WHO DO I CONTACT WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT FAFSA OR FINANCIAL AID?
For questions regarding FAFSA or financial aid, you may contact Jennifer Aiello, Financial Aid Advisor, at (432) 264-5116 or jaiello@howardcollege.edu or Jodie Wright, District Associate Director Financial Aid, at (432) 264-5114 or jwright@howardcollege.edu.

WHEN IS THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING THE FAFSA?
Although the priority deadline for fall is March 1, we recommend you to complete the 2017-2018 FAFSA as soon as possible. Information received after the deadline may not be processed in time for registration.

Students must contact the Financial Aid Office to ensure that all files/information are on file in the Financial Aid Office regardless of grant eligibility.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID?
In order to be eligible for financial assistance, you must first complete and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). It is available online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. There is no cost to submit the FAFSA. It must be renewed every year. The FAFSA school code for SWCID/HC is 003574.

HOW CAN I CHANGE MY MAJOR?
Students may not change their majors after registration and may change majors only after the semester ends or before the upcoming semester begins. Prior to registration, students must see their academic advisors, and then notify the Office of Enrollment Services at SWCID about changing their majors.

WHEN DO I PAY FOR TUITION AND OTHER COSTS?
Students have access to view their account statement through Campus Connect under their MyHC account. Tuition and fees are due at registration. Students have the option to participate in a payment plan which requires 50% of tuition and fees to be paid when the contract is started. If the student desires, there is also a similar payment plan for their room and board as well. Each payment plan requires a $25.00 enrollment fee. Payment plans are done through Campus Connect. Refer to the payment plan pamphlet for more information. Students must sign up for the payment plan or pay in full by August 15, 2017. Students who have not paid their tuition in full or have not signed up for a payment plan may be dropped from all courses at that time.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I AM EXPECTING VR/TWC-VR (formerly DARS) TO PROVIDE PAYMENT FOR TUITION/FEES/ROOM/BOARD AND/OR TOOL KIT (IF REQUIRED FOR MAJOR)?
On new student registration day (August 16, 2017), you will receive a printed class schedule, statement and book list. You must send all of them to your VR/TWC-VR immediately. The purchase orders (payments) from VR/TWC-VR need to be sent to Howard College Business Office, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX, 79720 or via fax: 432-264-5133. Their phone number is 432-264-5035, if you have questions.

Purchase orders for books need to be sent to Howard College Bookstore, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX, 79720 or via fax: 432-264-1604. Their phone number is 432-264-5050, if you have questions.

WHAT IS A TOOL KIT AND WHEN WOULD I NEED ONE?
A tool kit is a set of tools required for certain majors. This is a one-time charge (if self-pay, sales tax will be applied) when the student enrolls in the major that requires a tool kit. The following majors require a tool kit: Automotive Maintenance Technician (AUMT), Building Construction Technology (BCT), Dental Lab Technology (DLT), and Welding (WLDG). Contact Academic Affairs Office at 432-264-3775 V or 432-218-4252 VP or jkey@howardcollege.edu for more information.

WHEN IS SWCID NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION?
SWCID New Student Registration will take place on August 16, 2017 at the SWCID campus. After new students complete the assessments for class placement, they will receive assistance from their academic advisors with their registration for classes on August 15, 2017. All new incoming students whose first language is not English and who have not been otherwise exempted from placement testing will receive an ESOL Waiver (TAC Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4C Rule 4.54) exempting them from the TSIA in English. They will take the Math TSIA for math placement and the TABE test for Reading and Writing placement. These scores will be used for initial placement in the appropriate developmental education or ESOL program. Exemption from TSIA testing only applies for Level 1 Certificate program courses. Effective August 26, 2013, all students entering degree programs will be tested for TSI purposes (they must test on the TSIA) unless receiving an ESOL waiver.

AM I REQUIRED TO HAVE A BACTERIAL MENINGITIS VACCINATION (BMV)?
Effective October 1, 2013, TEC 51.9192 (Texas law) requires all students under age 22 entering an institution of higher education to provide current proof of vaccination against bacterial meningitis (an immunization given within 5 years of the date of intended enrollment) or meet certain requirements for declining such a vaccination. New students who have not provided documentation of vaccination will have a hold placed on their account. Students with a hold will not be allowed to register for classes or enter SWCID campus. The hold will be removed once the appropriate immunization documentation has been provided to SWCID/HC.

HOW DO I MEET THE TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE REQUIREMENT?
In accordance with the TEC 51.306 and 51.403, SWCID/HC will assess and correctly place undergraduate students entering our institution. Students who do not have college-level skills in reading, writing, or math, as determined by initial testing, will be placed in a developmental education
program or ESOL program to improve any skill areas that are found deficient. The minimum passing standards and testing exemptions can be found at:
http://catalog.howardcollege.edu/content.php?catoid=5&navoid=135#Success_Initiative

All new incoming Deaf students who have not been otherwise exempted (above) will receive an ESOL Waiver (TAC Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4C Rule 4.54) exempting them from the TSIA in English. They will take the Math TSIA for math placement and the TABE test for Reading and Writing placement.

The Director of Outreach / SWCID will notify the new students on August 11, 2017 of their TSI status. New incoming students requiring testing will take placement tests on August 11, 2017. TSIA is only available in Texas. Students who have taken TSIA at another location within the past year may submit the scores to SWCID Enrollment Services. The placement testing fee is $36.00 and $12/section for any retest. Degree seeking students will take the English TSIA during their second long semester. The cost for this required test is $24.00. If you are attending New Student Orientation (NSO), the testing fee is included in the NSO fee.

When the students' scores and their new class schedules are on file in their Academic Advisors' offices, they will be able to register for classes.

**HOW DO I GET TO SWCID (FROM AIRPORT OR OTHER LOCATIONS)?**
Depending on the availability of vehicles and drivers, SWCID may be able to provide free transportation for first-year students coming from Midland International Airport at the beginning of the semester. If transportation cannot be provided, please contact TRAX. The TRAX's phone number is (800) 245-9028. TRAX is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Please call 48 hours ahead of time for any trip (local trips included). First-year students may contact Kenny Bearden at (432) 816-2980 V/TCT or kbearden@howardcollege.edu and provide the following information: your contact information, flight number, airline and the date and time you will be arriving. Be sure to let John Green, NSO Coordinator, and Tammy Szuszitzky, Coordinator of Residence Education, know of your arrival by sending an email to jgreen@howardcollege.edu and tszuszitzky@howardcollege.edu.

**WHAT IF I NEED TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS DUE TO A DISABILITY?**
If you have a disability and require specific accommodations to complete the placement exams or TSI requirements, please contact the SWCID ADA Coordinator to discuss your needs. Reasonable testing accommodations are provided to allow students with documented disabilities an opportunity to demonstrate their skills and knowledge. Students who need testing accommodations must submit documentation of their disability to the SWCID ADA Coordinator at least two weeks prior to the scheduled testing date for review. Please contact Jim Walterhouse, SWCID ADA Coordinator, at (432) 242-4290 VP/V or jwalterhouse@howardcollege.edu to request testing accommodations.

**WHAT DO I DO IF I NEED ADA ACCOMMODATIONS?**
Since SWCID is a school for the deaf and hearing-impaired, all classes on our campus are taught by teachers that are proficient in ASL. If a student needs to take a class at the Howard College location,
ASL interpreters and note-takers are provided. For those accommodations, no additional documentation is necessary.

For all other disabilities that require accommodations, including academic, residential, mobility, visual, or dietary accommodations, you will need documentation of the disability. The documentation needs to be submitted to Jim Walterhouse, SWCID ADA Coordinator. It is best to contact the ADA Coordinator as soon as possible in order to assure that you receive the necessary accommodations. You may contact Jim at jwalterhouse@howardcollege.edu or at (432) 242-4290 VP/V.

**Special notice regarding service animal accommodations:** If you will be living on campus and you have a legally trained and certified service animal that you wish to bring to SWCID, please read our Service Animal Policy located online at:

http://catalog.howardcollege.edu/content.php?catoid=4&navoid=112#Appendix_E

Please note that this policy requires owners of service animals to **formally register the animal with a Service Animal Evaluator at least thirty (30) days prior to arriving on campus** to allow for processing and clearance. If you have any questions about this policy, please contact Jim Walterhouse, SWCID ADA Coordinator, at jwalterhouse@howardcollege.edu or at (432) 242-4290 VP/V.

**WHAT DO I DO IF I AM STRUGGLING OR FRUSTRATED OR DO NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO AND NEED COUNSELING?**

Jim Walterhouse is the full-time counselor for SWCID. Jim is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor and has over 30 years of experience as a counselor. Jim is deaf and uses ASL but can also communicate orally for those who prefer it. The counseling office is in the Maddux Student Center. The hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday (Office is closed for lunch from 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.). Drop-ins are welcomed (as time permits), but for the best service an appointment is preferred. To schedule an appointment please call Jim at (432) 242-4290 V/VP or e-mail jwalterhouse@howardcollege.edu.

**WHEN DO FALL CLASSES START?**
The first day of classes for the Fall 2017 semester is August 23, 2017.