

Straight talk from financial aid directors cuts the confusion

by Charlotte Thomas, Career & Education Editor, Peterson's

Ever hear the myth about alligators lurking in Manhattan's sewers? Bet you could name some others if you haven't come across that one. Alligators aside, myths exist everywhere, and when it comes to college scholarships, mythmakers churn them out.

However, there are valid reasons why scholarship myths can take hold. Academic institutions offer vastly different scholarship programs and have a wide variety of requirements to get them. Finding and getting scholarships is time consuming and, when you're talking about the high cost of college tuition on top of it, the process gets very complicated.

Fortunately, many people who deal with financing undergraduate education go out of their way to address these myths. Lee Sirois, Director of Financial Aid at American International College in Springfield, Massachusetts, is one of them. He visits more than twenty high schools each year, talking to college-bound students and their parents, answering questions, and dispelling their confusion about financial aid and scholarships.

Someone else who takes on scholarship myths is Marvin

about it from the media even though

