Greetings College Application Month Site Coordinators and College Representatives:

I hope all is well with each of you and your schools/institutions.

I am writing for three reasons.  First, I want to thank you for your work on College Application Month. We are approaching the middle of the events, and so far, the reports from the events are going quite well. That is in no small part because of your efforts. I truly appreciate all your hard work.  Second, I want to encourage you to continue using social media in your advertising and reporting for CAM. Do not forget to mention @sccango in your posts, and you can use the #CAMSC2017 as well.  As I get new mentions/posts, I will share. If you have photos of your event, send them my way as well!

Now for the exciting news!  I am pleased to report that we have the go ahead to share an amazing opportunity for our students who participate in the College Application Month events and complete the student survey this fall.  We have entered into an agreement with the State Treasurer’s Office to offer an incentive for the winners of the CAM survey drawing.  The fortunate students who have their name drawn at the end of the College Application Month events will receive an actual scholarship to assist them with paying for college. The scholarship will be in the amount of $529, and we will be able to award the scholarship to two students this year.  If you noticed, the amount of the scholarship is specifically set at $529.  This is to draw attention to one of South Carolina’s programs designed to help families pay for college: The Future Scholar 529 College Savings Plan.

The winning students (there will be two) will receive the scholarship in their 529 savings plan account, so they will need to set up the 529 either before or after the drawing. Parents that do not already have a 529 Plan will be assisted with setting up one (free).  To learn more about the Future Scholar 529 College Savings Plan, interested parties can go to <https://futurescholar.com/>.

Again, the key to getting into the drawing is to complete the College Application Month Student Survey by no later than December 15, 2017.  Names will be drawn in January, and the presentation of the scholarships will be in spring, either at your school, the SC Commission on Higher Education or the State Treasurer’s Office.

What student couldn’t use free money for college?  Encourage your students to complete the CAM student survey through sccango.org today! The link to the scholarship page and survey is:

<http://sccango.org/college-application-month/>

Even students from CAM events that have already occurred can complete the survey and enter the drawing!  Please share this amazing opportunity with your students.

Thank you for all that you do!

Gerrick J. Hampton

SC Commission on Higher Education

College Access, SC Scholarships

& SC Residency