

OSFA News For School Counselors October thru December 2014

Registration Available for National Training for Counselors and Mentors (NT4CM) Workshops

[National Training for Counselors and Mentors](#) (NT4CM) is a program that provides free training and support for counselors and mentors who assist students and their families in preparing financially for college. NT4CM is available for any individual who advises students and their families on how to fund education beyond high school.

The Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance [Outreach Representative](#) provide NT4CM workshops throughout Florida. This team of professional trainers provides comprehensive, up-to-date information regarding federal and state student-aid programs, scholarship searches and financial aid fraud. Workshop participants learn to access free resources, such as fact sheets, brochures and PowerPoint presentations to help them assist their students.

NT4CM is sponsored by Federal Student Aid ([FSA](#)), the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators ([NASFAA](#)), the National Council of Higher Education Resources ([NCHER](#)), the National Association for College Admission Counseling ([NACAC](#)), the American School Counselor Association ([ASCA](#)), the National College Access Network ([NCAN](#)), the Florida Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators ([FASFAA](#)) and the Council for Opportunity in Education ([COE](#)). [Register](#) for one of the 12 sessions today!

Mapping Your Future

Counselors, encourage your students to check out <http://mappingyourfuture.org/MiddleHighSchool/>

No matter what their future dreams, having the resources to prepare students for life (and most likely education) after high school is important. *Mapping Your Future* can help them achieve that goal!

Available information includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- **8th-grade students:** Plan for college now (Make High School Count Program) Take the right classes in high school
- **High school students:** Prepare for life after graduation (Guide to Life after High School program)
- **Juniors:** Review college planning tips
- **Seniors:** Follow the college planning calendar
- Explore careers
- Do what it takes to be successful in college (Success in College Guide)
- Find financial aid for college
- Find other career, college, and financial aid resources in your state
- Downloads and forms
- Glossary of college and financial aid terms and acronyms

Mapping Your Future is the resource students and professionals need when it comes to trusted online and person-to-person counseling. *Mapping Your Future's* resources offer college preparation, school selection and career exploration guidance, as well as information on the student loan process and responsibilities.

What is Fastweb?

Fastweb is the leading online resource for finding scholarships to help pay for college. This free resource helps students find scholarships based on self reported strengths, interests and skills.

Fastweb also provides information on financial aid, college search and career advice. Encourage your students to match with possible scholarships [today](#).

Check out our latest **Fastweb** winners at <http://www.fastweb.com/content/scholarship-winners>.

Tell Us What You Think About the NyFF Website Redesign!

Phase “1” of our NyFF website transition is now complete!

To streamline the most important information used on our website, we cleaned out the clutter and got back to basics.

- The order form no longer requires a log in or password to access.
- The entire site may now be viewed easily on various devices such as mobile phones, tablets and PC screens.

Visit our website and leave your feedback. Your voice is important to us and the information will be used in planning phase “2” strategies.

Watch for more details via our listserv. If you are not on the counselor listserv, contact your [Outreach Representative](#) for assistance.

EVENTS

- **October** – *National Training For Counselors and Mentors* sessions begin.
- **November** – state offices closed 11th (Veteran's Day) and 26-27th (Thanksgiving Holiday).
- **December** – Florida Financial Aid Application for state aid available December 1 for 2014-15 graduating seniors.

Contact an OSFA [Outreach Representative](#) about your high school's needs. We'll be glad to help!

The **October 2014 NyFF E-News** is available for your students.

Visit [October 2014 NyFF E-News](#)

Topics:

- College Navigator
- Bright Futures Scholarship
- Scholarship Scams
- Tips for earning, saving and spending money

Students may visit

<http://www.navigatingyourfinancialfuture.org/> and select "Resource" to access this vital information.

Have you missed an issue of the OSFA News for Counselors?

You may visit the [archives](#) for prior editions.

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