

The logo for NACAC, featuring the letters "NACAC" in white on a blue background with a white swoosh underneath.

**National Association for  
College Admission Counseling**

*Guiding the way to higher education*

# **NACAC Parent Programming**

## ***Step By Step:***

**College Awareness and  
Planning for Families,  
Counselors, and  
Communities**

# Who We Are

## NACAC Mission

The National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) is dedicated to supporting the work of counseling and enrollment professionals as they advance student access to postsecondary education. NACAC is committed to promoting high professional standards that foster ethical and social responsibility.

## About NACAC

- Founded in 1937, is an organization of almost 12,000 professionals from around the world dedicated to serving students as they make choices about pursuing postsecondary education.
- NACAC is committed to maintaining high standards that foster ethical and social responsibility among those involved in the transition process, as outlined in the NACAC Statement of Principles of Good Practices (SPGP).
- A member-directed organization, NACAC is governed by its voting members—an Assembly of delegates elected by voting members in NACAC's state and regional affiliates and by an elected Board of Directors.

## About NACAC

- The strategic leadership and Board's primary purpose is to provide direction on professional policies for NACAC. The association additionally houses 12 standing committees, plus ad hoc committees, which lend their expertise and experience to the issues, programs and governance that keep the association vibrant in its service to members, the profession and students.
- NACAC's award-winning publications and other media resources, professional development programs and practical research efforts have all been designed to give counseling and admission professionals the tools they need to improve the counseling services they provide to students.



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## Affiliates

- 23 State and Regional Affiliates, including:
  - Dakota
  - Great Plains
  - Iowa
  - Illinois
  - Indiana
  - Michigan
  - Minnesota
  - Missouri
  - Pacific Northwest
  - Wisconsin
- Regional education and training, advocacy, networking

[www.nacacnet.org](http://www.nacacnet.org)



### Welcome to NACAC

Login now and see what's new in the community!

[READ MORE](#)



#### NATIONAL CONFERENCE



**NACAC's 68th National Conference**  
October 4-6, 2012  
Denver, Colorado  
The [Call for Proposals](#) is now open!



Thank you for making the [2011 NACAC National Conference in New Orleans](#).

#### NOVEMBER 1 DEADLINE EXTENSION

Due to the winter storm that has affected the northeastern United States and states as far south as West Virginia, many institutions have extended their Early Action or Early Decision application deadlines to accommodate families without electricity or access to the Internet.

If your institution has extended its November 1 deadline, please complete this [survey](#) to update your school's plans.

[View the list](#) of colleges and universities that have extended their deadlines.

#### COLLEGE ADMISSION NEWS

- [Early Admission Returns to Princeton, an](#) [ November 9, 2011 ]
- [Michelle Obama's tips for applying to co](#) [ November 9, 2011 ]
- [Part 3: Answers to Your Questions on App](#) [ November 9, 2011 ]

#### USER LOGIN

Welcome to our Web site!

If you are already an association member or have previously registered, please...

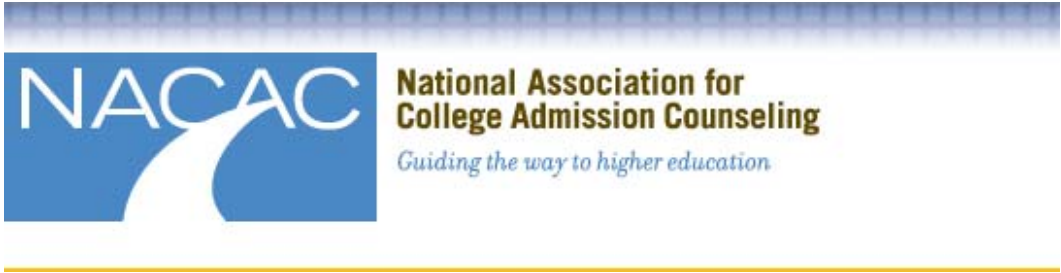
[Log In](#)

**Not registered?**  
[Register here!](#)

[Forgot your Password?](#)

#### NACAC REACHES 12,000-MEMBER MARK

NACAC reached the **12,000 MEMBER-MARK** – a record high for our association! This growth is due, in no small part, to you, our valued and dedicated members. We appreciate your membership and continued support.



www.nacacnet.org

Knowledge Center

www.nacacnet.org/PublicationsResources/KnowledgeCenter/Pages/Welcome.aspx

**Admission**

- » Two Year Transition Issues
- » Four Year Transition Issues
- » Access
- » Admission Policies
- » Advocacy
- » College Admission Criteria
- » College Preparation
- » Diversity
- » Early Awareness
- » Enrollment
- » Financing College
- » International
- » Professional Development
- » Recruiting
- » School Counseling
- » Student Development
- » Student Disciplinary Information
- » Technology
- » Trends
- » Veterans

**Counseling**

- » Two Year Transition Issues
- » Four Year Transition Issues
- » Access
- » Admission Policies
- » Advocacy
- » College Admission Criteria
- » College Preparation
- » Diversity
- » Early Awareness
- » Enrollment
- » Financing College
- » International
- » Professional Development
- » Recruiting
- » School Counseling
- » Student Development
- » Student Disciplinary Information
- » Technology
- » Trends
- » Veterans

**Financing College**

- » Two Year Transition Issues
- » Four Year Transition Issues
- » Access
- » Admission Policies
- » Advocacy
- » College Admission Criteria
- » College Preparation
- » Diversity
- » Early Awareness
- » Enrollment
- » Financing College
- » International
- » Professional Development
- » Recruiting
- » School Counseling
- » Student Development
- » Student Disciplinary Information
- » Technology
- » Trends
- » Veterans

NACACNet > Publications and Resources > Knowledge Center > Knowledge Center

[Print Friendly](#) [f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [e](#)

### Knowledge Center

Questions about running or working in an admission office? Questions about counseling high school students in the transition to college? Look to your colleagues and your association for assistance here. Just follow the appropriate portal below to begin your search!

[Admission](#)

[Counseling](#)

[Financing College](#)

[Professional Ethics](#)

**USER LOGIN**

Welcome to our Web site, Patty!

(If you are not Patty, [click here.](#))

Member Status: Member

[Log Out](#)

[View/Edit My Profile](#)

[Edit Organization Profile](#)

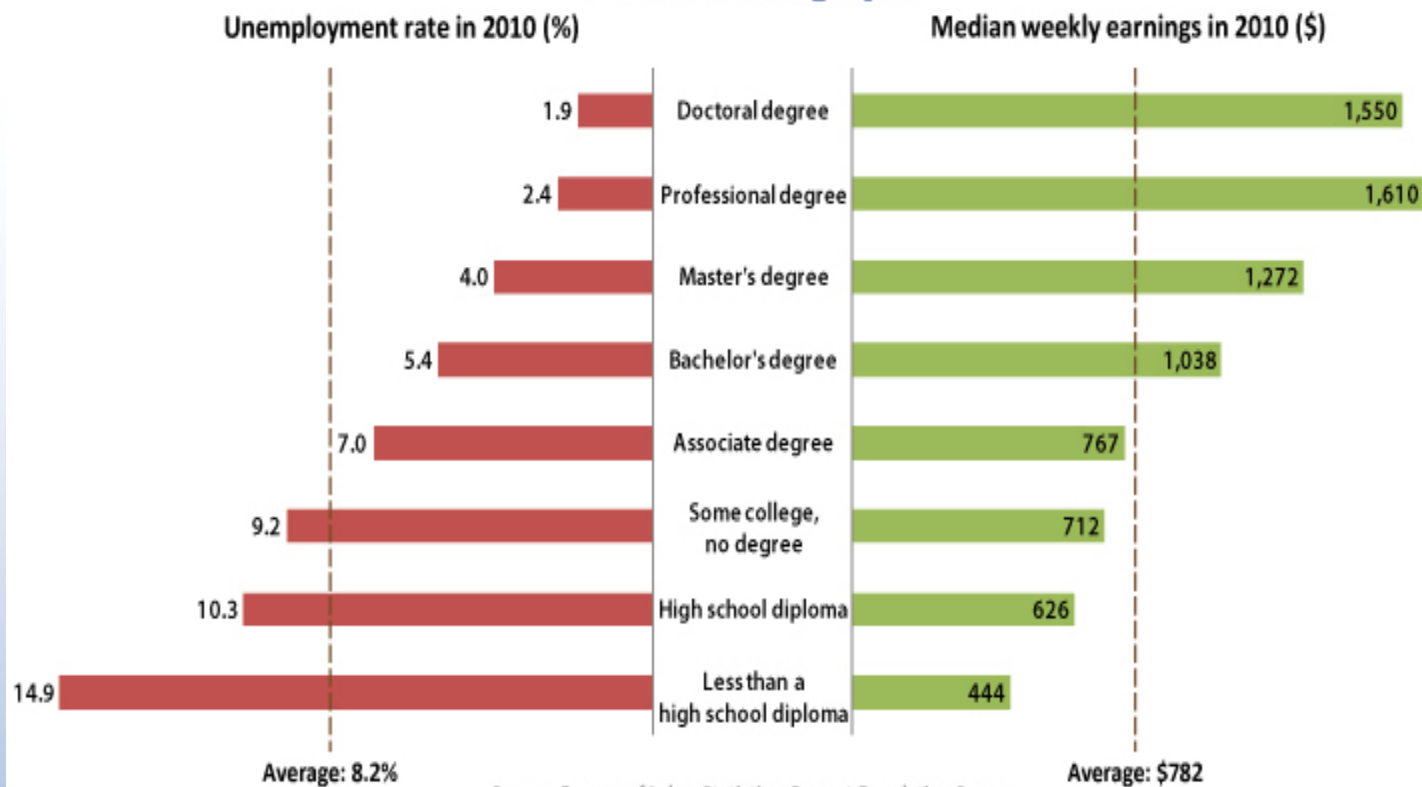
Inbox - Montague... Knowledge Cente... Document1 - Mic... Guiding the Way t...

2:19 PM 11/9/2011



# Is College Still Worth It?

## Education pays:



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey

[http://www.bls.gov/emp/ep\\_chart\\_001.htm](http://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_chart_001.htm)



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## **An Important Policy Issue**

- Despite extensive financial aid expenditures, the gap between low-income and high-income students attending college today is roughly the same as that participation gap in the 1960s.
- Improving academic preparation for college and ensuring affordability, especially for low-income students and students of color, has widespread support from researchers, policymakers, and advocates.

Source: Patricia M. McDonough, *"Counseling and College Counseling in America's High Schools,"* 2005

## Parent / Family Support

- Family and/or parental involvement has been positively linked to several outcomes
  - higher academic achievement
  - sense of well-being
  - school attendance
  - student and family perceptions of school climate
  - student willingness to undertake academic work
  - quantity of parent and student interaction
  - student grades
  - aspirations for higher education
  - and parent satisfaction with teachers

Greenwood & Hickman, 1991

Source: Quoted by Dr. Cheryl Holcomb-McCoy in "Involving low-income parents and parents of color in college readiness activities: an exploratory study," Professional School Counseling, October, 2010

## Parent / Family Support

- Low-income students and students of color (i.e., African American, Latino/Hispanic) fare significantly better in gaining admission to 4-year colleges and universities when their parents are involved in their schooling  
- Wadenya & Lopez, 2008
- 2006 National Assessment of Educational Progress data indicated that a 30-point scale point differential on standardized achievement tests existed between students with involved parents and those students whose parents were not involved  
- Dietel, 2006

Source: Quoted by Dr. Cheryl Holcomb-McCoy in "Involving low-income parents and parents of color in college readiness activities: an exploratory study," Professional School Counseling, October, 2010



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## Parent / Family Support

- Studies have found that if school counselors begin actively supporting and preparing students and their families in middle school for college, as opposed to simply disseminating information, they would increase students' chances of enrolling in a 4-year college
  - Hossler et al., 1999; Plank & Jordan, 2001

Source: Quoted by Dr. Cheryl Holcomb-McCoy in "Involving low-income parents and parents of color in college readiness activities: an exploratory study," Professional School Counseling, October, 2010

## Parent / Family Support

- Family encouragement stimulates students forming college plans by 8th grade in time to take a college preparatory high school curriculum.
- Family support and early educational plans predict students
  - developing and maintaining college aspirations
  - sustaining motivation and academic achievements
  - actual college enrollment.
- Consistent communication among students, parents, and school personnel predicts increased enrollment in college.
- The major need of parents is to have an accurate understanding of college costs and the financial aid system

Source: Patricia M. McDonough, Professor, Higher Education & Organizational Change Vice Chair, Department of Education Co-Director, Educational Leadership Program Graduate School of Education & Information Studies UCLA

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# NACAC Resource

**STEP BY STEP:  
COLLEGE AWARENESS  
AND PLANNING  
FOR FAMILIES, COUNSELORS  
AND COMMUNITIES**

**INCLUDING**

*Middle School Curriculum*

*Early High School Curriculum*

*Late High School Curriculum*

*Parent/Guardian Workshops*

*Financial Aid Parent/Guardian Workshops*

[www.nacacnet.org](http://www.nacacnet.org)

## Background

- Families, Counselors, Communities Together
  - Committee for Inclusion Access and Success (formerly Human Relations Committee) created
  - PACT, 1989
  
- Step-by-Step: College Awareness and Planning
  - Center for Student Opportunity (CSO) and NACAC, particularly Mary Lee Hoganson, Phyllis Gill, and Joan Mudge

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## **Step by Step to College**

- 45-60 minute student centered lesson plans with optional parent sessions
- **Sequential program**
  - middle school students in grades 7 and 8
  - early high school students in grades 9, 10, and first semester grade 11
  - late high school students in the second semester of grade 11 and grade 12

# Parent Workshop Goal

Provide information to parents and guardians that will help them become informed, confident advisors to their children about postsecondary academic options.

**FCCT Powerpoint Presentation:**

- [Building a Foundation for Educational Success](#)
- [Setting the Stage for Dreams to Become Reality](#)
- [Charting a Challenging High School Experience](#)
- [Follow the Road to College](#)
- [Paying for College](#)
- [Guiding the Way to Higher Education Powerpoint Presentation](#)

**NEW! Spanish FCCT Powerpoint Presentation Now Available:**

- [ESENCIAL 1](#): Cómo construir la base del éxito académico
- [ESENCIAL 2](#): Cómo preparar el escenario para que los sueños se hagan realidad
- [ESENCIAL 3](#): Planificación de la escuela secundaria como experiencia desafiante
- [ESENCIAL 4](#): Siga el camino hacia la educación superior
- [ESENCIAL 5](#): Cómo pagar la educación superior

For more information about FCCT, contact [Shanda Ivory](#) at 703-299-6803.

# Parent Workshops

**Most Important – Engage them!**

**Use parents who have been successful  
getting their child to colleg**

**Enlist help of community organizations**

**Food**

**Child Care**

**Do Activities**

# Middle School Parent Workshop

## How to help your child build a foundation for educational success

- Importance of families to student success
- Provide methods of collaboration between families and schools
- Identify how families can take a more active role in student's education
- Importance of supporting home learning environment

# Middle School Parent Workshop

## How to help your child build a foundation for educational success

- Post secondary options
- Setting Goals
- Understanding coursework necessary for college readiness
- Encourage students to dream and set goals
- Keeping a portfolio

# Early High School Parent Workshop

## Charting a Challenging High School Experience

- Postsecondary education
- Educational routes
- Interest, values and abilities as pertains to decision-making
- Enlisting teacher and counselor support
- Types of Financial Aid

# Late High School Parent Workshop

## Follow the Road to College

- College selection and application process
- Parts of the application
- Students' Rights and Responsibilities
- Parent and family role in the college admission process

# Financial Aid Parent Workshop

## Paying for College

- Financial Aid Calendar
- Terminology
- Assessing need
- Types of financial aid

## Examples of Use of Materials

- Minnesota ACAC
- Illinois ACAC
- Emory Exito Program
- Southern ACAC Mini Camp Colleges
- Baltimore City Schools

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# The Great Sorting Game

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