

STAYING CONNECTED WITH NT4CM – DECEMBER 2008

Who We Are

National Training for Counselors and Mentors (NT4CM) is a collaboration that provides free training and support for counselors and mentors who assist students and their families in preparing financially for college. As part of our ongoing support, from August to May, we will e-mail you reminders and resources relevant to the student financial aid lifecycle.

To find out more about NT4CM in your state, visit www.fsa4counselors.ed.gov/NT4CM.

This Month's Features

- As the FAFSA filing season approaches, students and parents can better inform themselves about the application process by viewing *Do You Need Money for College?* at www.studentaid.ed.gov/pubs.
- *Steps to Federal Student Aid* explains the FAFSA application and submission process in seven steps. Students can view this handout at www.studentaid.ed.gov/pubs.
- A personal identification number called a Federal Student Aid PIN can be used to electronically sign the FAFSA, drastically decreasing the application's processing time. To save time, students and parents should request PINs before students apply for aid. A Federal Student Aid Pin also may be used to sign other forms and to access student information. PINs must be requested online at www.pin.ed.gov.
- The *FAFSA on the Web Worksheet* is a useful tool in preparing to complete the online FAFSA. The worksheet lists the FAFSA questions and provides boxes for students' (and parents') answers. The order of the questions on the worksheet follows that of *FAFSA on the Web*, which differs from the paper FAFSA. Students and parents can view and download the worksheet PDF at www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov/worksheet.
- **Students should visit www.fafsa.ed.gov to complete the online FAFSA. Please remind students that if a Web site requests credit card information or some other form of payment to complete the FAFSA then that Web site is not the official government (FREE) Web site.**

Contact Us

For more information about federal student aid, submit questions at www.fsa4counselors.ed.gov/clcf/contactus.html or call 1-800-4-FED-AID.

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