

Guidance and Counseling Services **DIGEST**

Vol. 10, No 11.

Please forward this Digest to your colleagues.

January 4, 2013

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.

The Guidance and Counseling Services Staff:

Bragg, Tom, John and Loree'

573-751-4383

Announcements

MSIP5 - Spring Guidance System of Support (GSOS) Meetings

Dates and times are currently being developed for the spring GSOS meetings that will focus on MSIP 5. Participate in this free professional development opportunity to understand the MSIP5 expectations for guidance and counseling programs and collaboratively review the MSIP5 Guidance and Counseling Checklist.

Click on [GSOS](#) for more information, all past GSOS materials, and to contact your regional Career Education Coordinator (CEC).

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

Supplemental Guidance and Counseling Lessons

A collection of selected updated lessons from "The Box," a collection of guidance and counseling lessons released for Missouri professional school counselors in 1998 is now available on the Guidance and Counseling e-Learning Center. These lessons can function as a supplement to existing sample units. To access these lessons, go to [Supplemental Lessons](#)

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Missouri Connections

Winter is a great time to develop career skills! Use the enhanced "Job Search" and "Keep That Job" features inside Missouri Connections along with the resume builder in the Portfolio section to help your students understand what it takes to secure a job.

For customized training and individual technical support contact Jackie Coleman at jcoleman@motrainer.com or 573-634-0043.

For program administration and curriculum questions contact Tom Schlimpert at Tom.schlimpert@dese.mo.gov or 573-751-6875

Paying for College

[Paying for College](#), is a free online event on January 10, 2013 from 1 pm – 9 pm CST to help students decide the best way to pay for college. Login from 1 to 9 pm CST, Thursday, January 10, 2013 to live chat with admissions officers of 200+ colleges and financial aid experts from the US Department of Education to learn how to:

- Uncover the best scholarship opportunities online
- Understand the difference between private and public scholarships
- Access financial aid programs
- Bonus! Those who visit three colleges during the event will be automatically entered to win the \$2,500 Time is Money Scholarship!

[Sign up Now!](#)

Embedded custom registration link:

http://www.collegeweeklive.com/en_CA/br/Paying_For_College/refcode=NGO_DOE_STATE_WEB_P4C2013

Bit.ly version of registration link: <http://bit.ly/VzID4s>

Please contact the following if you have any questions:

Elana Moushigian, High School Partnership Specialist

[CollegeWeekLive](#), P: 617-938-6083, E: emoushigian@collegeweeklive.com

Postsecondary options for students to consider:

A. Some students may not want to go to school for a four year degree. A recent article listed seven associate degree areas that are seen as having hot job prospects. To see the article, go to [7-Valuable-Associate-Degrees](#)

B. For students who aren't interested in pursuing higher education or don't have the money for it, there are careers that provide on-the-job training. Some require a high school diploma or an equivalent level of schooling. To see some examples of those careers, go to [On-the-Job Training](#)

C. Registered Apprenticeships offer another post secondary option for students seeking careers. To see a brochure designed specifically for counselors that explains more about Registered Apprenticeships, go to <http://missouriapprenticeship.com/PDF/GuidanceCounselorOne.pdf>

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

Disaster Distress Helpline

The **Disaster Distress Helpline (DDH)** is the first national hotline dedicated to providing year-round disaster crisis counseling. This toll-free, multilingual, crisis support service is available 24/7 via telephone (1-800-985-5990) and SMS (text 'TalkWithUs' to 66746) to residents in the U.S. and its territories who are experiencing emotional distress related to natural or man-made disasters.

Callers and texters are connected to trained and caring professionals from the closest crisis counseling center in the network. Helpline staff provides counseling and support, including information on common stress reactions and healthy coping, as well as referrals to local disaster-related resources for follow-up care and support. Visit the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) website at <http://www.disasterdistress.samhsa.gov/> for additional information and resources, including some specifically prepared for educators, related to disaster behavioral health.

Speak Hard Registration

Registration is now open for the Speak Hard Youth Conference, sponsored by ACT Missouri, a private not-for-profit corporation established in 1991 to promote drug and alcohol awareness throughout Missouri. The one-day training will be in Jefferson City and will help the youth attending to learn ways to keep their communities substance free. Youth will take part in both adult and peer-lead presentations in the morning, followed by an afternoon at the Capitol meeting with their legislators. Youth from across Missouri will also be recognized for their outstanding community work. For more information or to bring a group from your school, visit: www.actmissouri.org

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Free Homework Help for Military Children

Tutor.com for U.S. Military Families (www.tutor.com/military) provides free, personalized 24/7 online academic support to military-connected children. This Department of Defense-funded program is provided at no cost to grades K-12 children in National Guard, Reserve and Active Duty military families, regardless of the service member's deployment status.

Any eligible military-connected student can use Tutor.com to work online one-to-one with a live tutor at any time for help with homework, studying, test prep, proofreading, essay writing and more—no appointment needed. More than 2,500 carefully screened, expert tutors are available to help students in all core K-12 subjects, including algebra, geometry, calculus, physics, earth science, world history and literature.

National School Counseling Week is approaching!

The week will be celebrated from Feb. 4-8, 2013, to focus public attention on the unique contribution of professional school counselors within U.S. school systems. To help promote the week, the American School Counseling Association (ASCA) has developed many materials and documents, a number of which are free. Order your materials by Jan. 25, 2013, to ensure they arrive in time for National School Counseling Week. To order, go to [School Counselor Week](#). You can also download an order form to fax in by going to [Fax Order Form](#).

Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission

The Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC³) recently held its 2012 Annual Meeting. Pursuant to state law, Section 160.2000 RSMo, Missouri is a member of this Commission. The purpose of this Compact is to remove barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families because of frequent moves and deployment of their parents. **At this year's meeting**, MIC³ amended Rule 3.102(b) defining "Kindergarten enrollment." This amendment became effective November 16, 2012. To see the full text of all the rules, go to [MIC3 Commission Rules](#)

Conferences and Workshops

MSCA Spring Conference will be held **on March 1, 2013** at Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City. To see more information about the conference as it becomes available, go to <http://www.moschoolcounselor.org/>

Webinar—Introduction to the Advanced Placement (AP) Program on Wednesday, February 13th 3:30 to 4:30 PM

More information will be sent out when it becomes available.

Save The Date For Military Career Pathways 101!

As of now, Military Career Pathways 101 (MCP 101) is scheduled for June 17-19 2013. We should know in January or February of 2013 if MCP101 has been approved. If it is approved, we will let interested personnel know what they will need to do in order to participate.

Missouri ACTE Summer Conference and Career and Technical Education Workshops

will be held on **Monday July 22, 2013 - Thursday, July 25, 2013** in Springfield, MO

To see more information as it becomes available, go to <http://www.mo-acte.org/>

It is the policy of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, or disability in its programs or employment practices as required by Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. 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, Office of the General Counsel, Coordinator—Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI/Title IX/504/ADA/Age Act), 6th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, P.O. Box 480, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480; telephone number (573) 526-4757 or TTY (800) 735-2966, fax (573) 522-4883, email civilrights@dese.mo.gov.

Guidance and Counseling Services

DIGEST



Vol. 10, No.12

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Jan 18, 2013

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MSIP 5 is designed to focus on student performance. Attend your Spring GSOS meeting to understand the changes and expectations MSIP 5 will have for guidance and counseling programs. Check out [Spring GSOS Information](#) for the program overview, regional meeting dates, locations, and registration information.

Click on [GSOS](#) for all past GSOS materials and to contact your regional Career Education Coordinator (CEC).

Program Components

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CURRICULUM

Student Career Planning Materials

The Missouri Center for Career Education is currently in the process of reviewing and updating the print career development materials that they provide.

At this time, Career Clusters publications are available primarily via download. Bulk orders for the Career Clusters tri folds, tabloids, and hexagon posters will continue to be accepted. They will allow shipment to multiple addresses for bulk orders; just contact them at 660-543-8206 for information on how to provide multiple delivery addresses.

All of the print materials and posters remain available for download from the MCCE website at www.missouricareereducation.org/for/content/career

They are developing new materials to be available for purchase in 2013.

If you would like to preview materials in development or recommend content for future posters or student publications, you may provide feedback or contact information through the following link:

www.mcce.org/pubsurvey

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Recommendations on Recruiting

This document contains suggestions for both schools and armed services recruiters about how to ensure that students have the opportunity to pursue a career in the military if that is their choice. The document has been updated and has just been posted on the Guidance and Counseling eLearning Center at: <http://www.missouricareereducation.org/project/individualplan>

Scholarship Notice

The Missouri Gaming Association, the statewide professional association of the Missouri casino industry, will award two \$1,500 scholarships and four \$1,000 scholarships through the 17th annual Project 21 Scholarship competition.

The goal of Project 21 is to promote awareness among our youth that it is not permissible in Missouri for persons under the age of 21 to gamble in a casino and to also educate them about the dangers and consequences associated with underage gambling. The competition is open to all Missouri high school seniors planning to attend an institution of higher education in the United States within four years of graduation.

Students are asked to create an essay, poster or video aimed at educating their peers about the illegality and dangers of underage gambling. The entries **must be published or viewed in the students' high schools** in January or February of the contest year to help educate other students. A copy of the contest application and guidelines is available at www.missouricasinos.org.

Missouri Connections

The funding for Missouri Connections appears to be solid. It is not tied to the Missouri Center for Career Education (MCCE) and will not be impacted by the changes MCCE will be experiencing at the end of this year. Missouri Connections continues to grow in use! Keep up the good work! Usage data:

	<u>7/1/12-1/15/13</u>	<u>7/1/11 – 1/15/12</u>
Total sites =	1723	
Portfolios created =	86,414	79,927
Total log-ins =	471,287	455,171

FAFSA Frenzy to begin next month

The Missouri Department of Higher Education wants to remind you about the 2013 FAFSA Frenzy that will be held across the state beginning in February. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (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.

FAFSA Frenzy is designed to assist Missouri's students and families in submitting their 2013-2014 application. To see more about this including sites where the event will be held, go to [FAFSA](#)

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

Webinar Series on Reducing Underage Drinking

While recent national surveys indicate that as a nation we are making progress in reducing underage drinking, rates remain far too high -- making the prevention of underage drinking critical to keeping students safe and healthy. Registration is free and unlimited. The first webinar, "Preventing Underage Drinking: Introduction and Series Overview" **will be** on January 30, 2013, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. CST. To see more about this or to register for the webinar, go to

<https://www.stopalcoholabuse.gov/default.aspx>

School-wide Crisis Planning Guide Available

Events of the last few weeks have accentuated the value of planning for school-wide crises and critical incidents. A guide to help in that planning is available on the Guidance and Counseling eLearning center at [Crisis Planning](#)

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Mark Your Calendar: Lunch and Learn Webinar:

“Improving the Culture of Assessment Through School Counselor Leadership” will be held on Tuesday, February 19th from 11:00-12:30

Join Jeff Backe, school counselor at Stover for an informative session on guidance and counseling’s role in improving student achievement through the effective use of data. This will be similar to his presentation at MSCA this past fall which was very well received and Jeff has agreed to do a webinar for all school counselors and administrators. We hope you will join us for this session of our Lunch and Learn Series. Additional information including the link to the webinar will be sent out later.

Advanced Notice!! New version of electronic Time/Task Analysis coming

The purpose of a time/task analysis is to obtain a representative sample of counselor time spent in carrying out the comprehensive guidance and counseling program. The data is then used to determine the extent to which time is appropriately divided between the components of the school’s comprehensive guidance and counseling program. In order to fully implement the comprehensive guidance and counseling program, a time/task analysis needs to be conducted periodically throughout the school year. A new electronic version that will assist in both conducting the data gathering and analyzing that data is being developed, has been shared with our State Advisory Council and, after a few more revisions will be posted on the Guidance and Counseling eLearning Center. We expect to have this completed in the near future and will send out word when it is available for use.

February is Career and Technical Education Month

The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) has suggestions and materials to help in promoting education that prepares our youth and adults for the future workforce. To learn more, go to [Career and Technical Education Month](#)

Conferences and Workshops

Missouri ACT State Organization 2013 Annual Conference

The conference will be held on **Thursday, February 21, 2013** at the Stoney Creek Inn in Columbia. To see more about the conference or to register, go to [ACT State Conference](#)

Save the Date: Webinar—Introduction to the Advanced Placement (AP) Program on Wednesday, February 13th 3:30 to 4:30 PM (More information to come)

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Guidance and Counseling Services

DIGEST



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CURRICULUM

A Reminder: Supplemental Guidance and Counseling Lessons

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INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Scholarship Opportunities

A. The Missouri Society of Professional Surveyors Robert V. Pirrie Memorial Scholarship
This group has informed us of this scholarship opportunity to encourage students going to college to major in land surveying or a land surveying related field. To access the application and see more about this, go to [Surveyor Scholarship](#)

B. [Missouri State Envirothon Committee Mary Burt Scholarship](#)

Envirothon is a hands-on science-based natural resource program and competition for high school students. Missouri has seven regional Envirothon competitions each year and one state competition.

The organization offers a \$250 college scholarship to any high school senior who has participated in the Envirothon at any level. There are approximately 500 to 600 Missouri students who participate each year. Follow this link to the scholarship site: <http://www.moenvirothon.org/MaryBurtScholarship.htm>

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

Instructors needed (Sent on behalf of Department of Mental Health)

President Obama and Governor Nixon recently recognized Mental Health First Aid for Youth (MHFA-Y) as an important tool to assist adults in recognizing and supporting youths age 12-18 who may be experiencing a mental health problem or crisis. This new program will be available in Missouri starting in March. The Missouri Department of Mental Health and the Missouri Institute for Mental Health are seeking individuals who are interested in becoming MHFA-Y instructors who will offer the 8 hour training to their colleagues, friends and associates who work with youth.

For more information, including the application to become an instructor and some limited scholarship opportunities, please visit the MHFA Missouri website. It can be reached through www.dmh.mo.gov or <http://missouridmh.typepad.com/mhfamissouri>.

The State of Mental Health Among U.S. Adolescents

Research shows that approximately one in five adolescents has a diagnosable mental health disorder, a leading cause of disability among this age group. Child Trends has issued three briefs in its *Adolescent Health Highlights* series focusing on adolescent mental health:

The [Mental Health Disorders](#) brief presents the warning signs of mental disorders; describes the types of mental disorders and their prevalence and trends; discusses the consequences and risk of mental disorders; presents treatment options and barriers to accessing mental health care; and provides mental health resources.

The [Access to Mental Health Care](#) brief describes barriers to treatment of adolescent mental health disorders; discusses the connection between insurance status and access to mental health treatment; and explains funding for adolescent mental health services.

The [Positive Mental Health: Resilience](#) brief presents key research findings on characteristics that are associated with resilience; describes program strategies that promote resilience; discusses links between resilience and avoidance of risk-taking behaviors; and provides helpful resources on the topic of resilience.

Program to start in March

Missouri's Youth/Adult Alliance (MYAA) will begin accepting applications for the 2013/2014 Youth Ambassador Program in March. This talented group of students comes from all over the state to train, learn, and share ideas about how to prevent substance abuse in their community. If you have a student that would benefit from this opportunity, get the full application at: www.actmissouri.org

SYSTEM SUPPORT

New on Guidance and Counseling e-Learning Center

A link to some research articles that support the idea that guidance and counseling has a positive impact on students and outcomes has been added to the e-Learning center. To access this, go to <http://www.missouricareereducation.org/for/content/guidance/> and click on Research on the left menu.

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“Improving the Culture of Assessment Through School Counselor Leadership” will be held on Tuesday, February 19th from 11:00-12:30

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Newsletter still available

The January newsletter for the Missouri Center for Education Safety (MOCES) is still available. To see it, go to [MOCES Newsletter](#)

Does training for crises work?

Francisco M. Negrón Jr., the National School Boards Association's General Counsel, praised the response of school officials in the Newtown, Connecticut, school shootings last month and gives advice for other school districts in a commentary for *Education Week*. To see it, go to http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/transforming_learning/2013/01/school_preparedness_matters.html

Conferences and Workshops

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MSCA Spring Conference will be held on **March 1, 2013** at Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City. There is a different format this year. To see more information about the conference, go to [Spring Conference](#)

New-MOACAC Conference Scheduled

The Missouri Association of College Admission Counseling (MOACAC), a non-profit organization consisting of admissions professionals, high school counselors, and educational organizations, will be holding its annual conference on **April 29-30, 2013** at the Sheraton Westport Lakeside Chalet in Westport Plaza, St. Louis, MO. Session proposals are being accepted until March 1. To see more about this conference, go to <http://www.moacac.org/conferences>

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Announcements

Save the Date!! New Counselor Institute (NCI) to be offered in July, 2013

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will be offering the New Counselor Institute (NCI) in July. **Dates** are **July 14-17 2013** at the Truman Hotel and Conference Center in Jefferson City, Mo.

NCI participants receive high-quality instruction and support from experienced counselors and state department personnel that focuses on implementing guidance and counseling programs in the school, delivering guidance lessons, and working with other professionals in the schools.

Note: Although designed for school counselors with TAC or Provisional certification, recent graduates and those with a year or two of experience have found it to be a worthwhile opportunity for their own professional growth. Preference is given to counselors with the TAC, but others may apply and will be accommodated on a space available basis. **More information will be sent out as it becomes available.**

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CURRICULUM

Universal Encouragement Program – UEP

UEP is a web-based student needs assessment program that is available, free of charge, to all schools through Missouri Connections! To learn about the program, go to www.capenetwork.grouppsite.com/calendar to review the upcoming webinars. The state UEP pilot program is going extremely well! Thanks to all that are participating in this student data needs survey program!

For more information, contact Tom Schlimpert at tom.schlimpert@dese.mo.gov or 573-751-6875.

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Missouri Connections - Request for Example Form

If you have an example of a **Personal Plan of Study template** that includes a line for parent signature(s) please email to tom.schlimpert@dese.mo.gov by February 22.

Career Information Systems (CIS) the parent company for Missouri Connections is working to enhance the printable student class list in the Course Plan Editor. A common request is to include a line for a parent signature. They would like a few examples. Additional comments or suggestions regarding the Course Plan Editor are welcome.

Junior Preview Day Scheduled

Send your junior students to the [LSTC Junior Preview Day on Friday, March 8, 2013](http://www.linnstate.edu/future/jrpreviewday.php). Campus visits can make a significant impact on students as they prepare to make college decisions. The earlier students can start this process, the better! Students will tour campus, enjoy a free lunch, and learn more about LSTC programs and opportunities. They will also be giving away one LSTC tuition waiver to one lucky student. Encourage your juniors to attend and get a jumpstart on the admissions process. Space is limited; have your students RSVP early! RSVP by February 27 by visiting <http://www.linnstate.edu/future/jrpreviewday.php> or contacting Stephanie Scheulen at stephanie.scheulen@linnstate.edu or 573-897-5282. Visit <http://www.linnstate.edu/future/jrpreviewday.php> to access an event flier and additional details.

Apprenticeship E-Tools are available

Apprenticeship e-tools are electronic brochures, documents, and forms for Job Seekers, Employers, Guidance Counselors, and Parents that will give information about the benefits of apprenticeship as well as information about starting a program or getting hired into a program. There are also documents for Workforce explaining how Apprenticeship qualifies for Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Funds through the Missouri Career Center. To see these tools, go to <http://www.missouriapprenticeship.com/apprenticeshiptools.asp>

Linn State program scheduled for summer

Linn State Technical College is now accepting applications for their **2013 Computer Professions on Demand** (CPoD) scholarship program. Twenty students will be selected.

While directed primarily toward mid-Missouri students, others may apply and be considered to **participate in the 2013 CPoD program at no cost. Please submit your school's candidate and one alternate** to attend the 12th Annual Computer Professions on Demand (CPoD) scholarship program scheduled for June 23-26, 2013 on Linn State's main campus! Students selected should currently be in their sophomore or junior year, although freshman and seniors may also apply. CPoD gives students a unique opportunity to explore career fields in computer technology and is hosted by the Jefferson City Information Technology Coalition and Linn State Technical College. Over one hundred and seventy-five Missouri high school students have already participated in the scholarship program.

The application deadline is **April 1, 2013**. To see more about the program and to access an application form, visit <http://cpod.linnstate.edu/>. Please contact **Stephanie Scheulen**, Enrollment Management Associate, Linn State Technical College by phone at: Toll Free: 1.800.743.8324 ext. 5282 or Direct: 573.897.5282 or e-mail: stephanie.scheulen@linnstate.edu with any questions.

Destination: College by the College Board

Join [CollegeWeekLive](http://CollegeWeekLive.com) **February 26 from 5:00 – 8:00 pm EST** for the first of five online events for middle & high school students and their families. College Board representatives will be giving presentations in both English and Spanish to help you learn about the college process, including how to plan, prepare and pay for college. Students may register at [CollegeWeekLive](http://CollegeWeekLive.com) any time before the event to receive a login and password. Counselors may call the CollegeWeekLive counselor team toll free at 1-888-884-0257 for more information or email counselors@collegeweeklive.com for free College Board promotional materials.

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

Reminder about the relationship between suicide and bullying

We continue to get calls from parents concerned that their children who they report as having been bullied are talking about possibly doing harm to themselves. While many times there may be no foundation to these statements, they still need to be taken seriously.

In an earlier issue of the Digest, mention was made of a brief developed by the Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) that examines the relationship between suicide and bullying among children and adolescents. If you have not read the brief, it is suggested that you do so. To access it, go to [Brief](#)

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Guidance System of Support (GSOS) Spring Meetings

The spring GSOS meetings are underway. Addressing MSIP 5 and combining the GSOS meeting with the MSCA regional meeting are drawing huge crowds! The response to the initial presentations has been very positive. Make every effort to attend and learn about how MSIP 5 and comprehensive guidance and counseling support each other! Go to [Spring GSOS Information](#) for the program overview, regional meeting dates, locations, and registration information.

Webinar available

The webinar, “Introduction to Advanced Placement” is available for viewing on the Department’s website. This hour-long presentation provides an overview of AP, clarifies some of the myths around AP, and includes information on how to get started with an AP program. For additional information regarding the Advanced Placement Program, please contact David Welch at david.welch@dese.mo.gov
Link to Webinar: <http://www.dese.mo.gov/webinar/webinar-02-13-13-ccr.htm>

Report Released on Counselor Role in Implementing Common Core

Achieve, in partnership with College Summit, the National Association of Secondary School Principals, and the National Association of Elementary School Principals, has released a report with support from MetLife Foundation titled “*Implementing the Common Core State Standards: The Role of the School Counselor* “. To see or download the report, go to [School Counselor Role](#).

Conferences and Workshops

Missouri ACT State Organization 2013 Annual Conference

The conference will be held on **Thursday, February 21, 2013** at the Stoney Creek Inn in Columbia. To see more about the conference or to register, go to [ACT State Conference](#)

MSCA Spring Conference will be held on **March 1, 2013** at Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City. There is a different format this year. To see more about the conference, go to [Spring Conference](#)

New-MOACAC Conference Scheduled

The Missouri Association of College Admission Counseling (MOACAC), a non-profit organization consisting of admissions professionals, high school counselors, and educational organizations, will be holding its annual conference on **April 29-30, 2013** at the Sheraton Westport Lakeside Chalet in Westport Plaza, St. Louis, MO. Session proposals are being accepted until March 1. To see more about this conference, go to <http://www.moacac.org/conferences>

2013 Missouri ACTE Summer Conference will be held **Monday July 22, 2013 - Thursday, July 25, 2013** in Springfield, Mo. To see more about the conference, go to <http://mo-acte.org/>

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Guidance and Counseling Services

DIGEST



Vol. 10, No.15

Please forward this Digest to your colleagues.

6 March, 2013

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The Guidance and Counseling Services Staff:

Bragg, Tom, John and Loree'

573-751-4383

Announcements

Military Career Pathways 101 Canceled!

Due to budget constraints, Military Career Pathways 101 (MCP 101) which had been tentatively scheduled for June 17-19 2013 **has been canceled.**

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

Resources for Bullying Prevention

PACER, the Minnesota Parent Training and Information Center, has established a National Bullying Prevention Center that has many resources that can be used in bullying prevention efforts. Although primarily focused on children with disabilities, many of the materials can be used with all students. To see the website, go to <http://www.pacer.org/bullying/>

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

ARTBA Highway Worker Scholarship Program Accepting Applications

The [American Road & Transportation Builders Association's Foundation](http://www.artba.org) is now accepting applications for the "Lanford Family Highway Worker Memorial Scholarship Program," which provides financial assistance to help the children of highway workers killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty pursue post-high school education. The scholarships, which have a value up to \$5,000, have helped more than 100 worthy students from across the nation.

Applicants must be children of highway workers killed or permanently disabled in roadway work zone accidents and the applicant's parent must have been employed by a transportation construction firm or a transportation public agency at the time of the incident. Scholarship awards must be used to attend a post-secondary institution of learning that requires a high school diploma or Graduate Equivalent Degree (G.E.D.). Master's degree and Ph.D. students are not eligible.

Applications are due by April 5, 2013, and awards will be announced in May. For a copy of the application form or if you know a student that might be eligible, please contact ARTBA's Holly DiGangi at hdigangi@artba.org or 202.289.4434.

Mapping Your Future to hold webinar to help parents and students learn more about tax education benefits

Education tax benefits are an important resource to help students and parents reduce the overall cost of a college education. The laws and regulations regarding these benefits are constantly changing, and it's important to have a good understanding.

This webinar, to be held **on Thursday, March 7, at 1 p.m. Central** will provide an overview of the current federal education tax benefits. This session will assist anyone who has an interest in learning more about these benefits for personal reference and/or to help students and families.

Register at www3.gotomeeting.com/register/764461654. Click on "Show in My Time Zone" at the top of the registration page. Visit www.timetemperature.com/tzus/time_zone_shtml if you are unsure of what time zone you live. For questions or more information, contact Sherry Hildebrand at webinars@mappingyourfuture.org or (512) 635-3315

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

Alcohol Awareness Month/Virtual Town Hall

To commemorate Alcohol Awareness Month, MYAA will be hosting a Virtual Town Hall on **Tuesday, April 16th**. All you need to participate is a computer and an Internet connection. Hear what the panel of experts has to say about the current state of underage drinking in Missouri and how you can be part of prevention efforts. Get more information at www.actmissouri.org

Website for Military Kids

Military kids have many experiences unique to military life, such as moving frequently, leaving and making new friends, and adjusting to transitions related to deployments, separations, and homecomings. MilitaryKidsConnect.org, a user-friendly and visually appealing Department of Defense website designed by psychologists at the National Center for Telehealth & Technology, is dedicated to improving the coping skills of military youth in order to reduce stress and enhance their overall quality of life. The new "Tough Topics" modules for military children, their parents, and their teachers address the difficult issues of post-traumatic stress, physical injury, and grief and loss through animated graphic novels, testimonial videos by military kids, and topical expert videos. To see what the website has to offer or to show it to students who are military kids, go to <https://www.militarykidsconnect.org/educators>

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Study concerning Missouri in ASCA Journal

In the December, 2012 issue of the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) Journal, *Professional School Counseling*, is an article concerning a study done to look at the effects of counselor/student ratios. One of the main findings was that **"Lower counselor ratios were significantly associated with higher graduation rates and lower disciplinary incidents."**

While access to the ASCA Journal is limited to members, a summary of the article, **"Missouri Professional School Counselors: Ratios Matter, Especially in High Poverty Schools"** is available on the DESE Guidance and Counseling website at http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/guidance_placement_research.htm

Webinar available for viewing: Improving the Culture of Assessment through School Counselor Leadership

Jeff Backe, school counselor at Stover High School, shares how they are using ACT's assessment system to improve student achievement, and discusses the important leadership role school counselors can play in improving student outcomes.

School counselors and administrators will benefit from viewing this webinar.

The webinar is presented by Jeff Backe, Stover High School, and the Office of College and Career Readiness. To view the webinar, go to <http://dese.mo.gov/webinar/webinar02-19-13-ccr.htm>

Implementing the Common Core State Standards: The Role of the School Counselor Action Brief

The Common Core State Standards provide an opportunity to realize systemic change and ensure that American students are held to the same high expectations in mathematics and literacy as their global peers — regardless of state or zip code. This Action Brief for school counselors is a **starting point**, designed to increase awareness of the standards, create a sense of urgency around their implementation, and provide these stakeholders — who are faced with dramatically increased expectations in the context of fewer resources — with a deeper understanding of the standards and their role in implementing the standards. To see or download the report, go to [School Counselor Action Brief](#)

More information about MOACTE Summer conference available

An informational flyer containing information about the MOACTE Summer Conference for the student services group that consists of Missouri Association for Career Services (MACS), Missouri Special Needs Association (MSNA) and Missouri School Counselor Association (MSCA) is now out on the MSCA website. To see it, go to [MOACTE Summer Conference Flyer](#)

Advisory Councils

This link might provide some suggestions for local advisory council meetings:

<http://www.asainstitute.org/schoolcounseling/advisorycouncil.html#mtg1>

Conferences and Workshops

MOACAC Conference Scheduled

The Missouri Association of College Admission Counseling (MOACAC), a non-profit organization consisting of admissions professionals, high school counselors, and educational organizations, will be holding its annual conference on **April 29-30, 2013** at the Sheraton Westport Lakeside Chalet in Westport Plaza, St. Louis, MO. Session proposals are being accepted until March 1. To see more about this conference, go to <http://www.moacac.org/conferences>

New Counselor Institute (NCI) to be offered in July, 2013- Watch for Special Transmission

As was noted in the last Digest, The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will be offering the New Counselor Institute (NCI) in July. **Dates** are **July 14-17 2013** at the Truman Hotel and Conference Center in Jefferson City, Mo.

Registration information is to be posted within the next few days and a special transmission will be sent out with the web address and other information as soon as that occurs.

2013 Missouri ACTE Summer Conference will be held **Monday July 22, 2013 - Thursday, July 25, 2013** in Springfield, Mo. To see more about the conference, go to <http://mo-acte.org/>

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Guidance and Counseling Services

DIGEST



Vol. 10, No. 16

Please forward this Digest to your colleagues.

Mar 15, 2013

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The Guidance and Counseling Services Staff:

Bragg, Tom, John and Loree'

573-751-4383

"The work will wait while you show a child a rainbow, but the rainbow won't wait while you do the work" (Patricia Clifford)

Announcements

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Webinar scheduled: Post-Secondary Options for All Students: Beyond the BA Degree

Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2013 Time: 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Learn more about Jobs for the Future's Counseling to Careers training and methodology. The presentation will showcase ways in which counselors--working with other school and district staff-- can use labor market information to inform student choices of a postsecondary program of study. This event is open to high school counselors and will also be of interest to CTE directors and staff, high school principals and district staff overseeing career exploration or career education programming. To see more about this or to register, go to <http://dese.mo.gov/webinar/Webinar03-27-13-CCR.htm>

Program Components

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CURRICULUM

Missouri Connections

Check out the College Exploration tab on the left side of the Missouri Connections home page at <http://www.missouriconnections.org/> for links to ACT and SAT practice tests along with March to Success, an excellent, free, test prep program.

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Reminder about a resource for helping students plan for their future

Mapping Your Future is a national collaborative, public-service, nonprofit organization providing career, college, financial aid, and financial literacy information and services for students, families, and schools.

It sends out a monthly e-newsletter with information and resources that can help when working with students. To see more about this organization and/or to subscribe to their newsletter, go to <http://mappingyourfuture.org/>

Hiring trends

A recent post on Careerbuilder.com talked about how college graduates do not always end up working in the field in which they received their degrees. For those who might be able to be more flexible in their choice of work, it lists five fields that hired the most college graduates in 2012. To see the post, go to [Job Trends](#)

View the March Monthly Student Reminder Online

The [Monthly Student Reminder](#), an electronic resource produced by the Missouri Department of Higher Education, is packed full of postsecondary tips directed towards Missouri's students and their parents. Information presented in the Monthly Student Reminder covers a wide range of audiences, including recent college graduates and middle school students. The [March edition](#) of the Monthly Student Reminder is now available to view online.

Seminar to be offered

A two day seminar presented by Julie Kampschroeder, Pattonville High School College Counselor is planned for June 17-18, 2013 at Maryville University especially for rural and/or high school counselors who do ALL aspects of counseling at their high schools. They will walk away with activities, power points and a workbook for their students. One day focuses on First Generation College Bound students and the other on the top 20% in the class. To see more about the seminar and/or to register, go to <http://www.kampcc.com/>

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

Resources for working with military children

Children whose parents are serving in the military have unique stressors that we may not always be aware of when they present behavioral changes. The Ron Fredrickson Center for School Counseling Outcome Research & Evaluation has compiled a list of resources to consult to help when working with these students. To see the compilation, go to <http://www.umass.edu/schoolcounseling/war-deployment-terrorism.php>

March newsletter available

The Missouri Center for Education Safety (MOCES) has its latest newsletter available for viewing on its website. The newsletter contains a number of resources that are of value in planning for crisis. To see the newsletter, go to [March Newsletter](#)

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Opportunity for high school students with disabilities

The Missouri Youth Leadership Forum (the Forum) is a unique career leadership-training program for high school students with disabilities, ages 16 – 21. Youth delegates are selected from their local communities to cultivate leadership, citizenship and social skills at this four-day summer program.

To apply, download an application at <http://disability.mo.gov/gcd/ylf.htm>

or <http://www.silcolumbia.org/what-we-do/programs/mylf/> and mail, fax or email to:

Governor's Council on Disability, Missouri Youth Leadership Forum P.O. Box 1668, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-1668 Phone: 800-877-8249 (Fax) 573-526-4109 E-mail: gcd@oa.mo.gov

Leadership in Practice Summer Camp 2013

The 2013 *Leadership in Practice* Summer Camp application period is now open. This summer June 26-28, 2013, up to 150 rising sophomores from across Missouri will participate in the Missouri Chamber's 17th annual *Leadership In Practice* summer program. For three days on the campus of Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri, students will participate in a variety of activities, simulations and discussions designed to develop their leadership skills. *Leadership In Practice* seeks to engage rising sophomores that have leadership potential, and take them to greater heights. The transformation that occurs with these

young men and women during Leadership In Practice is phenomenal! To find out more, go to the Missouri Chamber Education Foundation website at: [Leadership In Practice](#)

Led by professional facilitators, business and political leaders, *Leadership In Practice* discovers, cultivates and empowers attendees in ways in which they would not normally encounter in their schools and communities. Setting them on a path to develop and prosper in ways they would not even have thought possible prior to attending. For more information about the camp and the application process please go to the webpage [Leadership In Practice](#) to find out more on this program. Deadline for applications for the 2013 *Leadership In Practice* program is **5pm Friday, April 15, 2013**. For more information contact Brian Crouse, VP of Education with the Missouri Chamber at BCrouse@mochamber.com or by phone- 573-634-3511.

Universal Encouragement Program (UEP)

The UEP state pilot continues. Participating counselors are still encouraged to conduct student surveys and if needed, watch the recorded webinars below. The response regarding the student information provided from the UEP survey has been very positive and is expected to be helpful to improve student support and determine program needs and initiatives. Links to the recorded UEP webinars for the Missouri pilot project:

- [Introduction to the Universal Encouragement Program](#) (First Missouri pilot webinar)
- [Implementing the Universal Encouragement Program](#) (Part of this was combined in the Missouri introductory session.)
- [Generating Assessment Reports and Targeted Messaging](#) – (Generating Reports and Targeted Messaging (Feb 26 and 27).

Note: These are very large files 80-90 mb and take at least 2-3 minutes to download. They DO eventually play. Unlike streamed video, you must download the whole thing before it plays.

[UEP Presentations and Trainings](#) (Links to standard UEP webinars)

Contact Tom Schlimpert at Tom.schlimpert@dese.mo.gov for more information.

Conferences and Workshops

MOACAC Conference Scheduled

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Guidance and Counseling Services

DIGEST



Vol. 10, No. 17

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March 29, 2013

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"If you treat individuals as they are, they will stay as they are. But if you treat them as if they ought to be or could be, they will become what they ought to be and what they could be." (adapted from Johan Goethe)

Announcements

Revised Time/Task Analysis now available

The purpose of a time/task analysis is to obtain a representative sample of counselor time spent in carrying out the comprehensive guidance and counseling program. The data is then used to determine the extent to which time is appropriately divided between the components of the school's comprehensive guidance and counseling program. In order to fully implement the comprehensive guidance and counseling program, a time/task analysis needs to be conducted periodically throughout the school year.

A new electronic version in Excel that will assist in both conducting the data gathering and analyzing that data has been developed, has been shared with our State Advisory Council and is now posted on the Guidance and Counseling eLearning Center as Appendix B of the Missouri Comprehensive Guidance & Counseling Program Manual at <http://www.missouricareereducation.org/project/guidemanual>

Career Education Coordinator (CEC) Position Available

Applications for the Career Education Coordinator (CEC) position for Southeast Missouri are being accepted. This is a regional position that is currently facilitated through the Poplar Bluff School District. For information about CECs, go to <http://www.missouricareereducation.org/for/cec/> or contact Tom Schlimpert at tom.schlimpert@dese.mo.gov or 573-751-6875. To receive a copy of the job description or apply, contact: Amy Jackson, Associate Superintendent, Poplar Bluff R-I School District

E-Mail: adjackso@pb.k12.mo.us

Phone: 573-785-7751 **Fax:** 573-785-0336

Deadline for submitting applications is Monday, April 8.

April is the "Month of the Military Child"

In 1986 the U. S. Army began the "Month of the Military Child" (MOMC). Now MOMC includes military youth of all branches. During April, designated as the Month of the Military Child, military children are applauded for the daily sacrifices they make and the challenges they overcome by being a part of a military family. The Department of Education, the Department of Defense, the entire federal government and all sectors of our communities are asked to honor military children by providing a variety of resources, programs and opportunities to show their support.

There are numerous ways that schools and communities can honor military-connected students during the Month of the Military Child. The Department of Defense Education Activity's (DoDEA) has resources that can be found at their website, <http://www.militaryk12partners.dodea.edu/> which includes the [Students At The Center Guidebook](#), a [research based grant program](#) and [special education professional development](#) for military-connected local education agencies and [school liaison\(s\)](#) at each military location. These resources will help military-connected students with

transition issues addressed by the [Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children](#) and other concerns.

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CURRICULUM

Remember that sample curriculum lessons are available on the Guidance E-learning center at <http://www.missouricareereducation.org/project/guideln>

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Minority Scholarships Available

The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. (CBCF) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan public policy, research and educational institute that aims to help improve the socioeconomic circumstances of African Americans and other underserved communities.

As part of that mission, it has posted a list of scholarships on its website that are available to minority students. To see that list of scholarships, go to <http://www.cbcfinc.org/scholarships.html>

Radio Broadcast on Jobs and New Graduates

This is a very timely dialogue from Boston's National Public Radio Station WBUR "On Point" on the issue of "Jobs and New Graduates." The message is that half the college graduates are underemployed or underemployed. Of course, this broadcast again builds the case for CTE and career pathways, career guidance, and work-based learning.

Note that Harvard's Bill Symonds mentions that the traditional four-year career preparation pathways no longer works for the majority of Americans. To hear the broadcast click on the following:

<http://onpoint.wbur.org/2013/03/28/youth-graduates-unemployment>

As you'll hear, they received some pretty tragic calls: including the young woman who took on \$100,000 in debt to get her college degree, with the aim of becoming a poet.

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

Preventing Suicide: A Toolkit for High Schools

A Reminder that this publication, available free of charge from the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), assists high schools and school districts in designing and implementing strategies to prevent suicide and promote behavioral health. It includes tools to implement a multi-faceted suicide prevention program that responds to the needs and cultures of students. Free printed copies are now available but you can also download it. You can also get, through SAMHSA's online store, copies of the recently revised National Strategy for Suicide Prevention, Lifeline magnets and wallet cards, and the "After An Attempt" brochures To see more about these resources, go to [SAMHSA Toolkit](#)

April- SADD Safe Prom and Graduation Tips

With Spring here, Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) has some great advice for safe prom and graduation party tips. As the statewide SADD coordinator, ACT Missouri has many of these tips and presentations housed on their website. For more information on these tips, or on how to get a SADD chapter started at your school visit: www.actmissouri.org

Bullying and diverse populations

Current Missouri legislation regarding district anti-bullying policies does not require districts to list specific classes of students who are to receive special treatment (**Section 160.775 RSMo**) However, as noted on the website, [Stopbullying.gov](http://www.stopbullying.gov): “Schools and communities that respect diversity can help protect children against bullying behavior. However, when children perceived as different are not in supportive environments, they may be at a higher risk of being bullied. When working with kids from different groups ...there are specific things you can do to prevent and address bullying.”

To see considerations for dealing with some of the diverse groups found within our schools, go to <http://www.stopbullying.gov/at-risk/groups/index.html>

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Working with minors

It was recently brought to our attention that minors, in certain situations, can be allowed to register at a high school without parental/guardian involvement. Information on this can be found in Missouri Revised Statutes-TITLE XXVIII-CONTRACTS AND CONTRACTUAL RELATIONS-Chapter 431- General Provisions as to Contracts -Section 431.056.

Follow the following link <http://www.moga.mo.gov/> to see the entire section.

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Guidance and Counseling Services **DIGEST**

Vol. 10, No. 18

Please forward this Digest to your colleagues.

12 April, 2013

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The Guidance and Counseling Services Staff:

Bragg, Tom, John and Loree'

573-751-4383

Announcements

Important News about using Missouri Connections next year

To insure a higher level of security for personal information and to conform to industry standards, Missouri Connections will be **hashing all passwords** beginning **August 12**. This is a significant upgrade that will impact all users as well as those who manage site and staff accounts. Identical webinars are being provided to explain this process on the dates and times listed below:

Click to [Register](#) for a one-hour webinar session:

- **April 16, 17, or 18**
- **9:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m.**
- Limit 25 per session

Program Components

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CURRICULUM

MCCE Print Student Development Materials Available At Cost

MCCE will continue to provide print copies of student-directed career development materials during the 2013-14 school year. The materials available and item costs have changed somewhat from previous years, but many of the traditional items that we have provided in the past continue to be available, as well as two new items which will be available this summer. An updated order form is available at: [MCCE Order](#)

In addition to the career development student materials, a variety of other print materials are also available through MCCE, including copies of the Guidance and Counseling sample units, and the supplemental lessons released last fall. All print materials from MCCE are available for download. Just click on the name of the item in the order form, and your browser will be pointed to the page on our website for that particular item. You can view it, print it, and download it from there if you desire.

Note: Although For a time, materials were only available in bulk; this is no longer the case. Feel free to order items in the exact quantities that you need them, and encourage schools in your area to place direct orders for the quantities that they need.

Materials Available include the Career Clusters hexagon poster, the "What's Your Plan?" student tabloid, and the "How's Your Plan?" student tri-fold.

In addition to these items, MCCE is developing a new student career development publication called "Rock Your World," and a corresponding poster. The new student publication will include information on each career cluster, the O*Net career interest profiler based on Holland codes, general career planning guidance, and brief information about resumes and job interviews. This new publication will be in a magazine format similar to the Missouri Career Guide in recent years, and it will be 20 pages plus the cover, smaller than the Career Guide. A draft of the corresponding poster is available at: [Poster](#)

Continue to check their website for information about the new products. The poster and student publication will be available for distribution after July 1.

Thank you for your continued support and participation! They are ready to accept your orders.

If you have questions, contact Nathan Wittmaier, Communications Specialist, Missouri Center for Career Education, University of Central Missouri at wittmaier@ucmo.edu or by phone at 660-543-8206.

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Navy ROTC Scholarships now open for application

The application window opened on April 1 for Juniors! The Navy ROTC will award up to \$180,000 to attend any of the more than 200 colleges which offers ROTC.

Remember these two important points:

1. The scholarship allows the recipient to attend the university for the first full year without incurring any obligation whatsoever.
2. Submitting the application earlier is MUCH better. Those who submit early have a much better chance of being selected.

More information can be found at : www.nrotc.navy.mil/ or potential applicants can contact their local recruiter or Jon Dickson, Education Services Specialist, Navy Recruiting District St Louis at: E-mail: jon.dickson@navy.mil or by phone 314 331-5102 (work) 618 604-0503 (cell)

The State Parks Youth Corps (SPYC) is back in 2013!

The Missouri State Park Youth Corps program is back for 2013. Last year young people had the opportunity to gain valuable work experience in Missouri's state parks and historic sites and earn a paycheck throughout the summer. SPYC is open to young people between the ages of 17 and 23. To participate in this award winning program, apply TODAY at <http://thinkoutside.mo.gov/> as positions are limited!

Considering Apprenticeships?

A Registered Apprenticeship program is a great way to train for a career. Students can earn a paycheck and get hands-on experience while building up their skills. To see more information go to: <http://www.mynextmove.org/find/apprenticeship>

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month (Missouri Revised Statutes-Chap 9)

The month of April has been designated as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in the state of Missouri. The citizens of this state are encouraged to observe the month with appropriate activities and events to increase awareness of the prevalence and warning signs of child abuse and the prevention methods and measures available to reduce the incidence of child abuse in this state.

Children's Mental Health Week is right around the corner

This event, which will be held **May 5-11, 2013** is a great opportunity for agencies, organizations and community members to meet together to learn more about how they can support building a community that can meet the needs of children/youth and families. To learn more about this, and all of the supports available through the Missouri Department of Mental Health, go to [DMH System of Care](#)

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Reminder about Information on Home Schooling

In recent weeks, the Department has been receiving more and more home schooling questions. Some of the callers have informed us that their school counselor advised them to call DESE for more information about home schooling. The Department does not regulate home schooling and information we have on this subject is available on our website at: <http://dese.mo.gov/schoollaw/HomeSch/>.

Update!! Application Deadline Extended To April 26, 2013 For Leadership in Practice Summer Camp 2013

This summer **June 26-28, 2013**, up to 150 rising sophomores from across Missouri will participate in the Missouri Chamber's 17th annual *Leadership In Practice* summer program to be held on the campus of Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri.

For more information about the camp, the application process, or available scholarships please go to the webpage: [Leadership In Practice](#) or www.mochamber.com Deadline for applications for the 2013 *Leadership In Practice* program has been **EXTENDED to 5pm Friday, April 26, 2013**. For more information contact Brian Crouse, VP of Education with the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry at BCrouse@mochamber.com or by phone- 573-634-3511.

Conferences and Workshops

MOACAC Conference Scheduled

The Missouri Association of College Admission Counseling (MOACAC), a non-profit organization consisting of admissions professionals, high school counselors, and educational organizations, will be holding its annual conference on **April 29-30, 2013** at the Sheraton Westport Lakeside Chalet in Westport Plaza, St. Louis, MO. To see more about this conference, go to <http://www.moacac.org/conferences>

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Guidance and Counseling Services **DIGEST**

Vol. 10, No. 19

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APRIL 26, 2013

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Bragg, Tom, John and Loree'

573-751-4383

Announcements

End of Year

As we approach the end of the 2012-2013 school year, we would like to thank all of you who devote yourselves to helping students overcome barriers to their development.

As of now, the last issue of the Digest is slated to go out on June 7. We look forward to working with you next year; the first issue of the Digest for the 2013-2014 school year will be sent out in early August.

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Missouri Connections New Look

Missouri Connections will have an entirely new look this fall with a new portal page, new internal design and structure, and improved security for password protection.

We are excited to be sharing the first glimpse of the new Missouri Connections portal (front) page that will go live August 12. To see it, go to:

<https://mocitest.intocareers.org/materials/portal/home.html>

Please note that this is the test site and not all sections are complete or functional.

Please share your reaction and questions with Tom Schlimpert at tom.schlimpert@dese.mo.gov

Program Components

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CURRICULUM

Some suggestions to wrap up the year in the curriculum area:

- Determine the extent that the GLEs and curriculum are aligned and addressed K-12.
- Review the curriculum section of the IIR and identify strengths and areas to address in order to implement a rigorous and relevant curriculum.

- Determine if processes and data pieces are in place that allow for effective evaluation of the curriculum process.
- Review evaluation procedures for determining effectiveness of developing student personal/social, academic and career development knowledge and skills.
- Revise current practices as necessary and develop a written plan of action for the next school year.

These suggestions and more concerning other parts of the Guidance and Counseling program are available in the *“What do I need when?”* document that can be found on the Guidance System of Support website under Fall 2012 GSOS Consortium Materials at <http://www.missouricareereducation.org/project/sos/materials.php>

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Another argument for high level career and technical education classes

“Less than a quarter of employees do any calculations more complicated than basic fractions, and blue-collar workers generally do more advanced math than their white-collar friends.” A recent column in the Atlantic gives an interesting look at who uses high level math in the course of their jobs. To see the column, go to [Atlantic article](#)

Will college graduates find work?

“America: Land of the free, home of the overqualified
Colleges keep pumping out graduates, even though many hold jobs that don’t come close to needing a degree.” This article suggests we need to look at and advise students about the availability of jobs for college graduates both now and into the future and how other countries approach this problem. To see the article, go to [Job outlook](#)

March 2 Success program available for free

This is a very effective online, self directed test prep program that is provided through Missouri Connections along with links to ACT and SAT prep options. These are great practice tests located in the College Exploration tab on the portal (front) page of Missouri Connections.
<http://www.missouriconnections.org/>

Scholarship Available

The Missouri State Beekeepers Association is offering a scholarship to the person who applies for and is chosen as The Missouri Honey Queen. There are a number of responsibilities assigned to the person who acts as the official spokesperson for the Missouri State Beekeepers Association. To see more information about this scholarship and associated duties, go to <http://mostatebeekeepers.org/msba-honey-queen/>

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

Roles in Suicide Prevention Customized Information Sheets Available

The Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) has created a series of fact sheets for specific settings and roles, including those working in the schools, to help persons reduce the risk of suicide among those with whom they come in contact. To see the fact sheets, go to [Suicide Prevention Roles](#)

May: Mental Health Month/How Prevention can help

May is mental health month. Even though the onset of mental illnesses can begin in childhood, it is often not diagnosed until an individual is much older, thus preventing early treatment. As a result, people with mental illnesses may self-medicate with drugs or alcohol to find relief from the symptoms. Thus, it’s very common for people with substance use conditions to often have a mental health condition at the same time. This is called a, “co-occurring disorder.” To find out more about how prevention and mental health can work together visit www.actmissouri.org

Children's Mental Health Week in Missouri will be observed May 5th - 11th, 2013

To learn more about this and what is happening around the state go to http://missouridmh.typepad.com/system_of_care/

National Dropout Prevention Center for Students with Disabilities Newsletter available

Big IDEAs is NDPC-SD's quarterly newsletter, which addresses current issues in dropout prevention and school completion. It features evidence-based dropout-prevention and recovery programs from around the nation as well as information about past and upcoming NDPC-SD events. Big IDEAs is available via electronic subscription. To see more, go to <http://www.ndpc-sd.org/dissemination/newsletter.php>

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Guidance System of Support (GSOS) Resources

The **Career and Educational Planning Guide** (formerly known as the high school course description book) template is located with all of the other GSOS materials at <http://www.missouricareereducation.org/project/sos/materials.php> See the fall 2011 section for this great reference as you update your materials for next year.

Conferences and Workshops

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Guidance and Counseling Services

DIGEST

Vol. 10, No. 20

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9 May, 2013

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Bragg, Tom, John and Loree'

573-751-4383

Announcements

End of Year

As we come to the end of the school year, we want to acknowledge and thank all of you for all that you have done in the past year to help students to enhance their academic performance and their career and personal/social development.

Empirical research conducted in the state of Missouri during the past ten years has shown that when school counselors have the time, resources, and structure of a comprehensive guidance and counseling program in which to work, they contribute to positive student academic, personal/social, and career development as well as to the development of positive and safe learning climates in schools.

We look forward to working with you next year as you continue your work; the first issue of the Digest for the 2013-2014 school year will be sent out in early August.

Important News about Missouri Connections

Password Security Changes will be activated on **August 12, 2013** that will impact ALL USERS!

Career Information Systems (CIS), the parent company for Missouri Connections, is keeping current with industry standards for protecting online user accounts.

This means – portfolio, guest, site administrators, staff, parent, visitor, and district – accounts will be encrypted with hashed passwords.

Therefore, if someone forgets their password, the password will need to be reset.

To learn more about the changes, go to <http://goo.gl/t9KUM> **Note:** CIS is using an Idaho Career Information Site to show information about the changes. The information on this site applies to Missouri as well.

Program Components

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CURRICULUM

Resource to continue

Thanks to the support of the University of Central Missouri's College of Education, Resources@MCCE will continue to loan instructional materials, including books, DVDs, simulation activities, and professional development kits, to educators throughout Missouri during the 2013-14 school year. Packing materials and an envelope are included with each shipment, so the only cost to educators is return shipping. The materials are available to teachers, administrators, and counselors at elementary, middle, and junior high schools, as well as secondary and post-secondary programs.

You can continue to have access to curriculum materials by going to [Resources@MCCE free-loan library](mailto:Resources@MCCE)

What school counselors need to know about the Missouri Core Academic Standards- (From Bragg Stanley, Director, Guidance and Counseling Section) New Standards for Missouri Schools

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has adopted new academic standards to help students gain the knowledge and skills they need for college, other types of postsecondary training and a career. When students are college- and career-ready, they are less likely to need remedial classes to succeed at college-level work and are better prepared for the jobs of the future. The Department has been working with schools throughout the state to assist them with implementing the new standards which are based on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). **Additional information about the new standards can be found on the Department's website at <http://www.dese.mo.gov/divimprove/curriculum/documents/ccr-cas-flier-2012.pdf>**

The role of the School Counselor

The Achieve Network has published a document, *“Implementing the Common Core State Standards: The Role of The School Counselor”*: <http://www.achieve.org/publications/implementing-common-core-state-standards-role-school-counselor-action-brief>. This action brief lists three important steps school counselors need to take:

- a. Understand the CCSS
- b. Support implementation at the local level
- c. Act on it

The brief goes into more detail in all of these areas. A focus for Missouri school counselors should be aligning their guidance curriculum with the new standards, an effort being undertaken at the state level through the work of the state curriculum writing team under the leadership of Carolyn Roof and Larae Watkins. At the local level it means working with your teachers to see that your guidance lessons support the standards being taught in the classroom. Working collaboratively school counselors and classroom teachers can support one another in seeing that their respective standards are being addressed. School counselors are encouraged to read the action brief and then study the suggested action steps for school counselors as they appear on pages 11-14. As you review the action steps consider:

Do these action steps fit into my existing CGCP? If not, should they? (they may not need to fit)

1. Are there particular action steps that should be addressed that my program currently does not? If so, what changes do I need to make in order to align my program to those action steps?
2. Is my administrator aware of how my work can support the implementation of the standards? If not, what do I need to do (and when) in order to help my administrator see/understand the alignment of my work with the instructional process?
3. There may be other questions that come to mind. If you have been actively working with the guidance curriculum, you may have already **been working collaboratively with teachers to support each other's** curriculum. The need for this has not changed—only the standards.

By working to fully implement a comprehensive guidance and counseling program that addresses the academic, career, and personal/social development of all students through the alignment and integration of your work into the instructional process, all students benefit.

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Still wondering about paying for postsecondary education?

The Missouri Department of Higher Education (MDHE) has a section of its website dedicated to helping students and their parents raise awareness about financial aid programs, scholarships, career paths, and financial literacy. To see what information MDHE has in this area, go to <http://dhe.mo.gov/ppc/>

Assisting Students To Think More In Depth About A Topic

Thanks to Dr. Janice Speck for bringing this to our attention.

Thinking maps are tools that are used in many areas including counseling. The link will take the reader to an article explaining how they can be used in teaching about careers. To see the article, go to

[Thinking Maps](#)

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

Fact Sheets Available

Throughout the past year, Missouri's Youth/Adult Alliance has been compiling fact sheets on underage drinking for parent, educator, and youth audiences. These fact sheets share the most recent statistics from the 2012 Missouri

Student Survey, as well as strategies from national prevention agencies like The Partnership at Drugfree.org. To look through the library of fact sheets or request copies for your school, visit www.actmissouri.org

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Host an International High School Exchange Student (Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State)

The U.S. Department of State invites you to make a difference by hosting an international high school exchange student in your school or home starting this fall. Approximately 2,000 Department of State-sponsored exchange students from over 50 countries, all of whom have undergone a competitive, merit-based selection process, will spend the 2013-14 academic year in communities across the United States. These exchange students live with American families, attend American high schools, and participate in American culture, leadership activities, and community service. Exchange students can help internationalize classrooms and bring foreign affairs to life.

To Learn more or submit an interest form, go to hosting.state.gov

Another resource for counselors

Here is the link to School Counselor Central Facebook page that contains many resources for school counselors:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/School-Counselor-Central/102489186503748>

Conferences and Workshop

2013 HIV/AIDS/STDS AND HUMAN SEXUALITY ANNUAL CONFERENCE will

be held on **June 12 - 14, 2013** at the Kansas City Airport Hilton · Kansas City, Missouri. This conference, sponsored by the Iowa Department of Education, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, the Kansas State Department of Education and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services is designed for teachers, school nurses, prevention and care providers, administrators, health professionals, community health planners, physicians, counselors, persons from community-based organizations, members of the faith community, social workers, parents and public health individuals.

Here is the link for the conference. All registrations MUST be completed online, as no faxed or mailed registrations will be accepted. <http://events.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=769>

Military Child Education Coalition® 15th National Training Seminar will be held

on **July 8-9, 2013** at the Gaylord National Hotel and Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland. The Military Child Education Coalition 15th National Training Seminar will showcase a wealth of subject matter experts and gifted speakers to help those who guide, support, and inspire all military kids.

To see more about this, go to [National Training Seminar](#)

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Guidance and Counseling Services

DIGEST



Vol. 10, No. 21

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May 24, 2013

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573-751-4383

Announcements

Transition Institute to be offered

The Office of Special Education is offering a Transition Institute sponsored, in part by the Show Me Career Grant, in June focused on school, community, and business-based employment. The Institute will be from noon Monday June 17 to noon on Wednesday June 19, 2013 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City. To register and/or to view the draft agenda, follow this link:

<http://dese.mo.gov/se/ep/training.html>.

Second Annual Dropout Prevention Summit planned

The Summit will be held from 12:00 p.m. on Monday, June 24 to 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 26, at the Truman Hotel and Convention Center in Jefferson City, Missouri. It is hosted by the Office of Special Education and is offered to help all professionals in both special and general education to gain knowledge and skills to help all students persist in school and graduate. Topics will include student engagement, **parent engagement, cultural competency, early warning systems, and leadership's role in retaining** students. Attendees will also hear from Missouri Schools who are actively working to keep at risk students in school. They will hear their strategies, talk to the experts, and learn how they can become a part of a new statewide dropout initiative. The cost of the conference is \$35.00. To register and/or to view the draft agenda, follow this link: <http://dese.mo.gov/se/ep/training.html>

For more information contact Barb.Gilpin@dese.mo.gov or John.Stains@dese.mo.gov

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CURRICULUM

A Reminder: Resource will still be available

As noted in the last Digest, Missouri educators will continue to have access to curriculum materials through the Resources@MCCE free-loan library thanks to the support of the University of Central Missouri's College of Education.

Michael Wright, dean of the College of Education at UCM, has committed to funding the library for one year from university funds while other funding sources for this state-wide service are sought.

Resources@MCCE will continue to loan instructional materials, including books, DVDs, simulation activities, and professional development kits, to educators throughout Missouri during the 2013-14 school year. Packing materials and an envelope are included with each shipment, so the only cost to educators is return shipping. The materials are available to teachers, administrators, and counselors at elementary,

middle, and junior high schools, as well as secondary and post-secondary programs. To access the free-loan library, go to <http://resources.mcce.org/>

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Resource to help High School Seniors in St. Louis

The St. Louis Graduates High School to College Center is opening June 1st in the Delmar Loop. This is a FREE college counseling center for high school seniors transitioning to college this fall.

The St. Louis Graduates High School to College Center is supported by Citi, College Bound, Daughters of Charity Foundation of St. Louis, Deaconess Foundation, Incarnate Word Foundation, Monsanto Company, The James T. Pettus Jr. Foundation, Regional Business Council, The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis, United Way of Greater St. Louis, and Washington University in St. Louis.

To see more about this resource, go to [High School to College Center](#)

Advice on Student Loans

A recent posting on the ed.gov blog site gives five things to consider when taking out student loans. As noted in the posting, “While you shouldn’t be afraid to take out federal student loans, you should be smart about it. Before you take out a loan, it’s important to understand that a loan is a legal obligation that you will be responsible for repaying with interest.” To access the blog, go to

<http://www.ed.gov/blog/2013/05/5-things-to-consider-when-taking-out-student-loans/>

Resources For Transition

The end of the school year marks a time of transition as students enter new grades within a building, new building levels such as elementary to middle school or middle to high school, and the transition to postsecondary levels. A recent blog posting in *Edutopia* gives some resources that are available on the web that will assist parents, students, educators and administrators in making successful transitions. To see these resources, go to [Transition Resources](#)

Report available on preparation for college

A new report from the National Association of College Admission Counseling analyzes data from the High School Longitudinal Study of 2009 to determine how high schools are helping students transition to post-secondary education.

Some findings in 2009:

- 50 percent of all high schools had student-to-counselor ratios of more than 250 to one, with a larger median caseload for counselors at public schools than at private.
- Forty-eight percent of counselors asserted that helping students "prepare for post-secondary schooling" was their primary goal...
- Eighty percent of high schools required student career and/or education plans, with public schools more likely to require these; schools with higher four-year college-going rates were more likely to insist such plans had a parent's signature.
- 18 percent of ninth-grade students reported speaking with a counselor about college -- fewer than had spoken with a teacher, friends, mother, or father. This percentage did not differ by type of school or four-year college-going rate.
- Ninth-graders attending schools with a student body more than 50 percent black were more likely to have spoken with a counselor about college.

The report recommends that counselors:

- Devote more time to college readiness, selection, and applications, since doing so affects ninth-grader perceptions of college affordability.
- Initiate discussions with ninth graders about college, since students who reported having them had greater odds of planning to take the SAT or ACT and enrolling in a bachelor's degree program.
- Initiate discussions with parents about college.

To see the full report, go to [Preparing Students](#)

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

Supporting grieving students-What teachers can do

Various events during the last year involving students have once again put a spotlight on how important it is to assist them when they are grieving. While many teachers may think or feel that a trained professional is needed, a recent blog in *Edutopia* makes the case that teachers fulfill a vital role in giving support to their students and then referring them for more services if appropriate. The blog gives five tips to help teachers better support grieving students. To see the blog, go to

[Supporting grieving students](#)

Change Regarding Foster Kids

[HCS/SB 205](#), effective August 28, 2013, expands current legislation to include youth who leave foster care after the age of 18. It provides them with the opportunity to return to the custody of the Children's Division if in their best interest up to their 21st birthday and requires a petition to the Court by the youth, the juvenile officer, or the Children's Division.

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Fall Opportunity for High School Counselors

The Missouri State University College of Education invites you to join other Missouri high school counselors this fall for *Counselors to Campus* — a day and a half event to experience their campus and learn more about their teacher education programs. For more information, please contact JulieAnn Jenkins at JAJenkins@missouristate.edu or call 417.836.7667.

Conferences and Workshops

Military Child Education Coalition® 15th National Training Seminar will be held on **July 8-9, 2013** at the Gaylord National Hotel and Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland. The Military Child Education Coalition 15th National Training Seminar will showcase a wealth of subject matter experts and gifted speakers to help those who guide, support, and inspire all military kids. To see more about this, go to [National Training Seminar](#)

New Counselor Institute (NCI) to be offered in July, 2013

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will be offering the New Counselor Institute (NCI) in July. **Dates** are **July 14-17 2013** at the Truman Hotel and Conference Center in Jefferson City, Mo. Information, including both a schedule and registration form is now available on the DESE website at <http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/>

The 8th Annual Show Me You Care About Suicide Prevention Conference will be held **on July 15-16, 2013** at the Stoney Creek Inn in Columbia, Mo, and is being co-sponsored by Partners in Prevention/MU Wellness Resource Center. To see more information as it becomes available, go to [Suicide Prevention Conference](#)

New Teacher Institute (NTI) also to be offered in July, 2013

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will be offering the New Teacher Institute (NTI) in July. **Dates** are **July 28-31 2013** at the Stoney Creek Inn in Columbia, Mo. Information, including both a schedule and registration form is now available on the DESE website at <http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/>

It is the policy of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, or disability in its programs or employment practices as required by Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. 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, Office of the General Counsel, Coordinator-Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI/Title IX/504/ADA/Age Act), 6th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, P.O. Box 480, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480; telephone number (573) 526-4757 or TTY (800) 735-2966, fax (573) 522-4883, email civilrights@dese.mo.gov.

Guidance and Counseling Services **DIGEST**

Vol. 10, No. 22

Please forward this Digest to your colleagues.

June 7, 2013

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.

The Guidance and Counseling Services Staff:

Bragg, Tom, John and Loree'

573-751-4383

Announcements

Final Issue for year

This will be the last issue of the Guidance digest for the 2012-2013 school year.

Thanks to all of you for your work during the past year to help all students with their academic, career and personal/social development.

Plans are to resume the Digest in August in order to continue to provide you with support in your efforts to fully implement the comprehensive guidance and counseling program in your districts.

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

Revised curriculum due this fall

At this time, it is planned that the guidance and counseling curriculum that has been undergoing revision during the past year will be available for use this fall. Further announcements about it will be made as necessary beginning in August.

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Missouri Connections New Look

Mark August 12 on your calendars as the first day Missouri Connections will display an entirely new look with a new portal page, internal design and structure, and improved security for password protection.

For a sneak preview of the new Missouri Connections portal (front) page go to <https://mocitest.intocareers.org/materials/portal/home.html> Please note that this is still under construction.

For customized training and individual technical support contact Jackie Coleman at jcoleman@motrainer.com or 573-634-0043

For program administration and curriculum questions contact Tom Schlimpert at Tom.schlimpert@dese.mo.gov or 573-751-6875

Things To Do Before School Starts

Here are some suggestions for getting the Individual Planning program component off to a good start this fall:

- Convene a district wide K-12 meeting to discuss the Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Program (CGCP)
- Review Grade-level Expectations (GLEs) in all content areas: See what is being addressed at each level
- **For Individual Planning: Review the Career Development GLE's, especially as they relate to the concept, "Integration of Self-Knowledge into Life Career Plans." This concept leads directly to the development of the Personal Plan of Study**
- Determine and plan appropriate grade-level activities that will lead to successful development of the Personal Plan of Study (PPOS)
- Have an orientation for faculty at all levels on the CGCP and be sure to include those activities associated with the individual planning process
-

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

Resources from Education Department for helping parents talk with their children

When disasters occur, as has happened all too frequently this year, parents, family friends and educators are important in helping children cope. Sometimes, though, they have difficulty in talking with the children. To help with that, the Education Department has prepared lists of resources specifically designed to provide guidance on talking to children following events like those in Oklahoma and, in the event of an emergency, how to prepare. One publication from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) gives some tips on how parents and educators can talk to children. To see that publication or look at others of a similar nature, go to [SAMHSA Tips](#)

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Getting Ready For The New School Year

Here are some suggestions for getting your System Support program component off to a good start this fall:

- Meet immediately with administrator to discuss school initiatives, expectations (using evaluation criteria), starting the year/first week responsibilities, crisis plans, preliminary guidance calendar of activities, budget, and if applicable, the guidance action plan
- Become familiar with district, school, and program level policies and procedures
- Review prior IIR results and action plan and address defined strategies in yearly planning
- Share guidance action plan with staff
- Enroll in mentoring program (first two years) and schedule training
- Confirm professional development (state and local) opportunities, conferences, and workshops for the year
- Collaboratively develop year long and monthly Guidance Activities Calendars with items such as district calendar, school wide functions, in-service training, faculty meetings, student deadlines, classroom visits, etc. Share with administrators and staff
- Publish weekly calendars including classroom guidance presentations after collaboration with teachers
- Establish/enhance office organization and procedures
- Personally meet each staff member in your building

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Guidance and Counseling Services

DIGEST



Vol. 11, No. 1

Please forward this Digest to your colleagues.

August, 2013

Our Vision: That all schools will have fully implemented Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Programs that advance the academic, career, and personal/social development of all students.

Our Mission: To work collaboratively with counselor educators, the Missouri School Counselor Association, the Missouri Association for Career and Technical Education and other stakeholders to develop and provide resources and meaningful professional development that support professional school counselors and career services personnel in their efforts toward full implementation of their programs.

**The Guidance and Counseling Services Staff:
Bragg, Tom, and Loree'
573-751-4383**

Announcements

Welcome To A New School Year!

Lore'e, Tom and I want to welcome everyone back and wish for each and every one you all the best for a great school year. We have an ambitious scope of work here at the Department including the guidance curriculum, mentoring, Missouri Connections, Guidance System of Support, counselor/administrator awareness, Pathways to Prosperity, a model for career services at area career centers, building evaluation capacity for guidance and counseling programs, and other projects to improve our ability to more fully implement comprehensive guidance and counseling programs. Through the Digest we will keep you informed of progress on these and other happenings at the state level as well as provide resources to help support the work you do in helping our students become college and career ready. The Digest is under new editorship and we will certainly miss the leadership John Robbins provided in putting this together on a regular basis.

Program Components

From time to time, resources brought to our attention that could be used as part of a comprehensive guidance and counseling program are 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 the Department.

CURRICULUM

Guidance Curriculum Update

The state guidance curriculum committee continues to meet and refine the model curriculum. Incorporating Common Core language and updating old material have been the focus of the work. This year the committee will be putting some final touches on the Personal/Social content area and will begin work on Individual student planning. An announcement will be made when the new material is on-line.

Guidance Planning Survey-GPS (Needs Assessment)

We often get calls at the beginning of the school year regarding the Guidance Planning Survey (formerly Needs Assessment). It is recommended that schools put the administration of the survey on the same schedule as other curriculum reviews. For example if a school has adopted a 3 year or 5 year rotation of

curriculum review for subject areas, then the review of the guidance curriculum should be on the same schedule. The GPS can then be administered at the time the guidance curriculum comes up for review.

There is not a specific survey that has to be used. It just needs to be a survey that can help schools focus the direction of the guidance curriculum. There are three resources available:

1. A free GPS is located in Appendix F of the [State Guidance Manual](#) located on the Guidance e-Learning Center.
2. The Assessment Resource Center out of the University of Missouri offers a more detailed, [machine scorable survey](#) that can provide greater information regarding the implementation of Grade Level Standards (formerly Grade Level Expectations)
- 3.

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Missouri Connections

Missouri Connections gets a new look & feel!

When you go to Missouri Connections on **August 12**, you will notice a new look!

The comprehensive Missouri Connections system, combines the successful platform of the University of Oregon's Career Information System (CIS) with Missouri-specific information. CIS has surveyed users, researched trends, and planned for the future.

- [New Interface-New Navigation](#)
- [Password Protection Protocol](#)
- [App Tracker](#)
- [Occupations Update](#)
- [Course Planner Enhanced](#)
- [Common Core Standards](#)



Trainings are scheduled in September and October throughout state.

Two sessions are offered each day, the second session being a repeat of the first. Check out the [Training Calendar](#) for a site near you. Registration instructions appear on the calendar page.

If your school/site would benefit from a more in-depth or specific training, we are available to conduct webinars on the specific topics of interest.

Pathways to Prosperity

Missouri is one of nine states selected by the Harvard Graduate School of Education and Jobs for the Future to participate in the Pathways to Prosperity Network, a national education initiative designed to build career pathways systems for high-school-aged students. The network emerged as a result of the interest generated by the Harvard Graduate School of Education report, [Pathways to Prosperity: Meeting the Challenge of Preparing Young Americans for the 21st Century](#).

The report has important implications for educational reform and for guidance and counseling, especially in the area of career development and individual student planning. School counselors, administrators, faculty and staff are strongly encouraged to read the report.

Risk Management/Insurance (RMI): A Field in High Demand

Missouri State University offers the only RMI degree program in the state. It is a well paying, high demand field and MSU will be providing over \$40,000 in scholarships to their majors this year. Additional Information about this lucrative career opportunity can be found at [MSU's website](#)

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

Wars Taking Toll on Young Children in U.S. Military Families

The cumulative stress faced by U.S. military families from 12 years of war is posing new risks for the health and well-being of nearly half a million young children with at least one active-duty parent, according to a report issued by Child Trends, a nonprofit, nonpartisan, research organization, and an America's Promise partner. As your students come back to school it is important to be sensitive to those who have parents deployed or who are returning home. The full report, [Home Front Alert: the Risks Facing Young Children in Military Families](#), can provide additional information.

Job Corp Now Enrolling

Job Corps is seeking new applicants ages 16 to 24 for its national career training and education program at 125 campuses across the country. Residential and nonresidential slots are available for the self-paced federal program. This is an ideal opportunity to gain education, career training, and employability skills for eligible low-income individuals who may be looking for a steppingstone to a community college or for those who need additional support to pursue a community college degree.

- [Learn More About Job Corps](#)
- [Visit the Job Corps Facebook Page](#)
- Call 800-733-JOBS (5627)

Academic Success of Pregnant and Parenting Students

The U.S. Office of Civil Rights (OCR) released a Dear Colleague letter and accompanying pamphlet on "[Supporting the Academic Success of Pregnant and Parenting Students Under Title IX.](#)" This pamphlet, which will be sent to schools across the country, updates a 1991 pamphlet on this topic.

September is Attendance Awareness Month

Did you know that missing just 10% of the school year in the early grades can leave many students struggling throughout elementary school? Or that by 6th grade, missing that much school is strongly linked to course failure and even eventually dropping out of high school? That's just 18 days — or two to three days per month. Every school day counts and everyone can make a difference: educators, afterschool programs, mayors, businesses and parents.

Join us this September for the launch of the first-ever [Attendance Awareness Month](#). Rally your community around the importance of attendance and its role in academic achievement. Follow the link for more information

SYSTEM SUPPORT

DESE/MSCA Mentoring Program

Full certification requires two years of mentoring. The Department and MSCA have collaborated to develop a mentoring program tailored made for new school counselors who are in need of a mentor with school counseling experience or who have a mentor but who would like to participate in this structured program designed to assist new counselors in more fully implementing their programs. If you would like to participate or need additional information contact Dr. Jan Ward at jward@semo.edu or Dr. Bragg Stanley at bragg.stanley@dese.mo.gov

Guidance System of Support

Services available through regional College and Career Consultants (formerly Career Education Coordinators-CECs)

- ◆ **K-12 Career Development**
 - ◆ Professional development on the career development process
 - ◆ Career education resources and materials available online
 - ◆ Facilitate implementation of a comprehensive career development process
 - Career Awareness – Elementary
 - Career Exploration – Middle School
 - Career Planning and Decision Making – High School
 - ◆ Program of Study/Personal Plan of Study/Career & Educational Planning Guide template development/facilitation
 - ◆ Assist middle and high schools in developing a school-wide process for the development, review and revision of personal plans of study
 - ◆ Promote programs and opportunities provided at area career centers

- ◆ **Guidance System of Support for School Counselors**
 - ◆ Consortium meetings held at area career centers

- ◆ **Awareness, Recruitment and Retention of Nontraditional Students in Career Education Programs**
 - ◆ Support services to students enrolled in nontraditional programs
 - ◆ STEM Equity Pipeline Project
 - ◆ Assist in use of data focusing on Perkins funding indicators relative to nontraditional participation and completion
 - ◆ Breaking Traditions Award competition

- ◆ **Missouri Connections**
 - ◆ Support integration/implementation of Missouri Connections into Grades 6 – 12

For information contact your

Regional College and Career Consultant at www.missouricareereducation.org/for/cec

Missouri Virtual Instruction (MoVIP)

MoVIP, or the Missouri Virtual Instruction Program, which is run by the Department, is currently registering K-12 students for the upcoming fall semester. MoVIP currently offers about 150 different online courses in a wide variety of subjects including AP, foreign language and electives. MoVIP is an excellent resource to help school districts meet their College and Career-Ready (CCR) and High School-Ready (HSR) goals at little cost. School districts can get reimbursed from DESE for about 90% of the tuition costs. MoVIP also offers state-funded tuition for students who qualify as medically fragile. All courses are also taught by Missouri-certified teachers. For more information, please visit www.movip.org. Contact Steve Schellman at 573-751-5882 for additional information.

FAFSA Frenzy

The Missouri Department of Higher Education is once again looking for site applications for the 2014 FAFSA Frenzy program. FAFSA Frenzy events make applying for financial aid easier by providing *free* help

to students and families with filling out the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#), which is required to apply for federal and most state financial aid. The 2014 main event date is scheduled for **Sunday, Feb. 9**. A back-up date of Sunday, Feb. 16, has been established in the event that inclement weather occurs on Feb. 9. The **deadline** for applications is **Friday, Aug. 23rd** and a training session is scheduled in Jefferson City on Nov. 19th. Hosts will be receiving additional information. The on-line application is available here: [Site applications for the 2014 event](#). If you have any questions regarding FAFSA Frenzy/College Goal Sunday in Missouri, you may contact [Julie Meyer](#), [Jaron Vail](#), or [Lisa Wilson](#). Additional information may be found on the MDHE's [FAFSA Frenzy Web page](#)

MSCA and MoACTE: Your Keys to Professional Development

If you have not done so, be sure to join or renew your membership with your professional organizations. Both MSCA and MoACTE not only provide outstanding conferences and other professional development activities but also advocate for school counselors and CTE at the state and national levels. It is important to note however, that YOU are MSCA and MoACTE through your membership and support. Be sure to join both at the state and regional levels. Additional information can be found at: [MSCA Membership](#) [MSCA Region Information](#) and [MoACTE Divisions](#)

MAESP Executive Director Announcement

School counselors are aware of the importance of good working relationships with administrators, and at the state level we strive to develop the same type of relationship. So it is our pleasure to announce that Dr. Michael Schooley has been named as the new Executive Director for the Missouri Association of Elementary School Principals. Dr. Jim King continues to serve as the Executive Director for the Missouri Association of Secondary School Principals. Both were long serving administrators for the Columbia Public Schools and were strong supporters of the district's guidance and counseling program.

Advanced Placement Programs

Schools interested in starting College Board approved Advanced Placement (AP) courses should visit these three websites for valuable information and helpful hints on how to establish an AP program.

- [Key Steps in Establishing your School's AP Program](#)
- [Starting an Advanced Placement \(AP\) Program at your School District](#)
- [Cultivating AP in Small Rural Schools](#)

Conferences, Workshops, and Webinars

Missouri School Counselor Association Fall Conference November 2-5, Tan-Tara

This year's theme is School Counselors: At the Core of Leadership. Information and Registration is available on the [MSCA Website](#)

Financial Aid Reality Check Webinar: September 18 11:30 AM-1:00 PM

Join the Missouri Department of Higher Education's financial literacy expert, Marilyn Landrum, for a live webinar that will focus on current issues relating to future and current college students. [Register](#) on the Department's website.

Missouri Association for Career Services (MACS): September 19-20, Columbia Courtyard by Marriott

The purpose of MACS is to promote the development of career services to students enrolled in Missouri's high schools, area technical schools, and colleges, to maintain and improve professional

standards in the field of career services, and unite professionals engaged in career services activities. For registration information contact Stacie Wild at 660.596.7256 or swild@sfccmo.edu

Missouri Mental Health Counselors Association: Relevancy of Mental Health: September 26-28 Inn at Grand Glaize, Lake of the Ozarks.

Additional information and registration is located on their [website](#)

Missouri Safe Schools and Colleges Conference (Presented by Missouri Center for Education Safety in coordination with the Missouri School Board Association) October 1-3, 2013 Tan-Tar-A Resort

Sessions to include topics on Psychological First Aid, School Shooters, Bully and Suicide Prevention, Legal Issues, Preventing Sexual Violence, Mental Health First Aid Certification, and many others. Additional information is located on the [Missouri Center for Ed Safety website](#)

Missouri Coordinated School Health Coalition: December 5-7, Lodge of the Four Seasons

The Missouri Coordinated School Health Coalition will host a conference and hold a conversation on what's hurting our kids and what we can do about it. Come learn with national experts about suicide prevention, playground safety, dating violence, bullying, distracted driving and much more. Early Bird registration is now open. Additional information can be found on Coalition's [website](#).

ACTE Visions 2013, Las Vegas Nevada, Dec 4-7

Details and registration information are located on the Visions Website:

<https://www.acteonline.org/vision/>

To encourage more Missouri ACTE members to attend this convention, the Missouri ACTE Professional Development Committee will select two (2) Missouri ACTE members who will attend their first ACTE convention this year to receive \$200 each toward their expenses. Priority will be given to applicants who have participated in local and state career and technical activities. Contact your local division for the application.

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Guidance and Counseling Services

DIGEST



Vol. 11, No. 2

Please forward this Digest to your colleagues.

September 10, 2013

Our Vision: That all schools will have fully implemented Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Programs that advance the academic, career, and personal/social development of all students.

Our Mission: To work collaboratively with school counselors, counselor educators, the Missouri School Counselor Association, the Missouri Association for Career and Technical Education and other stakeholders to develop and provide resources and meaningful professional development that support professional school counselors and career services personnel in their efforts toward full implementation of their programs.

The Guidance and Counseling Services Staff:
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Announcements

Seeking Schools to Pilot New Counselor Evaluation Protocol

Missouri Educator Evaluation System – School Counselors: We are ready to move forward with the development of the Missouri Educator Evaluation System for School Counselors. Last spring, our initial pilot work group used the new Standards, Quality Indicators, and Professional Continuum to establish a protocol. The next step is to confirm the interest of that initial work group and to see if other school districts, leaders, and counselors would like to be involved in piloting this evaluation tool. Here is our suggested timeline:

- September 9 to September 27:
 - Confirm initial work group interested in participating in the pilot
 - Recruit additional school counselors, leaders, buildings, districts to participate in the pilot. **Those interested are asked to contact Gale “Hap” Hairston by email at Gale.Hairston@dese.mo.gov on or before Friday, September 27.**
- September 30: Confirmation and “Next Steps” Information sent to pilots
- October 1 to April 2014:
 - Work with piloting counselors and administrators to define processes and documents
 - Gather and share information from pilot groups
 - Develop training materials
- April to July:
 - Finalize protocols, processes, and documentation
 - Conduct training for counselors, administrators, and preparation faculty
- August 2014:
 - Implementation of Missouri Educator Evaluation System for School Counselors
 - Continue training for counselors, administrators, and preparation faculty

Program Components

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CURRICULUM

Universal Encouragement Program

The August Digest listed some resources to help with guidance curriculum planning. Another resource is the Universal Encouragement Program (UEP) offered through Missouri Connections. It is a data system for gathering and reporting student academic and career guidance needs, experiences, and interests. Available for schools and education support programs, UEP enables guidance and education support professionals to better understand and act upon guidance needs of both individuals and groups of students. An Introduction to Guidance Assessment and the Universal Encouragement Program webinar will be provided on October 8, November 11, and December 10.

[Click here to Register on-line](#)

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT PLANNING

Horatio Alger Scholarship Program

Horatio Alger National and State Scholarship Program is for seniors who are enrolled full-time, planning to enter a college in the United States in the fall of 2014, and exhibit a strong commitment to pursue and complete a bachelor's degree at an accredited non-profit public or private institution (may start their studies at a two-year and then transfer). They must be involved in co-curricular and community service activities, demonstrate critical financial need (\$55,000 or lower adjusted gross family income is required), and display integrity and perseverance in overcoming adversity. A minimum GPA of 2.0 must be maintained. The deadline for this scholarship is October 25, 2013. Students should apply at www.horatioalger.org/scholarships.

Missouri State University Counselors to Campus

The Missouri State University College of Education invites you to join other Missouri high school counselors this fall for [Counselors to Campus](#) — a day and a half retreat to experience our beautiful campus and learn more about teacher education programs. October 20-22

- Meet our future teachers who will take you on guided tours.
- Interact with Admissions staff and faculty to learn about our teacher education programs and career teacher advanced degree programs.
- Visit Greenwood Laboratory School, Brick City Arts Gallery, and other sites of educational and cultural interest on the Missouri State University campus and in the Springfield
- [Click here to read more](#)

All Access Day: Free On-line College Fair September 19th

[All Access Day, September 19TH, 2013 10:00AM - 10:00PM EDT](#)

[All Access Day](#) is a free event can help find the best college match; prepare for the SAT and ACT; make smart decisions about paying for college; and much more. Login anytime from 10:00AM to 10:00PM to on Thursday, September 19, 2013 to:

- Hear firsthand from current students and admissions reps at 300+ colleges
- Get expert advice on finding the best scholarships, choosing a college & more
- Enter to win \$2,500 toward college tuition, just for researching schools online

[Sign Up now. It's free and easy.](#)

For more information counselors may call the CollegeWeekLive counselor team toll free at 1-888-884-0257 or email counselors@collegeweeklive.com.

College Cost Data

The U.S. Department of Education recently updated its [College Affordability and Transparency Lists](#) as part of the Administration's ongoing effort to increase transparency around the cost of college. The updated lists highlight institutions with the highest tuition prices, highest net prices, and institutions whose costs are rising at the fastest rates.

10 Best Jobs without a College Degree

Kiplinger has identified 10 well paying jobs that do not require a B.A. degree. According to the Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce, 30% of high school graduates make better money than college grads. It's just a matter of picking the right career field.

To identify the ten best jobs without a college degree, Kiplinger focused on two critical factors: salary and job growth. The study started with the more than 300 professions that the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics classifies as requiring only a high-school diploma or post-secondary non-degree (typically awarded by a trade school or career education training program). The list was trimmed by filtering for jobs with annual salaries well over the national median of \$41,444 and projected long-term growth rates above the average of 14%. [Read the full report here.](#)

Missouri Connections

Missouri Connections, the free online career and education planning tool, has been completely redesigned! Be sure to explore the new look and features. Be encouraged to attend one of the fall trainings.

- <http://www.missouriconnections.org>
- Training locations, dates, and registration are located under the Training tab.
- Note that major changes have been made to passwords
- For questions, training information or support, contact:
 - Jackie Coleman: State Trainer and User Support Services - jackie@colemanllc.com 573-634-0043
 - Tom Schlimpert: State Coordinator – tom.schlimpert@dese.mo.gov 573-751-6875

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

UCLA Center for Mental Health in Schools Newsletter

UCLA puts out an [e-newsletter](#) that from time to time has information relevant to school counselors, especially in the area of Responsive Services

September is Attendance Awareness Month

Did you know that missing just 10% of the school year in the early grades can leave many students struggling throughout elementary school? Or that by 6th grade, missing that much school is strongly linked to course failure and even eventually dropping out of high school? That's just 18 days — or two to three days per month. *Every* school day counts and *everyone* can make a difference: educators, afterschool programs, mayors, businesses and parents.

Join us this September for the launch of the first-ever [Attendance Awareness Month](#). Rally your community around the importance of attendance and its role in academic achievement. Follow the link for more information

Missouri Department of Mental Health Offering Free On-line Suicide Prevention Training

[The Missouri Department of Mental Health](#) offers a variety of on-line training support for suicide prevention that can be accessed through their website.

September is Suicide Prevention Month in Missouri

Governor Nixon has proclaimed September as *Suicide Prevention Month in Missouri*. This month overlaps two other observances: The 2013 National Suicide Prevention Week, which starts this Sunday, runs from September 8th through September 14th. Next Tuesday is World Suicide Prevention Day, which is held annually on September 10, and is recognized internationally and supported by the World Health Organization. However, as Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army Gen. John Campbell recently pointed out, [suicide prevention is a 365-day-a-year mission](#). The prevention of suicide is not something that we can focus on for a short period and forget about the rest of the year. It is vitally important that prevention efforts are sustained throughout the year. That being said, Suicide Prevention Month provides an opportunity to increase awareness and education and help remind others of the continued need to remain dedicated to preventing suicide.

Suicide Prevention is Everyone's Business! It's not too late to get involved. Here are a few suggested activities to help you get started...

- There are many upcoming opportunities to participate in free online webinars, in person training, local walks, and more. See the partial list at the bottom of this email, or visit the [DMH online calendar page](#) for details. We've also recently begun using Google Calendar to share event information and make it easier for Google users to add event information and reminders to their own calendar or share with others. Try it out and let us know what you think! [View our new Google Calendar](#)
- The online ASK LISTEN REFER Suicide Prevention Training Program was designed to help prevent suicide by teaching users how to: identify people at risk for suicide; recognize the risk factors, protective factors, and warning signs of suicide; and respond to and get help for people at risk. Help promote ALR by sharing the following links with your friends, family and co-workers. The *campus* version is available at: www.asklistenrefer.org and the *community* version is available at: www.moasklistenrefer.org

- Download and read the book [*“SUICIDE: The Forever Decision, For those Thinking about Suicide and for Those who Know, Love and Counsel Them”*](#) by Paul Quinnett, Ph.D. which is available in a free electronic format through the QPR Institute.

We are encouraging everyone to use their social media profiles to spread the word about Suicide Prevention Month and lend their support. Please consider sharing information about available resources (such as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline), sharing our Facebook cover photo (above) and inviting others to join us. Also watch our Facebook page for upcoming opportunities to win an autographed book by one of our past conference presenters, such as Kevin Hines and Dr. Quinnett

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Guidance System of Support Fall Workshops Announced

Digging Deeper - MSIP5 Performance Standards: Building Guidance and Counseling Programs that Impact Lives and Performance

This GSOS fall workshop is building on the initial MSIP5 information provided last spring. Join us and help build this GSOS collaborative professional development network for counselors to learn more about MSIP5 and how it can be used to positively impact your program, school, and students.

Bookmark our new GSOS link on the DESE website

[On-line information](#) for the program overview and registration information is available. Registration is now open!

CEC's are now CCC's

The title for your regional Career Education Coordinator (CEC) has been changed to **College and Career Consultant (CCC)** to more accurately describe their role of helping counselors and schools develop and expand their comprehensive guidance and counseling program and career education components. Top 10x20, MSIP5 and the new Pathways to Prosperity initiative all require students to graduate college and career ready. Your CCCs can help with this K-12 process!

[Go here for regions and contact information](#)

New One-Stop for Guidance and Counseling Resources

The Department has enhanced its home page by adding tabs for school counselors, administrators, teachers, and families. On the Counselor tab you will find all the state supported resources in one location. Go to www.dese.mo.gov and check us out!



ASCA Ramp Award-Boot Camp for School Counselors

The University of Missouri-Kansas City is hosting a support session for completing the ASCA RAMP application (Recognized ASCA Model Program). RAMP designations provide evidence that school counselors and their schools are committed to delivering fully implemented, accountable guidance and counseling programs. The session will be held September 27th from 8:30AM to 4:00PM at the Pierson Auditorium 5100 Rockhill Road. Cost is \$99 for ASCA Members, \$199 for non-members. [Register on-line](#) today. [Read more about RAMP here.](#)

Vernier Engineering Contest

[Vernier Software & Technology](#) is committed to helping educators develop the next generation of engineers and scientists. To show our support, Vernier will recognize three instructors, one middle school, one high school, and one college instructor, with the Vernier Engineering Award. This \$5500 award will be presented to instructors who are creatively using Vernier sensors to introduce engineering concepts or engineering practices. This may be in conjunction with Vernier's *Logger Pro* software, NI LabVIEW software, LEGO NXT, VEX, or any other system incorporating Vernier sensors. The website has additional information regarding application and deadlines. Please pass this on to appropriate educators

Share your CTE Story

ACTE recently launched a [new feature](#) on our website for CTE teachers, administrators and counselors to share personal stories about their CTE programs. Personal stories are a vital tool when discussing the value of Career and Technical Education. [Read more...](#)

ACT Activity

The ACT news magazine, [Activity](#), is now on-line. You can subscribe to receive regular updates.

Free Missouri State Maps

MoDot has cases of 2013 Maps it would like to give away to school districts for use in the classrooms. If you are interested, contact Debbie Rickerd at 573.751.1650. Schools/Districts would need to make arrangements to pick them up

Conferences, Workshops, and Webinars

Financial Aid Reality Check Webinar: September 18 11:30 AM-1:00 PM

Join the Missouri Department of Higher Education's financial literacy expert, Marilyn Landrum, for a live webinar that will focus on current issues relating to future and current college students. [Register](#) on the Department's website.

Missouri Association for Career Services (MACS): September 19-20, Columbia Courtyard by Marriott

The purpose of MACS is to promote the development of career services to students enrolled in Missouri's high schools, area technical schools, and colleges, to maintain and improve professional standards in the field of career services, and unite professionals engaged in career services activities. For registration information contact Stacie Wild at 660.596.7256 or swild@sfccmo.edu

Missouri Mental Health Counselors Association: Relevancy of Mental Health: September 26-28 Inn at Grand Glaize, Lake of the Ozarks.

Additional information and registration is located on their [website](#)

Missouri Safe Schools and Colleges Conference (Presented by Missouri Center for Education Safety in coordination with the Missouri School Board Association) October 1-3, 2013 Tan-Tar-A Resort

Sessions to include topics on Psychological First Aid, School Shooters, Bully and Suicide Prevention, Legal Issues, Preventing Sexual Violence, Mental Health First Aid Certification, and many others. Additional information is located on the [Missouri Center for Ed Safety website](#)

Missouri School Counselor Association Fall Conference November 2-5, Tan-Tara

This year's theme is School Counselors: At the Core of Leadership. Information and Registration is available on the [MSCA Website](#)

Missouri Coordinated School Health Coalition: December 5-7, Lodge of the Four Seasons

The Missouri Coordinated School Health Coalition will host a conference and hold a conversation on what's hurting our kids and what we can do about it. Come learn with national experts about suicide prevention, playground safety, dating violence, bullying, distracted driving and much more. Early Bird registration is now open. Additional information can be found on Coalition's [website](#).

ACTE Visions 2013, Las Vegas Nevada, Dec 4-7

Details and registration information are located on the Visions Website:

<https://www.acteonline.org/vision/>

To encourage more Missouri ACTE members to attend this convention, the Missouri ACTE Professional Development Committee will select two (2) Missouri ACTE members who will attend their first ACTE convention this year to receive \$200 each toward their expenses. Priority will be given to applicants who have participated in local and state career and technical activities. Contact your local division for the application.

It is the policy of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, or disability in its programs or employment practices as required by Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. 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, Office of the General Counsel, Coordinator-Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI/Title IX/504/ADA/Age Act), 6th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, P.O. Box 480, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480; telephone number (573) 526-4757 or TTY (800) 735-2966, fax (573) 522-4883, email civilrights@dese.mo.gov.

Our Vision: That all schools will have fully implemented Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Programs that advance the academic, career, and personal/social development of all students.

Our Mission: To work collaboratively with school counselors, counselor educators, the Missouri School Counselor Association, the Missouri Association for Career and Technical Education and other stakeholders to develop and provide resources and meaningful professional development that support professional school counselors and career services personnel in their efforts toward full implementation of their programs.

The Guidance and Counseling Services Staff:

Bragg, Tom, and Loree'

573-751-4383

Announcements

Webinar on Apprenticeships scheduled for October 8 is postponed

We are sorry to announce this event is being postponed as the presenter is unavailable due to the federal government shutdown. When this event is rescheduled, it will be posted on our website. We apologize for the inconvenience this may cause. Information about registered apprenticeships can be found on their [website](#)

Special Invitation: First Aid Mental Health Training

You are invited to participate in the First Aid Mental Health Training. This is a ground breaking public education program that helps participants identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illness and substance abuse disorders. This complimentary training event is open to the first 200 registrants. The event includes a **hotel room on Tuesday evening (December 3rd)** for participants, a warm buffet breakfast Wednesday morning, all training materials, and a banquet lunch Wednesday afternoon. The only cost to participants is transportation to and from the hotel and any incidentals. (Attire for the day and the lunch is business casual.) The event will be held December 4th at the Holiday Inn Executive Center in Columbia. [Click here](#) for on-line registration.

October is National Principal's Month

[National Principals Month](#) is your opportunity to say "thank you" to principals everywhere and to share with the community all the great things that principals do. Be sure to say thank you to your principal for supporting your efforts in implementing your guidance and counseling program and for the leadership they provide everyday to enhance the educational experiences of students.

Guidance and Counseling Supervisor's Position

The Department has an opening for a supervisor's position in the Section of Guidance and Counseling. Deadline for application is October 11th. Details regarding the vacancy and the application process can be found on the [Department's website](#)

Program Components

From time to time, resources brought to our attention that could be used as part of a comprehensive guidance and counseling program are 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 the Department.

CURRICULUM

2013 Red Ribbon Week October 23-31

Red Ribbon Week is the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the country. It serves as a vehicle for communities and individuals to take a stand against alcohol and drug use by making a commitment to live alcohol and drug free lives. The mission of Missouri's Youth/Adult Alliance is to provide a network of support empowering youth to make healthy decisions about alcohol and other drugs. Additional information can be found on the [ACT Missouri's Website](#):

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT PLANNING

My Energy Gateway

The Association of Energy Services Professionals Foundation recently launched myenergygateway.org to guide students toward an education and meaningful career path in energy. Developed through a contract with the U.S. Department of Energy, myenergygateway.org provides a comprehensive list of colleges and technical institutions that offer degrees and certifications in alternative energy, energy efficiency, sustainability, green building design and more. Scholarships, internships, job options and an extensive industry resource list are also included.

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

ACT Missouri

The Missouri Alliance of the Partnership at Drugfree.org has a variety of resources for prevention, treatment and recovery. Check them out at [ACT Missouri](#) (not to be confused with the testing organization)

Anti Bullying Resources

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) released a [new video](#) where Department staff share personal stories and identify tools that support students experiencing bullying. In response to students suffering bullying in schools, ED has redoubled efforts to give parents, educators, and students the tools they need to stop harassment, including through the website Stopbullying.gov and civil rights enforcement.

SADD updates requested,

For SADD Advisors: Please update your group's information, it is free and takes two minutes at www.sadd.org/chapterreg.htm. There are no dues or fees but registering will keep you up to date with events, ideas, and other helpful info. Plus it will help us stay in contact with you! "

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Children of Military Families

Today's military children and families experience unique hardships. They move around the

country and the world repeatedly, and they must therefore adjust to new living environments, schools, and peer groups much more often than other children and families do. They live through repeated cycles of stressful separation and reunion. And they must cope with the possibility, and sometimes the reality, that a parent will die in combat or come home with serious and permanent health problems and disabilities. [The Future of Children](#), a collaboration of the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University and the Brookings Institution, has devoted its latest issue on military children and their families. The mission of the *Future of Children* is to translate the best social science research about children and youth into information that is useful to policymakers, practitioners, grant-makers, advocates, the media, and students of public policy.

Free Publications from the Missouri Department of Higher Education (MDHE)

MDHE has a number of free publications regarding college planning and financial aid. Check out these resources on their [website](#). MDHE has also started a new on-line publication [Inside Missouri Higher Education](#) which presents relevant topics on issues facing Higher Education in an easy to navigate format. Check it out!

Free Professional Development Opportunity

St. Louis Graduates is pleased to announce a fourth year of **free professional development programs** for professionals who work directly with low-income and first-generation students as they access and complete a postsecondary degree. Four half-day sessions will be held on Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.:

- October 24: Understanding the Whole Student in the College & Career Planning Process
- November 21: Building Student Engagement- Hope, Commitment & Confidence
- February 20: Decision Time: Fostering Student Self-Awareness In College & Career Choices
- March 6: Assisting Students Who Struggle to Remain in the College & Career Pipeline
-

All sessions are offered free of charge thanks in part to support from The Laclede Group Foundation.

Registration information will be sent via e-mail next week. Space is limited.

To be added to our e-mail list, send your name and contact information to info@stlouisgraduates.org

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The NCWIT [Award for Aspirations in Computing](#) honors young women at the high school level for their computing-related achievements and interests. Recipients are selected for their computing and IT aptitude, leadership ability, academic history, and plans for post-secondary education. Application deadline is October 31.

Eight \$1,000 Missouri Community Service Commission (MCSC) scholarships are available to 9-12 grade student-volunteers through the 2013-2014 High School Student-Volunteer Community Service Scholarship Awards initiative. Please go to www.movolunteers.org for complete information. All materials are due on or before **March 3, 2014**. The MCSC program contact person is Commissioner John Albright at homeport1@charter.net (Ph: 573-207-0044)

Recorded Webinars

Webinars are now available on Guidance and Counseling Program Evaluation (especially helpful for 2nd year participants in the state mentoring program) and on Student Financial Aid. They are available on the [Department's Website](#)

Conferences, Workshops, and Webinars

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(Presented by Missouri Center for Education Safety in coordination with the Missouri School Board Association)
Sessions to include topics on Psychological First Aid, School Shooters, Bully and Suicide Prevention, Legal Issues, Preventing Sexual Violence, Mental Health First Aid Certification, and many others. Additional information is located on the [Missouri Center for Ed Safety website](#)

American Counseling Association of Missouri Saturday, October 26 Missouri Baptist University

2 half day sessions: Living by Choice 9:00 to Noon; Counseling throughout the Relationship Cycle 1:00-4:00. Additional information and registration is available on the [ACAM website](#)

Missouri School Counselor Association Fall Conference November 2-5, Tan-Tara

This year's theme is School Counselors: At the Core of Leadership. Information and Registration is available on the [MSCA Website](#)

2013 Substance Abuse Prevention Conference: November 19-20 Lodge of the Four Seasons

ACT Missouri cordially invites you to attend our annual Prevention Conference to learn from national and local experts in the field of substance abuse prevention, acquire skills to strengthen your coalition, gain knowledge about the latest trends, collaborate with other professionals, and network with prevention enthusiasts across Missouri. [On-line Registration](#) is available.

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Details and registration information are located on the Visions Website:
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Announcements

ACT Transitions to ASPIRE Assessment System.

The following information is from the [ACT ASPIRE Website](#):

ACT Aspire™ is a computer-based, longitudinal assessment system that connects growth and progress from elementary grades through high school in the context of college and career readiness. Assessing students' knowledge and skills is critical to ensuring all students receive the support and services necessary to help them succeed in school and life. The essential, actionable information and insights gained from ACT Aspire Assessment System® help educators understand a student's past, capture the present, and impact the future. ACT representatives have indicated that once ASPIRE is launched, the Explore and Plan will no longer be available as the content of these tests will be incorporated into the ASPIRE system. The interests assessments associated with Explore and Plan are being incorporated into an on-line college planning tool that will be free to all students. It is currently undergoing Beta testing. Go to the ASPIRE website for additional information.

November is National Career Development Month

The National Career Development Association promotes life career development every November and school counselors and other professionals involved in career development are encouraged to celebrate with career development activities. The Association sponsors a poetry and poster contest each year. Participation guidelines and additional information are available on the [Associations' Website](#)

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You are invited to participate in the First Aid Mental Health Training. This is a ground breaking public education program that helps participants identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illness and substance abuse disorders. This complimentary training event is open to the first 200 registrants. The event includes **a hotel room on Tuesday evening (December 3rd)** for participants, a warm buffet breakfast Wednesday morning, all training materials, and a banquet lunch Wednesday afternoon. The only cost to participants is transportation to and from the hotel and any incidentals. (Attire for the day and the lunch is business casual.) The event will be held December 4th at the Holiday Inn Executive Center in Columbia. [Click here](#) for on-line registration.

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CURRICULUM

FAFSA FRENZY

The [2014 FAFSA Frenzy site list is now available on dhe.mo.gov](#). With 76 sites planning to conduct 80 events for 2014, this year's list represents an approximate increase of 40 percent over last year. Missouri will also see sites in more counties this year, with 46 counties represented in the 2014 site list.

If you are interested in serving as a 2014 FAFSA Frenzy volunteer, be looking for the online volunteer application later this month on the FAFSA Frenzy Web page for educational professionals and financial aid officers at <http://www.dhe.mo.gov/ppc/collegegoalsundayFAO.php>. The Missouri Department of Higher Education will also distribute an additional communication as soon as the volunteer application is available. To make sure you don't miss the announcements, [subscribe to receive MDHE communications](#) on our website.

If you have any questions regarding the 2014 events, you may contact Jaron Vail, MDHE outreach program specialist, at jaron.vail@dhe.mo.gov or Julie Meyer, director for student access and success programs, at julie.meyer@dhe.mo.gov.

Alliance for Excellent Education

The mission of the [Alliance for Excellent Education](#) is to promote high school transformation to make it possible for every child to graduate prepared for postsecondary learning and success in life. **Vision:** The Alliance for Excellent Education envisions a nation where all children graduate from high school with the knowledge and intellectual and social skills necessary for postsecondary learning and success in life. The Alliance has a variety of on-line resources including a "Guidance Toolkit" with lesson plans which can be found on their [website](#). This is an excellent resource for school counselors and classroom teachers.

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT PLANNING

Starting College and Not Finishing

At a time when the benefits of going to college are being questioned more than at any other in recent years The Hamilton Project at The Brookings Institution recently published [Is Starting College and Not Finishing Really That Bad?](#) by Michael Greenstone and Adam Looney. This study examines employment and lifetime earnings outcomes for students who begin college but do not finish within the larger context of students with varying levels of education attainment—from less than high school to professional degrees. They find that the lifetime earnings of such students are approximately \$100,000 higher (present value) than those of their peers who pursue no education beyond high school. Using rate of return on investment as the measurement criterion, the authors' analysis shows that "getting some college education is an investment with a return that exceeds the historical return on practically

any conventional investment, including stocks, bonds, and real estate.” The authors, however, observe that the returns for students who achieve either an associate’s or a bachelor’s degree are the highest.

Getting Ready for 2013-14

Many schools begin to think about and prepare for the 2013-14 school year during the time before the holidays in order to be ready for pre-enrollment activities. This might be a good time to review your course guide to see if it is reflective of a true “educational and career planning guide” that helps students see the context for their course work and post-secondary plans. A sample guide template is available for your review under the [Fall 2011 GSOS materials](#)

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

College Freshman Drinking Habits

College freshmen drinking habits are often formed during the first six weeks of school, according to an expert from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA). About four out of five college students drink alcohol, [according to NIAAA](#). About half of college students who drink also consume alcohol through binge drinking. An estimated 1,825 college students between the ages of 18 and 24 die each year from alcohol-related unintentional injuries. [Read the full report.](#)

Social-Emotional Needs and Student Learning

Helping students build resilience and connections to other students and adults are key factors in student success. Read the entire article on [The Education Week Website](#)

SYSTEM SUPPORT

BJC School Outreach and Youth Development

[BJC School Outreach and Youth Development](#) is your “one-stop shop” for health-related information and presentations for your K-12 grade youth, professional development days, and parent meetings. Educators and health care professionals implement our programs, many of whom are members of health advisory councils, local and state boards, and experts in their field of health education. Various interactive teaching methods are incorporated which reach all students’ learning styles.

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Webinars are now available on Guidance and Counseling Program Evaluation (especially helpful for 2nd year participants in the state mentoring program) and on Student Financial Aid. They are available on the [Department's Website](#)

Conferences, Workshops, and Webinars

2013 Substance Abuse Prevention Conference: November 19-20 Lodge of the Four Seasons

ACT Missouri cordially invites you to attend our annual Prevention Conference to learn from national and local experts in the field of substance abuse prevention, acquire skills to strengthen your coalition, gain knowledge about the latest trends, collaborate with other professionals, and network with prevention enthusiasts across Missouri. [On-line Registration](#) is available.

ACTE Visions 2013, Las Vegas Nevada, Dec 4-7

Details and registration information are located on the Visions Website:
<https://www.acteonline.org/vision/>

To encourage more Missouri ACTE members to attend this convention, the Missouri ACTE Professional Development Committee will select two (2) Missouri ACTE members who will attend their first ACTE convention this year to receive \$200 each toward their expenses. Priority will be given to applicants who have participated in local and state career and technical activities. Contact your local division for the application.

Missouri Coordinated School Health Coalition: December 5-7, Lodge of the Four Seasons

The Missouri Coordinated School Health Coalition will host a conference and hold a conversation on what's hurting our kids and what we can do about it. Come learn with national experts about suicide prevention, playground safety, dating violence, bullying, distracted driving and much more. Early Bird registration is now open. Additional information can be found on Coalition's [website](#).

It is the policy of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, or disability in its programs or employment practices as required by Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. 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, Office of the General Counsel, Coordinator—Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI/Title IX/504/ADA/Age Act), 6th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, P.O. Box 480, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480; telephone number (573) 526-4757 or TTY (800) 735-2966, fax (573) 522-4883, email civilrights@dese.mo.gov.

Our Vision: That all schools will have fully implemented Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Programs that advance the academic, career, and personal/social development of all students.

Our Mission: To work collaboratively with school counselors, counselor educators, the Missouri School Counselor Association, the Missouri Association for Career and Technical Education and other stakeholders to develop and provide resources and meaningful professional development that support professional school counselors and career services personnel in their efforts toward full implementation of their programs.

The Guidance and Counseling Services Staff:

Bragg, Tom, and Loree'

573-751-4383

Announcements

Happy Holidays! This will be the last Digest until January although Special Transmissions will be sent if time sensitive items come up before then. Lore'e, Tom, and Bragg all wish you the very best during the holiday season and for a happy and prosperous New Year.

November is National Homeless Youth Awareness Month

Each year more than 1.6 million children are homeless at some point in their lives, and that number is increasing ([The National Center on Family Homelessness](#)). Along with losing their home, community, friends, and routines as well as their sense of stability and safety, many homeless youth are also victims of trauma. While trying to survive on the streets, youth are exposed to countless dangers, with an increased likelihood of substance abuse, early parenthood, impulsivity, depression, posttraumatic stress disorder, and a vulnerability to being trafficked.

In support of National Homeless Youth Awareness Month, the [National Child Traumatic Stress Network](#) (NCTSN) is providing resources to help communities, families, educators, mental health and child welfare professionals, and policy makers and advocates better understand and deal with homeless youth.

Program Components

From time to time, resources brought to our attention that could be used as part of a comprehensive guidance and counseling program are 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 the Department.

CURRICULUM

[Curriculum-sharing websites](#) can be a fantastic way to collect materials and best practices beyond the four walls of your classroom and to enhance your guidance curriculum. The Common Core has added a new layer to the planning process for many teachers and school counselors, and with countless sites that house giant collections of dubious quality, looking for teaching materials online is a bit of a needle-in-a-haystack proposition. So how do you cut through the noise to find the best?

Websites that foster community around the resources are a great place to start. Teachers can contribute their own work, collaborate across the Web to make them better, rate others' contributions after using

them, and watch the best bubble to the top. Though not all of the organizations and networks highlighted in this video playlist are built around a community, all of them offer no-cost or low-cost lessons plans and materials for the classroom, and most offer tools to sort by subject and grade level, and to match to standards.

Curriculum for Soft Skills

"Skills to Pay the Bills: Mastering Soft Skills for Workplace Success," is a curriculum developed by ODEP focused on teaching "soft" or workforce readiness skills to youth, including youth with disabilities. Created for youth development professionals as an introduction to workplace interpersonal and professional skills, the curriculum is targeted for youth ages 14 to 21 in both in-school and out-of-school environments. The basic structure of the program is comprised of modular, hands-on, engaging activities that focus on six key skill areas: communication, enthusiasm and attitude, teamwork, networking, problem solving and critical thinking, and professionalism

<http://www.dol.gov/odep/topics/youth/softskills/>

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT PLANNING

New Promotional Materials for Individual Student Planning

The Department's Communications Office has developed new promotional material for Individual Student Planning and will soon be available on [Missouri Connections Home Page](#) under the Educator tab. Please use and share these materials.

Health Care Jobs in Demand and More Complex

Frontline and nonclinical health care jobs like medical assistants and patient navigators are growing dramatically in number and complexity in the wake of the baby boom retirement, Affordable Care Act, and information technology advances, according to a new workforce strategy report released today by College for America, a national leader in competency-based higher education.

[The report](#) explores the surge already underway in six non-clinical healthcare position and the shifting skill sets required for these positions:

- Medical Office Specialist
- Medical Assistant
- Office Supervisor
- Community Health Worker
- Medical Records Technician
- Patient Representative

Raising Awareness of All Post-Secondary Options

Is college the best route for every student? What are today's alternatives? How are we preparing students for other options? [We Are Teachers](#) examines the research and provides detailed information on these and other topics of interest

MASFAP offers free NT4CM workshops

The [Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel](#) serves as Missouri's managing organization for the [National Training for Counselors and Mentors](#), a program of the U.S. Department of Education. NT4CM workshops are offered free of charge. Missouri's high school guidance counselors, [2014 FAFSA Frenzy site coordinators](#) who are not financial aid officers and other college access professionals are invited to attend an upcoming workshop at one of seven locations:

- Dec. 5 (Thursday), St. Louis – workshop will be held on the campus of [St. Louis University](#)
- Dec. 6 (Friday), Columbia – workshop will be held at [Stephens College](#)

- Dec. 10 (Tuesday), Kansas City – workshop will be held on the campus of [Metropolitan Community College - Penn Valley](#)
- Dec. 10 (Tuesday), Rolla – workshop will be held at [Missouri S&T](#)
- Dec. 10 (Tuesday), Springfield- workshop will be held on the campus of [Bryan University](#)
- Dec. 11 (Wednesday), Cape Girardeau – workshop will be held at [Southeast Missouri State University](#)
- Dec. 13 (Friday), St. Joseph - workshop will be held on the campus of [Missouri Western State University](#)

These trainings will provide information, resources, and tools regarding federal, state, and local financial aid programs for counselors and mentors working with students and their families. The workshops will begin at 9 a.m. and are conducted by seasoned financial aid professionals.

[Online registration](#) is now available for all locations. Questions regarding Missouri’s NT4CM workshops may be directed to EarlyAwareness@masfap.org.

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

On-Line Counseling

Full-time online schools around the country are wrestling with how to better support the academic, social, and emotional needs of students they rarely see in person. [Read the full report here.](#)

Suicide Prevention

[A webinar](#) from the Suicide Prevention Resource Center provides an overview of a free [Toolkit for Suicide Prevention in High Schools](#). This free resource may also be used with other grades. The Toolkit is designed for Superintendents, Principals, Teachers, Mental Health Professionals, School Counselors, School Nurses, Parents and Students.

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Missouri Virtual Instruction (MoVIP)

MoVIP, or the Missouri Virtual Instruction Program, which is run by the Department, is currently registering K-12 students for the upcoming winter semester. MoVIP currently offers about 150 different online courses in a wide variety of subjects including AP, foreign language and electives. MoVIP is an excellent resource to help school districts meet their College and Career-Ready (CCR) and High School-Ready (HSR) goals at little cost. School districts can get reimbursed from DESE for about 90% of the tuition costs. MoVIP also offers state-funded tuition for students who qualify as medically fragile. All courses are also taught by Missouri-certified teachers. For more information, please visit www.movip.org<<http://www.movip.org>>. Contact Steve Schellman at 573-751-5882 for additional information.

Missouri Community Service Commission Scholarship Opportunity

Eight \$1,000 Missouri Community Service Commission (MCSC) scholarships are available to 9-12 grade student-volunteers through the 2013-2014 High School Student-Volunteer Community Service Scholarship Awards initiative. Please go to www.movolunteers.org for complete information. All materials are due on or before **March 3, 2014**. The MCSC program contact person is Commissioner John Albright at homeport1@charter.net (Ph: 573-207-0044).

SAT Being Redesigned

The College Board is planning to redesign the SAT, less than a decade since its last revision, which introduced a writing section, eliminated analogies and raised the value of a perfect score. [Read the full report.](#)

Webinar: Empowering Parents to Transform Schools

The free webinar explores how parents are playing a larger role in the transformation of schools and school districts. In cities across the country—Baltimore, Chicago, New Orleans, New York, Los Angeles, and Washington—and many states, parents and parent groups are forming coalitions, lobbying lawmakers, creating new schools, and generally bringing about school change. How can the forces at play come together to create an environment where parents play an active and positive role in school improvement? [The webinar has been archived for viewing.](#) Registration is required

College and Career Readiness Among First Generation Students

Each year, ACT provides an analysis of the college and career readiness of US high school graduates based on ACT® college readiness assessment results from the high school graduating class. [This report](#) shines a light on the need to improve college and career readiness for first-generation students while also addressing policies to assist these students with the challenges they may face.

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MSCA Spring Conference: Friday, March 7, Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City

The theme for the Spring Conference is “The Leadership in You.” Discover your leadership style and how to use leadership skills in guiding the direction of your comprehensive guidance and counseling program. Information and registration are on the [MSCA website](#)

College Board National Office for School Counselor Advocacy, “Destination Equity Conference 2014”: April 11-12, Los Angeles CA.

[Destination Equity 2014](#) focuses on counseling practices and programs that encourage access and success for students as they prepare for college and careers. Through compelling sessions and engaging dialogue, you will acquire hands-on strategies and tools that can be implemented at your school, in your district, in your community and at the state level.

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