GENERAL UPDATES

Scholarship Guide
The 2011-2012 Scholarship Guide is online at: http://www.chooseyourfuture.org/scholarship-guide

Chicago Scholars
The Chicago Scholars Application is online at: http://www.chicagoscholars.org/apply

2012-2013 FAFSA and Verification: Anticipated Updates and Enhancements

FAFSA Information To Be Verified for the 2012-2013 Award Year


FAFSA Plan Template and Data Collection Tools
As you prepare to administer the FAFSA in the next month, the K12 Advising Department Office of Pathway to College and Career and Higher Education Advisory Taskforce (H.E.A.T.) Financial Aid Subcommittee are providing the following tools and resources to assist you with your planning and implementation (attached):

- The FAFSA Plan Template has been a wide and successfully used tool to help schools develop a targeted strategy to reach the FAFSA completion goal by a measurable deadline.
- The FAFSA Ready Survey can be administered to seniors in school and will help you identify your target groups and complete your plan. Feel free to administer before winter break.
- The FAFSA Ready Worksheet can be sent home to collect the necessary information required to complete the FAFSA and is a great accompaniment to the Social Security Number Request Form distributed from the District today and yesterday. Feel free to send home with Regular Track students over the break.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>High Schools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael</td>
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<td>Adams</td>
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<td>Bobbie</td>
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<td>Rojas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sergio</td>
<td>Madera</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alejandro</td>
<td>Vera</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2012 CHICAGO POSSE SCHOLARS

66 out of the 95 winners were from our schools

CONGRATULATIONS
UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly Coaches Meeting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, January 19, 2012</td>
<td>8:30am-4:00pm</td>
<td>TAMS, 501 W. 35th Street, Charter Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, February 16, 2012</td>
<td>8:30am-4:00pm</td>
<td>TAMS, 501 W. 35th Street, Charter Room</td>
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GATES Writing Workshops

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>December 27</td>
<td>9:00am – 12:00pm</td>
<td>Kenwood 5015 S Blackstone Ave Chicago, Illinois 60615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 27</td>
<td>9:00am – 12:00pm</td>
<td>Juarez 2150 S Laflin St Chicago, Illinois 60608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 29</td>
<td>9:00am – 12:00pm</td>
<td>Uptown 900 W Wilson Ave Chicago, Illinois 60640</td>
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</table>

Financial Aid Certification: Winter & Spring Sessions

This year, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) is integrating its professional development opportunities, highly acclaimed by new and seasoned counselors and mentors, into a formalized annual certification series that gives professionals a detailed understanding of financial aid programs and systems. All sessions are offered at NO COST to counselors, mentors, and members of the general public.

Refer to page 7 for more information

College Forum for North Side Immigrant Students and Families

January 17, 2012
4:30pm – 7:00pm
Sullivan HS, Auditorium
6631 N Bosworth Ave

In Illinois, colleges are open to undocumented students and some scholarships are available. At this informational session, you will learn about the Illinois DREAM Act and will be introduced to the process of planning for, applying to, and paying for college. College representatives, counselors, and current students will be available to answer your questions.

For more Information, visit:
http://www.chooseyourfuture.org/event/north-side-immigrant-college-forum
# What’s Next Illinois Training FY12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location (All Tentative)</th>
<th>Number of Seats</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, January 31, 2012</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Elizabeth Training Facility, 320 North Elizabeth Street, Room 303</td>
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<tr>
<td>ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ONLY</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>What’s Next Illinois/PAWS in Jobland</td>
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<td>TBD</td>
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<td>Wednesday, February 1, 2012</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginner Level Training</td>
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<td>Thursday, February 2, 2012</td>
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<td>Intermediate Level Training</td>
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<td>Friday, February 3, 2012</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Elizabeth Training Facility, 320 North Elizabeth Street, Room 303</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Plan Builder and TestGEAR</td>
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<td>Chicago, IL</td>
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<td>Friday, March 23, 2012</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Elizabeth Training Facility, 320 North Elizabeth Street, Room 303</td>
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<td>TestGEAR and Course Plan Builder</td>
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<td>Chicago, IL</td>
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<td>Friday, April 27, 2012</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ONLY</td>
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<td>Chicago, IL</td>
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<tr>
<td>What’s Next Illinois/Paws in Jobland</td>
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<td>Friday, May 25, 2012</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<td>Intermediate Level Training*</td>
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<td>Friday, June 8, 2012</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate Level Training*</td>
<td></td>
<td>TBD</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Registration Procedures:
1. Go to CPS University, Browse Catalogue, Career and Technical Education, What’s Next Illinois FY12
2. Charter Schools: please send an e-mail to Marcia Boyd at mlboyd1@cps.k12.il.us
   *Intermediate level training is restricted to those who received WNI training in 2010-2011 school year.
3. If you did not receive WNI training in 2010-2011, you will need to attend a beginner training session.
4. All WNI FY12 Training sessions will minimally include coverage of Individual Learning Plans (ILPs), ILP Milestones, Course Plan Building, College Application and Scholarship Tracking instructions and the CTE Early Warning System components.
2012 Counselor & Coach Professional Development

1. Working with Undocumented Students Toolkit (2 offerings)
   January 11 or January 12, 2012
   8:00am - 12:00pm @ Gage Park
   Please register on CPS U:
   For Jan 11 - COURSE CODE: OCCPUndocToolkit011112
   For Jan 12 - COURSE CODE: OCCPUndocToolkit011212

2. RAMP Application Training Session #2
   January 18, 2012
   8:00am - 12:00pm @ Roosevelt HS
   Please register on CPS U:
   COURSE CODE: occpramptraining011812

3. New and Emerging Technologies Workshop
   January 27, 2012
   1:30pm - 3:00pm @ Phillips HS
   Please register on CPS U:
   Course Code: 30181 - K12012712
   Catalog Long Name: New and Emerging Technologies for School Counselors - K12012712

4. FAFSA on the Web (FOTW) and FAFSA Clinic (2 offerings)
   January 11 or January 12, 2012
   1:00pm - 3:30 pm @ TBA

5. New Counselor Training - Mid Year Check In
   January 31, 2012
   9:30am - 12:00pm @ TBA
   “Leadership in Increasing and Supporting AP Access and Success” Toolkit
   Co-sponsored by the CollegeBoard
   12:30pm – 3:00pm @ TBA

Elementary School Counseling Updates

Visit CPS University for details about parking and protocols. As seating may be limited (*) and we need to ensure accurate records of attendance, please pre-register for each PD event, including the MID SY COUNSELORS’ MTG, that you will be attending SEPARATELY by the deadlines indicated.

BULLYING PREVENTION & INTERVENTION STRATEGIES FOR SCHOOLS WORKSHOP* (8:30 AM TO 3:00 PM)
   Wednesday, January 18, 2012
   Logandale-Avondale Middle School, Gym Multipurpose Room
   3212 W. George Street
   Register in CPS U by January 16, 2012

MID SCHOOL YEAR ELEMENTARY COUNSELORS’ MEETING (8:30 AM TO 12:30 PM)
   Friday, January 27, 2012
   Phillips Academy High School, Auditorium
   244 E. Pershing Road
   Register in CPS U by January 25, 2012

NEW AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES WORKSHOP FOR K-12 SCHOOL COUNSELORS (1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM)
   Friday, January 27, 2012
   Phillips Academy High School, Auditorium
   244 E. Pershing Road
   Register in CPS U by January 25, 2012

REMINDER: REGISTER IN CPS U FOR JANUARY 2012 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EVENTS
Latino Health Science Enrichment Program (LaHSEP)

The Hispanic Center of Excellence in Medicine (HCOE) in partnership with the Latin American Recruitment and Educational Services (LARES) program at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) is offering a 6 week academic enrichment program for high school students during summer 2012.

This summer academic enrichment program provides participants the opportunity to:

- Engage in a series of courses that will enhance their skills in science reasoning, mathematics, and writing skills in order to prepare for the American College Testing (ACT) exam
- Be introduced to workshops geared towards college readiness, career exploration in the health sciences and leadership skill development
- Participate in an investigative project to develop their research skills

Requirements

- Be at least a rising sophomore in the 2012-2013 academic year
- Have completed at least 1 Mathematics class in high school
- Have completed at least 1 Science class in high school
- Have a minimum unweighted GPA of 2.75 or higher (on a 4.0 scale) students with a lower GPA may be considered but must submit an additional essay (see application for more details)
- Have a strong interest in pursuing a career in the health sciences

Program Dates: Monday, June 18, 2012 to Friday, July 27, 2012, Monday–Friday 9:00am– 3:30pm at UIC

Application Deadline: Friday, February 3, 2012


Contact: Kendy Oláquez or Diana Rodríguez; Phone: 312-355-2529; Email: lahsep@uic.edu

2012 Bank of America Charitable Foundation's Student Leaders Program

The Bank of America Charitable Foundation’s Student Leaders® Program is currently accepting applications for the 2012 program. Since the program’s inception in 2004, Bank of America has recognized more than 1,600 high school students as Student Leaders who have exhibited passion for improving their communities. The program helps students gain a greater understanding of how nonprofits create impact in the community and develops them as the next generation of community leaders through two components:

- A summer 2012 eight-week paid summer internship with selected nonprofit organizations designed to provide opportunities for the students to develop and apply leadership skills through hands-on work experience, while raising their awareness of community issues addressed by their host organization.

- A week-long, all-expenses paid Student Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C., July 15-20, 2012. Conducted in partnership with the Close Up Foundation, the Summit introduces students to aspects of civic, social and business leadership and provides them with knowledge and skills they will use throughout their life to create positive community change.

The program is open to eligible high school juniors and seniors. Interested students must apply online at www.bankofamerica.com/neistudentleaders.

DEADLINE: JANUARY 25, 2012

If you have any questions or if you would like materials to help promote this program, please contact Julie Chavez at julie.chavez@bankofamerica.com.
Financial Aid Certification | Winter & Spring Sessions

2011-12 Financial Aid Certification - Winter Sessions
Online registration became available on November 22, 2011.

WINTER SESSION DETAILS
Winter sessions will run from 8:30 AM to Noon. Registration will begin promptly at 8:00 AM.

Session 1: Expert Guide: FAFSA Relevant Documents
Get your hands on a printed resource designed specifically for counselors and mentors. We review a collection of documents that are references for the FAFSA.

Session 2: FAFSA Expert Training: Need Analysis and EFC Calculations
How do they come up with the Expected Family Contribution (EFC)? Learn how factors such as parents’ age, income, savings and family size are used in the federal methodology to determine the EFC. Using lifelike scenarios, participants complete guided calculations to learn the intricacies of determining financial need.

Knowledge Assessments: Session 1 and Session 2

Winter Sites Include:
January 18, 2012  ISAC, Deerfield, IL
January 20, 2012  Robert Morris University, Chicago, IL
January 26, 2012  Kaskaskia College, Centralia, IL
January 27, 2012  Parkland College, Champaign, IL
February 7, 2012  Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL
February 9, 2012  Moraine Valley Community College, Palos Hills, IL
February 14, 2012  Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield, IL
February 15, 2012  Carl Sandburg College, Galesburg, IL
February 16, 2012  Kishwaukee College, Malta, IL
February 24, 2012  Truman College, Chicago, IL

2011-12 Financial Aid Certification - Spring Sessions
Online registration becomes available on January 12, 2012.

SPRING SESSION DETAILS
Spring sessions will run from 8:30 AM to Noon. Registration will begin promptly at 8:00 AM.

Session 1: Corrections, Verification and Special Circumstances
There are situations where estimates or the information first reported on the FAFSA may need to be changed. Learn how to correct information, what it means when a student is selected for verification, and what the financial aid administrator can and cannot do to help students with special circumstance.

Session 2: Financial Aid Packaging and University Billing Cycle
Want to know how to evaluate those confusing award letters? This workshop will teach you how to parse information in award letters and you will receive the Financial Aid Comparison Worksheet that you can use when working with students. Of course, students ask for help once they get to college too, and this workshop serves as a primer on who students can turn to on-campus when they have trouble.

Knowledge Assessments: Session 1 and Session 2

Spring Sites Include:
March 1, 2012  Richland Community College, Decatur, IL
March 2, 2012  John Logan College, Carterville, IL
March 9, 2012  ISAC, Deerfield, IL
March 14, 2012  Spoon River Community College, (Outreach Center), Macomb, IL
March 15, 2012  Joliet Junior College, Joliet, IL

For more information, visit: http://www.collegezone.com/elibrary/2290_2374.htm
ACADEMIC DECATHLON 2011-2012
Support our students - Become a Volunteer!

We invite you to volunteer in the 2011-12 Academic Decathlon Competitions, where high school students from a range of Chicago Public Schools will match their intellects. This year’s topic is “The Age of Empire” and Decathletes will be tested on various subjects including Art, Economics, Social Science, as well as proficiency in Speech, Interview and Essay writing.

Saturday, January 28, 2012
City Wide First Round Competition
Objective Tests
Chicago Vocational Career Academy
2100 East 87th Street
Chicago, IL 60617
773-535-6100
6 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Thursday, February 2, 2012
City Championship Competition
Speech, Interview, and Essay
Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Paideia Academy
7530 S. South Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60649
773-535-6650
7 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Saturday, February 4, 2012
City Championship Competition
Objective Tests
Whitney Young Magnet School
211 S. Laflin Street
Chicago, IL 60607
773-534-7500
6 a.m. – 10 p.m.

As a volunteer, you will have the opportunity to:
- Interact with thoughtful and engaged students from a range of Chicago Public Schools.
- Get involved in a program that builds decathletes’ motivation, leadership and confidence to help them succeed in the classroom and in life.
- Support participating schools, coaches and decathletes from diverse neighborhoods and schools.
- Gain insight on what students are doing outside of the classroom setting.
- Network with over 300 volunteers during weekend competitions and 100 volunteers during weekday competitions.

If you are available to volunteer, please complete and return the attached Volunteer form(s) and submit to Sylvia Nelson at snelson@cps.k12.il.us, send via mail run to GSR # 125, drop off at 125 S. Clark Street, 12th floor, Clark, or via fax to 773-553-4330 by December 22nd, 2011. Assignments and training schedules will be distributed by Monday, January 9, 2012.

Please contact Sylvia Nelson with any additional questions at 73-553-5142 or snelson@cps.k12.il.us.

Celebrating decathletes’ academic achievement:
- 70% college enrollment
- 98% high school graduation
- Top 5 nationally ranked for over 20 years

The Age of Empire
Commentary: The Study Abroad Advantage  
by Luis Martinez, December 20, 2011

Today’s globalized economies and societies require leaders able to embrace cross-cultural differences. Our students should no longer expect to impact a modern workforce without exposure to customs outside the United States. Study abroad, more than ever, is vital in our effort to prepare college students for the demands of careers in an ever-increasing number of fields.

Among the 260,327 students who studied abroad for credit in the 2008-09 academic year, 80.5 percent were White, according to a 2010 Open Doors report by the Institute of International Education. Minority students in higher education must not overlook the value of studying abroad and should begin enhancing their college education by studying in a foreign country for at least one term before graduation. Doing so will contribute to their satisfaction as undergraduates and advance their search for meaningful careers.

Employers are always looking for talents and characteristics that set candidates apart. The modern job market has witnessed study abroad emanating as a differentiating factor. Whether a student has done research at the London School of Economics or taken anthropology courses in Australia, one thing is apparent: He has displayed initiative that has led to an increased understanding of the world. For an employer, the qualified candidate who can articulate the benefits of a term away in a manner that aligns him with potential responsibilities is a gem.

In many cases, these applicants are more culturally aware and possess the adventurous spirit that leads to the productive, creative thinking necessary to excel in any organization or company. Graduate, medical, and law school committees also look favorably upon experiences abroad. The more incoming students with a broad scope of their discipline as it exists within an international framework, the better.

Read full article at: http://diverseeducation.com/article/16719/.

Education Department Launches Video Contest to Publicize Cost of College Calculators for Students, Parents and Consumers  
Challenge is part of broad Obama Administration effort to help families understand the costs of higher education and empower students to make smart educational choices, December 19, 2011

The U.S. Department of Education today launched the College Net Price Calculator Student Video Challenge in an effort to broaden public awareness of tools on the Department’s website that help parents and students research the cost of a college degree. Net price calculators give families a better sense of how much they would actually pay to attend a particular institution by factoring in which grants and scholarship aid students may be eligible for.

“Having a college degree has never been more important. And getting one has never been more expensive,” said U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. “We want to give prospective students and their families the information they need to make smart educational choices during tough economic times. Net price calculators can help potential degree seekers better understand which schools they can afford to attend and how much debt they will have to take on to get a degree. We want to make sure that students and families are aware of these resources, and the video challenge is a great way to help us get the word out.”

The Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 required postsecondary institutions that participate in Title IV federal student aid programs to publish net price calculators on their websites by Oct. 29. The “net price,” as opposed to the published tuition or “sticker price,” estimates a full-time student’s actual college costs by taking into account individual circumstances like family size and income, and subtracting projected grant and scholarship aid from the published cost of attendance. The Department has integrated the tool into its College Navigator website and compiled links to every school’s net price calculator, making it easier for students to compare prices at different institutions. A downloadable list is now available at: http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/resource/net_price_calculator.asp.

Social Security Number Policy and Procedure

To assist in developing students who are college and career ready, each high school will be implementing a process for the collection, use, and storing of Social Security Numbers (SSNs). Please refer to the Chicago Public Schools Social Security Number Protection Policy, Section: 102.9, Board Report: 11-0525-PO3 for additional information.

School counselors will be responsible for the records management of student disclosure forms containing SSNs to ensure confidentiality. Only school counselors will have access to the SSN as they are bound by a code of ethics and cannot disclose it.

Attached:

• Implementation Plan Overview for the Collection and Use of Student Social Security Numbers
• School Counselor Procedure
• Maintenance Procedures for Social Security Number Disclosure Forms

Thank you for your immediate attention to this process which protects the confidentiality of student information and ensures that school counselors will be able to effectively assist their students in making the transition to college and careers.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:
Barbara Karpouzian, Director, K-12 Advising (773.553.5660; bakarpouzian@cps.k12.il.us), or Kevin Van Zee, Lead High School Counseling Specialist (773.553.3585; kvanzee@cps.k12.il.us)

CPS UNIVERSITY - ENROLL IN AN ACTIVITY

CPS@work Portal, the internal homepage for the Office of Talent, is the gateway to CPS University. To access CPSU:
1. Log on to CPS@work Portal at https://cpsatworkprod.cps.k12.il.us.
2. Sign in with your standard CPS User ID and Password.
3. Click on the CPS University tab near the top of the page.
4. Click on the CPS University link located in the menu (left side of the screen).
5. The Learner Home Page is displayed. (Main Menu > Home Page > Home Page)
6. Type a word(s) that fits the title or description of the course in the Search the Catalog field then click the "Search" button.
7. A list of courses (catalog items) will be displayed under Search Results. Click on the title of the course.
8. If the PD is offered via Instructor Led Training, review the session and location information to verify the activity for which you would like to enroll. Click on the "Enroll" button.
9. The final required step is to click the "Submit Enrollment" button on the Enroll In Activity page.

Note: You will receive an enrollment confirmation from CPS University subsequent to submitting your enrollment request in the application.

Coach/Specialist Calendar
2. Click on the 'Staff Resources' link at the bottom of the page.
3. Under the 'Coach Review Newsletter' section, click on the 'Coach/Specialist Calendar' link.

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