

The Guidance and Counseling Services Digest is used to transmit information pertaining to the four program components of the Missouri Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Program: Curriculum; Individual Planning; Responsive Services; and System Support to professional school counselors, school administrators and staff at all levels and other interested personnel throughout the state.

Announcements

February is Career and Technical Education Month!

Missouri Career Education combines academics and occupational skill training to prepare students of all ages. A blend of academics and high-skill occupational training provides students with the knowledge they need to succeed in postsecondary education, the workplace and life. Go to http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/documents/MCE_fact_sheet.pdf to see information about Career Education in Missouri.

Guidance System of Support (GSOS) – K-8 Registration now available

Go to **Spring GSOS Registration** for information, dates, and to register for your K-8 curriculum development consortium GSOS meeting. Meetings are beginning in mid-February. The focus is on sharing your best practices and learning with your peers. Multiple curriculum resources will also be provided. Join the meeting and continue to build this professional development process.

Program Components

From time to time, resources that are brought to our attention through ASCA list-serves or other means that could be used as part of a comprehensive guidance and counseling program will be listed here. The readers are encouraged to investigate the resources and decide whether or not they are appropriate for their programs. Listing of these resources does not constitute endorsement by either the Guidance and Counseling Services Section or DESE.

CURRICULUM

Missouri Connections New Curriculum

MissouriConnections.org has added more lesson plans! Check the Tools for Counselors and Teachers. Also explore “My Career Plan” for excellent career education units and activities. Contact Tom Schlimpert at tom.schlimpert@dese.mo.gov or Jackie Colman at jcoleman@motrainer.com for support.

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Federal Student Aid Information For Counselors

The Department of Education has developed an online source of information to help students and parents plan and prepare for college, career and trade school. To see this site and what it has to offer, go to **Federal Student Aid Information**.

NASA Opportunity for Female High School Juniors

WISH. Women In STEM High School Aerospace Scholars

Engineer your dream job! Your adventure begins in 2012 with an online community and culminates with a summer experience at NASA Johnson Space Center in Summer 2012. Collaborate with girls from across the country and female NASA engineers and interns. For specific project information, visit <http://wish.aerospacescholars.org>. Apply before February 22, 2012.

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

Resource For Drug And Alcohol Use Prevention

The Department of Mental Health- Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse has 11 Regional Support Centers across the state with a variety of free services and materials to help educate your students about drug and alcohol use. Pick up brochures and pamphlets for your office; get a speaker for your next assembly; or get advice on funding ideas for future projects. Find your Regional Support Center here:

<http://www.actmissouri.org/getinvolved.asp>

Upcoming Signs Of Suicide Training scheduled

The training will be hosted by CHADS Coalition for Mental Health in St. Louis on March 16th. The training itself is free and welcome to all Missouri/Illinois/Kansas Counselors, Social Workers, Nurses, Health Teachers, Administrators, etc of private, parochial and public schools. To see more information, or to register, go to **CHADS Coalition SOS Training**.

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Guidance e-Learning Center

The Guidance e-Learning center contains information that will help you as you go through the process of evaluating your comprehensive guidance and counseling program. Evaluation is a process that includes program evaluation, personnel evaluation and results evaluation. To learn more about each part of the process, go to **Guidance and Counseling Program Evaluation**

Journal Submissions Sought

MSCA's *The Counseling Interviewer* is starting to gather articles for the spring and summer editions. Each of these journals will be eclectic, so if you have something you might want to submit, please consider doing so. Some ideas are:

Research papers
Best practices
Lesson ideas

Commentary or study on a topic about
which **you're concerned / interested**

Submission deadlines are March 15 for the spring journal and June 15 for the summer journal.

To submit articles or if you have questions, contact Judi Knipmeyer at jknipmeyer@bssd.net

Introducing the 2012 National Financial Capability Challenge

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of the Treasury in partnership with the U.S. Department of Education, the National Financial Capability Challenge is a free, voluntary, online series of financial questions for high school students to check their knowledge of earning, spending, saving, borrowing, risk protection, and more. All high school educators are encouraged to sign up to administer the Challenge to their students and to help spread the word to other high school educators across the nation. To see more information, go to <http://challenge.treas.gov/>

Lunch and Learn Webinar: The Effective Use of Calendaring in Implementing your Guidance and Counseling Program

The webinar will be held on Wednesday, February 22nd from 11:30-12:30

Join Susan Perkins elementary counselor in Columbia Public Schools, Matthew Herrin and Michael Sanchez, high school and middle school counselors in the Willard School District, as they share how they use calendaring to effectively implement their guidance and counseling program. The webinar is being sponsored by the Guidance and Counseling Section of the Office of College and Career Readiness, Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. For Further information about the webinar and how to sign on, visit: <http://dese.mo.gov/webinar/Webinar02-22-12-CCR.htm>. We hope you will join us on February 22nd.

Conferences and Workshops

National School Counseling Week is next week: Feb. 6-10, 2012

National School Counseling Week 2012, "School Counselors: Helping Students Be Brilliant," will be celebrated from Feb. 6-10, 2012, to focus public attention on the unique contribution of professional school counselors within U.S. school systems. To help you promote the week, ASCA has developed many materials and documents, a number of which are free. Place your [order online](#), or download an [order form](#) to fax in.

FAFSA Frenzy scheduled this month

FAFSA Frenzy is offered in to assist students and families in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA is the primary application used by federal, state, and institutional financial assistance entities in determining an individual's eligibility for grants, loans, work-study, and scholarships.

Missouri's standard event date and time is Sunday, February 12, 2012, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. An official inclement weather date has been set for Sunday, February 19, 2012 (same time). Additional events have been scheduled for alternate dates and times during the months of January, February and March. To see a complete list of sites dates and times, go to <http://www.dhe.mo.gov/ppc/ffsites.php>

Missouri School Counselor Association (MSCA) Spring Conference

The Conference will be held on Friday, March 2, 2012 at the Truman Hotel & Convention Center, Jefferson City, MO. The title of the conference is **Foundations of Disaster Mental Health**.

To learn more about the conference or to download a registration form and, if an MSCA member, receive an "early bird discount", go to [Spring Conference](#).

Third Missouri College Access Conference Scheduled

FOCUS ON MISSOURI 2012: CONNECTING POLICY, PRACTICE AND RESEARCH will be held at Stoney Creek Inn and Conference Center on March 7, 2012. The hotel is located at 2601 South Providence Road | Columbia, MO 65203 on-line registration is available. This is a free conference. To see more information about it and register on-line go to <http://www.muconf.missouri.edu/focusonmissouri/>.

Missouri ACT State Organization 2012 Annual Conference scheduled

The conference will be held on Thursday March 8, 2012 at the Stoney Creek Inn in Columbia, Mo. The deadline for room reservations is February 7, 2012 and the conference registration deadline is February 27, 2012. For registration and conference information, go to [Missouri ACT Conference](#).

Missouri Career Development Association (MoCDA) workshop scheduled

The workshop, **Career Development to Type: Customizing the Career Counseling Experience for Students and Clients** will be held on Friday, March 23rd; 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at Webster University, St. Louis, MO: 470 E. Lockwood Avenue, St. Louis MO, 63119. For more information or to register, go to [MoCDA Workshop](#)

New Counselor Institute (NCI) to be offered again in 2012

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Missouri Center for Career Education will again offer the New Counselor Institute (NCI) in conjunction with the New Teacher Institute (NTI) and the MoACTE summer Conference. Tentative dates for NCI are July 20-26 2012 at the University Plaza Hotel in Springfield, Mo. **Note:** NCI is designed for counselors with a TAC or provisional certification. Registration forms, teacher leader applications, and other materials for New Teacher Institute and New Counselor Institute will be available on the MCCE website February 1, 2012.

For additional information, contact:

- Bragg Stanley, bragg.stanley@dese.mo.gov or 573-751-0857
- Larae Watkins, lwatkins@ucmo.edu or 660-543-8768
- Lacey Fisher, lfischer@ucmo.edu or 660-543-8524

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. Inquiries related to Department programs and to the location of services, activities, and facilities that are accessible by persons with disabilities may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI/Title IX/504/ADA/Age Act), 205 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480; telephone number 573-526-4757 or Relay Missouri 800-735-2966.