

01

JANUARY
2011

Higher Ed *Connection*

A community outreach service provided by Higher Education Servicing Corp.



Who We Are

Founded in 1978 as private, non-profit sister organizations, North Texas Higher Education Authority, Inc. (NTHEA) and Higher Education Servicing Corporation (HESC) have worked persistently to ensure student access to higher education by assisting lenders throughout Texas to provide billions of dollars in loans through the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP), donating hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of scholarships to schools, providing industry leading repayment benefits to borrowers, and, over the last decade, administering over 600 college preparation and financial literacy outreach programs to more than 100,000 students and parents throughout Texas. See "Our Services" to learn more about our future goals, the expansion of our outreach

this issue

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Discover the FAFSA: The ticket to financial aid¹

Courtesy of Adventures in Education

Going to college is widely regarded as one of the best decisions you can make.

A college education can help open doors to an exciting career and increase your earning potential. Recent Bureau of Labor statistics show that people who earn a bachelor's degree earn on average about \$20,000 more each year compared to people who did not get more education after graduating high school. That's partly because the best paying and fastest growing jobs today require a college degree.

But how to pay for college? That's a real challenge and for many students, financial aid is a necessity. The good news is that financial aid is available to everyone, whether in the form of grants, loans, or work-study programs, to help you pay for your college education.

Where to begin? With the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), otherwise known as "The Form You Prepare So That Schools Can Determine Your Need For Student Financial Aid."

[CLICK HERE TO CONTINUE](#)

Additional Articles of Interest

Report Shows High School Graduates enter College Unprepared

Courtesy of eSchool News

Reasons Why Students Do Not File the FAFSA

Courtesy of Mark Kantrowitz, Publisher of Fastweb.com & FinAid.org

Next Generation Learning²

Courtesy of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Proposed State Budget Cuts would hit North Texas Hard³

Courtesy of the Star Telegram

Colleges Accept Video Essays to Connect with Students

Courtesy of eCampus News

"the great thing is that it's going to spark a dialogue and focus on the actual learning issue"

College Students Not Learning Much

Courtesy of MSNBC.com

services and how we can help you and your school.

OUR MOTTO

Inspiring students to achieve a higher education by promoting a college-going culture through educational outreach activities, services and community partnerships.

CONTACT INFO

If you have questions about any of our services or would like to schedule an event with us, please feel free to contact Phillip Wambsganss at (817) 265-9158 ext. 4160 or by email at phillipw@nthea.com.

Counselor Connect

We want your feedback! Is

Our Services

Committed to supporting students in their goal of attaining a higher education

By offering an array of educational outreach services we look to significantly expand the number of students and parents we serve each year and help develop a more prepared cohort of college ready students. The list below outlines all of our current outreach programs.

- College Prep Programs catered to the specific needs of sophomores, juniors and seniors
- Step-by-Step FAFSA Presentations
- Lunch & Learn Presentations on a variety of topics, such as Testing, Admissions, and Financial Aid - just to name a few
- Financial Literacy Programs
- High School Counselor Training
- Sponsorship and Support of local area high school GO Centers

Feel free to [contact us](#) if you would like to know more about any of our programs or if you would like to book us for your next event or even have us host a program for your students!



there an article you've recently read that you'd like to see in our next newsletter? Or some news that you believe other counselors in the area would benefit from? Send us an [email](#) with all of the details and we may just use it in our March 2011 newsletter!

SPREAD THE WORD

Is there someone you know that could benefit from this newsletter? If so, [let us know](#) and we'll add them to our list of recipients.

Supporting the
GENERATION



Calendar of Events

Upcoming Presentations & Events⁴

Feb 1
TUE **Arlington High School**
FAFSA Presentation
7:00 pm

Feb 7
MON **Mount Olive Baptist Church**
FAFSA Presentation
7:00 pm

Feb 8
TUE **Sam Houston High School**
FAFSA Presentation
6:00 pm

Feb 15
TUE **Martin High School**
FAFSA Hands-on Workshop
Time TBD

Feb 16
WED **Mesquite High School**
FAFSA Presentation
7:00 pm

Mar 8
TUE **Sam Houston High School**
FAFSA Presentation
6:00 pm

Monthly Mentions

January 2011

- Make sure students are completing their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible! They should also remember to submit any other financial aid applications their college of interest may require. (Note: you don't have to be accepted to apply for aid.)
- If students have applied for regular decision, have them contact those schools to make sure they received everything.

February 2011

- Have your juniors schedule Spring [SAT](#) and/or [ACT](#) tests.
- Many priority financial aid deadlines fall in February. Make sure your students are in contact with the financial aid offices at their schools and have applied by the priority date to get the most attractive award package. They should also keep copies of everything they send in.



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