Students struggle to cover the increasing cost
75% of students have unmet financial needs.

55% of students have run out of money 3 or more times in the past year.

63% of students say they would have trouble getting $500 in cash or credit to meet an unexpected need within the next month.
The average student loan debt held by Spring 2019 graduates is $29,800.
Unexpected bills & loan debt lead students to find unique ways to cover costs
6 Weird Ways Students are Paying for School
Crafting their prom dress out of duct tape
A local teen needs your help to win a $10,000 dollar scholarship after designing duct tape prom dress.

Local teen finalist for fashion scholarship contest
Maya Ramirez is one of five finalists for the Duck brand duct tape prom dress contest. The top prize for the contest is a $10,000 college scholarship.

4:30 AM - 25 Jun 2019

11 Retweets 24 Likes
Selling blood, plasma, and other body components
me after selling all my organs for college tuition
Renting their couch to strangers
Hey guys I’m running low on funds at this point in my broke college career so I’m renting out my side of my dorm room. It’s decorated for the holidays plus has great features like a really spacious bed, nice big mirror, and stunning view of the parking lot. DM me if interested!
Winning a game show
Fun game show idea: try to come up with $4,000 in 5 days to pay for tuition. Bonus points if you can pay it without selling your soul or your body! Also Steve Harvey is the host :)

9:29 AM - 9 May 2019

24 Likes
Becoming a lab rat
Volunteers Needed
For a scientific study
 Investigating whether people can distinguish between scientific studies and kidney-harvesting scams.
(Healthy type-O adults only)
Take one
Eating Competitions
Country's top college eater gobbles up tuition money

Dan Reimold, USA TODAY College  Published 10:42 a.m. ET Nov. 11, 2013 | Updated 9:43 a.m. ET Nov. 12, 2013

*Eric Dahl has earned an online following and enough money to possibly pay for his entire schooling...*
But these methods aren’t reliable and aren’t enough to cover cost gaps for your students.
Instead your students should focus on funding sources like:

- Scholarships
- Friends & Family
- Grants
Students can use social media to safely crowdsource funding for school.
Combining social media channels with your students’ communities opens a new world of funding.
Imagine a world where...
Every student has a gap. Besides academics, money is the number one reason students transfer or drop out. This is bad for us and for the student. With SponsoredScholar, we can help solve this problem.

Eileen Tucker
Director of Financial Assistance
Neumann University
A Simpler Path: SponsoredScholar

- Empower every student to run a personalized fundraising campaign, no heavy lift required on your Financial Aid Office or the student’s part
- Boost retention and completion by helping students tap into new funding sources
- Stretch existing emergency and grant aid by bringing outside funds to your institution
Create Efficiencies

- Plug and play interface has your institution up and running in hours.
- Automated email and social outreach eliminate manual fundraising efforts for students.
- Integration with Chase Payments drives fund transfer efficiency.
Enhance Student Experience

+ Guided process helps each and every student **prepare, launch, and complete** a personalized fundraising campaign

+ Customizable support selection allows students to reach out to their support network

+ Easy sharing through social media, email, and text further expands reach of campaigns, **enabling students to raise more funds**

+ Allows students to **crowdfund safely** versus other online options
Drive Enrollment

- Allows students to proactively and safely secure funds for their education journey, meaning they can stay in school.
- Fewer institutional funds are needed to support students with financial needs when more external money is fundraised.
- Availability of platform establishes reputation as helpful and trustworthy to students, creating a connection to the institution.
Thank you!