

National Training for Counselors and Mentors

Funding Education
Beyond High School



Academic Year
2010-11

BRING COUNSELOR TRAINING TO YOUR STATE Spring 2009

The Need for National Training for Counselors and Mentors (NT4CM)

We have all heard (sometimes first-hand) that the process of finding money for college intimidates many students and families. Because a school counselor or other mentor is frequently the first person a student turns to for advice, NT4CM provides counselors and mentors with the tools they need to help students and families.

Program Description

NT4CM is a joint partnership of the U.S. Department of Education's office of Federal Student Aid, the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA), the National Council of Higher Education Loan Programs (NCHHELP), the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC), and the American School Counselor Association (ASCA).

NT4CM works with states to help provide free training and support for counselors and mentors who assist students and their families in preparing financially for college. If your state currently offers financial aid training to counselors and mentors, NT4CM can support your efforts by linking to your training information on the Web, providing NT4CM materials, or even hosting your online registration. There is no fee for a state to participate in NT4CM.

State Participation

As we're sure you'll understand, the U.S. Department of Education must avoid the appearance that we are providing preferential treatment or advantages to lenders who support training efforts in some states. We have developed a variety of participation options to avoid such endorsement; we have provided an online questionnaire so you can determine which NT4CM participation options are available to you. (See URL below.)

Curriculum

The NT4CM program provides comprehensive up-to-date information, materials, and resources regarding federal student aid programs, scholarship searches, and avoiding financial aid fraud. States are invited to use some or all of the materials, and can add state-specific financial aid information to the curriculum as appropriate, using NT4CM templates.

Support

NT4CM will support your state's efforts by providing customizable outreach materials to help you promote workshops in your state. We will also conduct a "train the trainers" webinar in late summer and provide a PowerPoint presentation, printed copies of the Instructor Manual, and printed copies of the Participant Guide for distribution at the workshops.

A Web site also is available to serve as your main reference for materials, resources, links, and information you'll need to conduct training sessions in your state.

For More Information

To determine which NT4CM participation options are available to your state or to obtain additional information about the program, please www.fsa4counselors.ed.gov/trainers.