

Continuing Education

The Augusta County Democratic Committee believes that for citizens to qualify for well-paying jobs and for the country to be competitive in the world economy, post high school education and training is becoming more and more necessary. Whether it be an Associate's degree from a Community College, a Professional Certificate from a vocational school or a Bachelor's degree from a four-year institution, further education is becoming a must. We believe:

- All Americans deserve an equal opportunity to improve their economic standing through further education.
- Two years of additional education and training beyond high school at a community college, a public university, or qualified vocational school must be made available to all without charge.
- Through government financing, the spiraling cost of public colleges and universities must be brought under control
- Grants and scholarships must be made available to help low and middle income families avoid incurring unreasonable debt to provide their children with a solid post high school education or training program.
- Student loans must not be a money making proposition for the federal government. New loans and the refinancing of existing loans must be at the lowest interest rate possible. Interest on student loans through private institutions must be restricted.
- For those already suffering under the burden of crushing student loan debt the current Public Service Loan Forgiveness and loan discharge programs must be continued and enhanced.
- We must continue to vigorously prosecute for-profit schools that take millions in federal financial aid and then exploit students rather than educating them.
- Special effort must be made to ensure that minorities and low income students have an equal opportunity to achieve their highest education potential.