

The Erma Byrd Center Staff Spotlight is on Bluefield State College's Tom Ilse, Director of Financial Aid

An Interview with Bluefield State College's
Tom Ilse, Director of Financial Aid
by Lisa Moten, Erma Byrd Center Director

Lisa Moten: How long have you been working at the Erma Byrd Center?

Tom Ilse: Nineteen years!

Lisa Moten: What services do you provide to Bluefield State College students attending classes at the Erma Byrd Center? And, when will you be available to provide those services?

Tom Ilse: I provide students with financial aid counseling and information about the financial aid process! Information is also shared through discussions about federal, state, and other opportunities which provide students with access to higher education.

I am at the Erma Byrd Center from 10am until 3pm on the first six Wednesdays of every Fall and Spring semester to help students complete their Financial Aid file(s). No appointment is necessary as we provide on-the-spot service!

Lisa Moten: What is the most important advice you have for students when it comes to Financial Aid?

Tom Ilse: The West Virginia Higher Education Grant deadline is April 15th of every year! Similarly speaking, the Bluefield State College institutional deadline for institutional scholarships is March 15th of every year! Thus, the most important advice I have for students is to file their FAFSA early!



Tom Ilse

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