

Section VII: Conclusion

Objectives

- Review topics covered in workshop
- Generate topics for future training
- Answer remaining questions
- Discuss available resources
- Make counselors feel supported and appreciated
- Mention Public Service Announcement (PSA) campaign
 - ◆ Explain how they will be contacted about the campaign
 - ◆ Share ideas about how they can help get the word out
- Encourage participants to complete evaluation

Materials

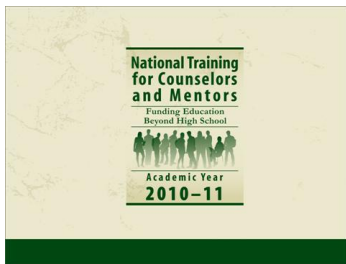
- PowerPoint Presentation
- Resources
- Resource lists
- PSA Fact Sheet

Trainer Tips

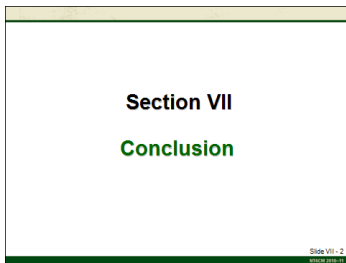
- The instructor's guide is just that, a guide. If you feel more comfortable teaching from the PowerPoint slides, for example, feel free to do so.
- Encourage participants to suggest future training topics.
- Visit <http://www.fsa4counselors.ed.gov/clcf/NT4CMPSEA.html> for more information about the "My Story" PSA campaign.

Section VII: Conclusion

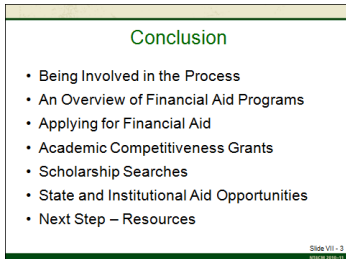
SLIDE VII-1



SLIDE VII-2



SLIDE VII-3



VII. Conclusion

Today we have discussed:

- Being Involved in the Process;
- An Overview of Financial Aid Programs;
- Applying for Financial Aid;
- Academic Competitiveness Grants;
- Scholarship Searches;
- State and Institutional Aid Opportunities; and
- Next Step – Resources.

Note To Instructor: Before moving on to the following material, ask the participants if there are any federal aid topics not covered today on which they would like to receive information. Possible topics they may suggest include issues related to student lending, specific special circumstance cases, awarding strategies/award letters, undocumented student issues, etc. You may wish to suggest that they contact financial aid professionals at local area colleges, representatives from the state guaranty agencies or members of the state student financial aid organization when specific issues/questions arise. Also indicate that you are about to provide them with a set of resources/Web sites that can be helpful in answering their questions.

Counselor Resources

➔ Please refer participants to the material behind the resource tabs.

The following materials are available for downloading and printing at www.fsa4counselors.ed.gov. We believe this variety of documents/forms will be most helpful to you as you assist your students and families:

- Guide to Federal Tax Benefits (student/parent version);




- Student Aid Program Summary;
- Financial Aid Application Checklist;
- Application Form Tracking Worksheet;
- Cost of Attendance Comparison Worksheet;
- Award Package Comparison Worksheet;
- Financial Aid Consultants and Scholarship Search Services Fact Sheet;
- Sample Scholarship Inquiry Letter; and
- Glossary of Financial Aid Words

Note to Instructor: Make participants aware that many of these documents should be made available when hosting a financial aid night presentation.

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Federal Resources

- Print Documents
- Federal Web Sites
- Phone Numbers

Slide VII-4

Federal Web Resources

➔ Please refer participants to the material behind the resource tabs.

When looking for resources and answers, the following federal Web sites can provide you with a wealth of information:

- www.fsa4counselors.ed.gov – provides basic college access and financial aid information. Click on “Counselor Resources” to view the Counselors and Mentors Handbook and to find “Network & Potential Partners” to locate professionals in your community who can assist you.
- www.studentaid.ed.gov – acts as gateway site for students and provides information about college, financial aid, scholarships, career information, and various links to other helpful sites.
- www.students.gov – functions as gateway site for students to U.S. government. Site includes information regarding military, campus life, study resources, and U.S. government.

- www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov – helps students and families get an early estimate of eligibility for federal student aid. Information can easily be transitioned to *FAFSA on the Web* when ready to complete actual FAFSA.
- www.fafsa.ed.gov – serves as the site to complete and submit a FAFSA. May download worksheets, check status of application, view results, and make corrections at this site.
- www.pin.ed.gov – allows student and parents to apply for a FSA Personal Identification Number or PIN. The PIN is necessary to electronically sign the FAFSA, access information after the FAFSA is filed, and sign other documents such as loan promissory notes.
- <http://www.ed.gov/admins/finaid/about/ac-smart/state-programs.html> – provides information about rigorous programs for each state (one of the criteria students must meet in order to qualify for an ACG).
- www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams – supplies information on scams and provides an online complaint form, fact sheet, and hotline number.

Phone Resources

- **1-800-4-FED-AID/1-800-433-3243/1-800-730-8913(TTY)** – Customer service representatives can answer general questions about financial aid or provide assistance with submitted and/or processed FAFSAs.

Miscellaneous Resources

➔ *Please refer participants to the material behind the resource tabs.*

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Miscellaneous Resources

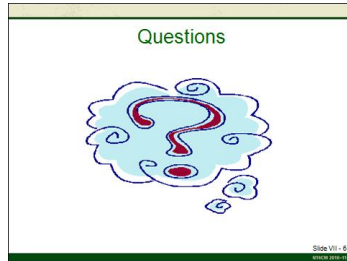
- Review this section for a variety of Web sites that contain financial aid resource information for counselors as you assist students and parents
- Features College Goal Sunday, "Ask an Advisor" Training Manual and a Web site that translates English financial aid terms into Spanish

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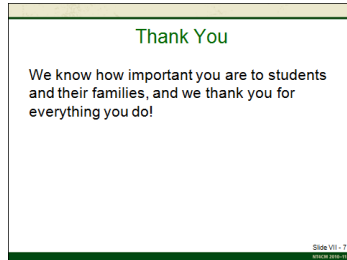
The following list of sites contains additional types of information that should assist you in being a resource for your students and families:

- www.nasfaa.org/redesign/ParentsStudents.html – contains a vast amount of information regarding the financial aid process, tuition tax benefits, aid-related publications, scholarships, loans, and early awareness.
- www.finaid.org – features an “Ask the Aid Advisor” option for personalized assistance as well as comprehensive information about scholarships, loans, savings plans, military aid, aid calculators, and aid applications.
- www.collegegoalsundayusa.org – serves as the site for College Goal Sunday event sponsored by over 30 states, offering free one-on-one help with completing a FAFSA.
- <http://www.tgslc.org/spanish/glossary/index.cfm> TG provides an on-line version of the Postsecondary Education English-Spanish Glossary. This searchable database will help you find the Spanish equivalent to over 2,000 English terms used in student financial aid and the higher education arena.
- www.collegeaccess.org – functions as a site for counselors, access advisors, and mentors with vast resources for college access in general. Resource guide for counselors that contains detailed financial aid information available at www.collegeaccess.org/ncan/uploads/advisortrainingmodule.pdf.
- www.collegeboard.com/student/pay/index.html – hosts a wealth of resources for financial aid planning, aid calculators, loans, and the CSS Profile (additional aid form required by some colleges).

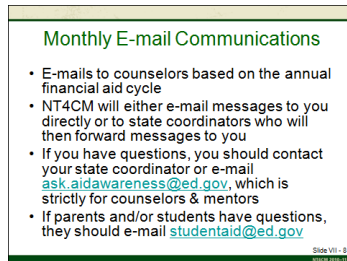
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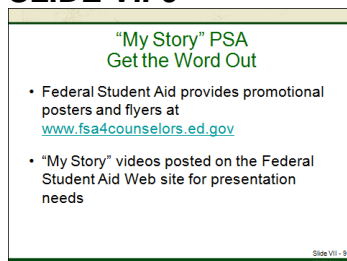
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SLIDE VII-8



SLIDE VII-9



General Questions

Ask counselors if they have any general questions about any of the information covered today or any aid questions for topics not addressed.

Thank You

- We know how important you are to students and their families and we thank you for everything you do

Monthly E-mail Communications

To provide on-going support throughout the year, we have initiated the following information connections:

E-mails to counselors based on the annual financial aid cycle.

- NT4CM will e-mail messages either directly to you or to state coordinators who will forward the message to you
- If you have questions, you should contact your state coordinator or e-mail ask.aidawareness@ed.gov, which is strictly for counselors and mentors
- If parents and/or students have questions, they should e-mail studentaid@ed.gov

"My Story" PSA – Get the Word Out

- Federal Student Aid continues to provide promotional posters and flyers at www.fsa4counselors.ed.gov
- "My Story" videos posted on the Federal Student Aid Web site for presentation needs
- The PSAs are refreshed annually—using real students with real stories and supporting www.college.gov

