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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **College Goal Sunday to help students overcome financial barriers to higher education**

(Lake Worth, Fla. –Feb. 1, 2008) College bound students who need money to pay for their education can get help with the application for federal assistance at a free statewide event called Florida College Goal Sunday.

At 2 p.m. Feb. 24, financial aid experts will be available at two Palm Beach Community College locations to provide information and help students and their families complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA helps students access billions in federal funds available for college. The help sessions will be in room 101 in the Allied Health building at PBCC in Lake Worth, 4200 Congress Ave., and room 113 in Classroom Building A at PBCC in Belle Glade, 1977 College Drive.

The FAFSA is the first step in the college financial aid process. It is required each year for all students seeking federal and state financial aid, including grants and loans.

Florida College Goal Sunday aims to help students, particularly low-income and first generation college students, who may not be familiar with the process.

“There’s a two-fold message here. It’s a very timely activity to get your FAFSA done, particularly for those who are not currently college students,” said David Bodwell, PBCC’s financial aid director. “Secondly, there will be a room full of financial aid advisors to help answer any and all questions.”

Financial aid assistance will be available in English, Spanish and Creole.

(more)

Scholarship drawings will be held for students who attend the event. Additional information about Florida College Goal Sunday is available online at [www.fldoe.org/collegegoalsunday](http://www.fldoe.org/collegegoalsunday) or call (561) 868-3391.

**Palm Beach Community College**, Florida's first public community college, is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary throughout 2008. The largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, PBCC serves more than 45,000 students annually through its associate degrees, professional certificates, career and customized training and lifelong learning. The College offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

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