

Financial Literacy Workshop: Lascelle shares his experience

Throughout the 2024-2025 school year, **EVkids College Success** is partnering with **Boston Health Initiative at Northeastern University** on a series of workshops to help our high school and college students take care of their mental health and plan for a successful future in college and beyond.

In December, EVkids students were invited to participate in a virtual Financial Literacy workshop. **Lascelle M.**, a longtime EVkids program participant, camp counselor, and Youth Council member, currently studying Sociology at UMass Boston, reports back:



I've taken a bit away from the financial literacy workshop. It helped me reaffirm the values I've already had and given me more insight on the resources I have available to me in college.

The strengths of it were that it reminded me that scholarships are completely free, internship opportunities can grant students assistance/financial support in college, and how important it is for students to take advantage of FAFSA. The Kahoot also made it much more comfortable to make judgements based on what we learned during the workshop, and the speakers did a great job in clarifying small nuances in the questions asked. It gave room for clarity for those who are less comfortable speaking up openly.

Another great strength of it was reminding us of how we can use money more responsibly by giving us examples of things we need for daily living and things we don't need that could be a waste of money. It also helped that the speakers say not to be overly conservative of money, and that spending it on events like a dinner with friends or family is okay in moderation.



Lascelle at his graduation from Roxbury Community College

So is there room for improvement? I think the experience was great for me personally, and some ways to improve it in my perspective are examples of what we would expect to need for FAFSA documents. Sometimes FAFSA can be overwhelming at times, and even though it is simpler now it is always good to have a display of the basic information that I would need. It would also be of great help if we could get a small peek at what applying for scholarships could look like. The presenters already did a great job in my perspective and I want to make sure that other students who have no prior experience with college have a good perspective of what to expect as well.

All said, I enjoyed the workshop and it gave me good insight on how I can be more proactive about securing my future financially with nearby resources.

[**Watch Lascelle speak at the 2024 EVkids Expanding Horizons Gala**](#)

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