



## Save the Date - 2014 High School Counselor Webcast

The date has been set for the High School Counselor Webcast. High school counselors and college access professionals are encouraged to attend a college site near you on Friday, October 17, 2014, from approximately 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. A list of the college host sites will be announced later this year in our newsletter and on our Web site. Questions may be directed to Patty Hill at [hillp@michigan.gov](mailto:hillp@michigan.gov) or 517-373-6051.

## Data Agreement - FAFSA Completion Initiative and TIP Information

The U.S. Department of Education has issued a formal process regarding the President's Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Completion Initiative. This new process regulates how state student grant agencies may share specific limited information about FAFSA completion with high schools, school districts, and "designated entities." SSG mailed a letter to Michigan high school principals with the data agreement that needs to be completed.

The Data Use Agreement must be signed

SSG e-newsletter: Affording College in Michigan | May 2014

### High School Demographics

Due to changes that take place with high school demographics (e.g., closing, merging, contact changes), we want to remind high school contacts how important it is that we be notified of changes to your ACT code, as well as school contact and address changes. We use this information to let you know which of your graduating students are eligible for state aid. Please contact Marion Seelman at [seelmanm@michigan.gov](mailto:seelmanm@michigan.gov) or 517-241-3106.

### White House Launches "¡Gradúate!" Financial Aid Guide to Support Hispanic Students

The White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics (WHIEEH) has [announced](#) the release of [¡Gradúate! A Financial Aid Guide to Success](#) to help support Hispanic students in their efforts to enroll and afford a postsecondary education.

The guide, available in both English and Spanish, includes recommendations on how to prepare a college application, helpful tips on how to choose the right college, and types of financing options, including resources for students granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and non-U.S. citizen students.

The effort is part of the Obama Administration's "2020 Goal" that America will once again have the highest proportion of college graduates in the world by the year 2020. College access among Hispanics has been identified as a key issue in support of this goal. The U.S. Department of Education notes that,

by the high school principal, and if applicable, an appointed designee. Please note that the principal must be listed first and sign on the Designated Signatory line. The designee may then be listed in the second section. SSG cannot provide a high school with any FAFSA or Tuition Incentive Program (TIP) student information until the agreement has been signed and returned.

Although SSG values our partnership with the Michigan College Access Network (MCAN) and its Local College Access Networks (LCAN), per new regulations, an LCAN coordinator cannot be considered a designee unless they are employed by your high school or Intermediate School District (ISD). Non-school employees may neither request nor view student-level data.

## Update to the *State Program Procedures Manual*

An update was made to the [State Program Procedures Manual](#) to provide clarification on certificate programs. Certificate programs must be a minimum of one year and eligible programs are at least 30 semester credit hours or 45 term hours. As a reminder, this manual can be found under the Forms and Publications section at [www.michigan.gov/ssg](http://www.michigan.gov/ssg).

## 2014 Michigan Teen Conference

Do you know youth in Foster Care or Independent Living who need to learn about money management, employment, educational opportunities, healthy relationships, or housing? If you do, please encourage them to attend the [2014 Michigan Teen Conference](#). Youth must be ages 14 to 21 and in Foster Care or Independent Living. SSG will be at the conference to help inform teens about SSG

despite recent gains in Latino access and success, only 15 percent of adults hold a bachelor's degree. A significant barrier to Hispanic postsecondary attainment is a financial one.

For more information, visit the U.S. Department of Education's new [online resource page](#) designed to help the immigrant community navigate the United States educational system.

## School Counselor Postsecondary Training Course

We would like to congratulate the high school counselors who participated in the Postsecondary Planning and College Advising course sponsored by MCAN. Efforts in this area are the result of the 2011 and 2012 National Survey of School Counselors published by the National Office for School Counselor Advocacy (NOSCA). The surveys were made possible by funding from the Kresge Foundation. The survey provided overwhelming evidence that more training is needed in the area of college and career counseling. Counselors were awarded an MCAN endorsed Certificate in Postsecondary Planning and College Advising on May 12 at the completion ceremony following an eight month online course.

## Scholarship Information

When searching for scholarships, remember to check local sources including high schools, local civic groups, and businesses. Start searching early, during your junior year of high school. For advice on scholarships, refer to the [Affording College in Michigan - Guidebook for Students and Families](#).

## SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

### Men of Principle Scholarship

The [Men of Principle Scholarship](#) through Beta Theta Pi is awarded to non-greek male students attending Michigan State University, University of Michigan, Central Michigan University, and Kettering University. The scholarship offers \$3,000 to reward men who demonstrate devotion to intellectual growth and a commitment to making both the university and community better places to live.

## GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT

### Help Your Students Develop Grit

The nonprofit EduGuide program builds students'

programs, including TIP.

## College App Map

The College App Map is a great resource to find apps to support, inform, and coach you to and through college. The map shows the tasks or “steps” you have to achieve each year in high school and college to stay on the path to success. Next to each step, you’ll find the name of an app that helps you achieve that step. The College App Map is at <http://collegeappmap.org/>.

grit and other core learning skills to improve academic behaviors and achievement. A new matching grant covers half the cost of the evidence-based program for a limited number of schools. Learn more at [edugui.de/getagrnt](http://edugui.de/getagrnt).

If your organization has a scholarship or grant you would like SSG to promote to students and families, please send an email to [prices4@michigan.gov](mailto:prices4@michigan.gov).