

Guidance

Gazette

May 2006



Looking Ahead to Next Year

With the end of the school year quickly approaching it is time to start thinking about next year. Our 2006-2007 calendar is currently available for scheduling. By scheduling now, you can guarantee your spot on our calendar and share your programming with your school community before summer vacation.

Visit our website at <http://www.nhheaf.org/events.asp> to schedule your event today or call Scott Power at (800) 525-2577 x444. Some presentations include: College Overview for Seniors (October or November), College Prep for Juniors (March or April), Financial Aid Night (December or January), Award Letter Seminar (April), and various Early Awareness programs (anytime).

Destination College

Our 7th Annual Destination College was our most successful to date. Nearly 1,400 students and parents from 124 cities and 86 high schools joined us at Southern New Hampshire University for a day of college planning. Governor John Lynch and Commissioner Lyonel Tracy participated in the morning welcome and gave the day a jumpstart. Visit www.destinationcollege.org for photos of the event and to view presentations and handouts from each of the workshops.



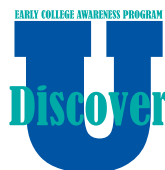
Our thanks to the following schools with top participation:

Londonderry HS	Alvirne HS
Pinkerton Academy	Manchester Memorial HS
Merrimack HS	Salem HS
Gilford HS	Milford HS

Save the Date: 8th Annual Destination College on Saturday, March 17, 2007 at Plymouth State University.

Discover U

Our 4th Annual early college awareness program, Discover U, was a tremendous success. Over 200 8th graders and their parents attended the April program at Saint Anselm College and another 50 attended the program hosted by Franklin Pierce College. Dates for next year will be set this summer.



SAT News

Have you been wondering whether scores on the new SAT can be compared with prior scores? The College Board believes that it is valid to compare students' scores from this year's exams with those from past years. Results from scores through the January 2006 administration indicate a decline of 4 to 5 points across the critical reading and math sections combined.

The Center for College Planning

provides parents and students with the information, materials and guidance they need to begin the process of applying for college admission and financial aid. We offer free services and materials for every population. Call our Concord office with questions or to schedule an appointment with one of our college counselors, 800.525.2577 x119.

- Individualized college counseling in our Concord office
- Specialized lists of colleges that match search criteria
- Calculation of your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) for financial aid purposes
- Access to career surveys and popular college majors
- Assistance filing complicated financial aid paperwork

Students can submit their college essays for feedback to collegeplanning@nhheaf.org

Sponsored by



The NHHEAF Network Organizations
Center for College Planning
1.800.525.2577 x119
collegeplanning@nhheaf.org

Upcoming:

Next Fall: An overview of outreach programs and publications to assist your students.

Should students take the SAT more than once? The College Board has reported that the average student who takes the SAT twice sees an increase in his or her combined critical reading and math scores by approximately 30 points. This year they have seen some changing test taker patterns, including a trend of some students taking the test less frequently. At this point, they believe that this decrease in repeat test-taking may account for some of the average score decline.

What have colleges seen? Some colleges are reporting declines in scores that are larger than what the College Board is seeing. The College Board is currently working to understand why this is happening.

Summer Vacation

How should juniors spend their summer vacation? Encourage them to make the most of their time. While academic summer opportunities are wonderful, many students cannot afford them. Students who spend time at a summer job or doing community service will reap their own rewards; money for college and fostering responsibility.

Summer is also a great time to get ahead on college planning. Students can begin their college visits and participate in informational interviews. Recommend that they eat in the dining hall (one is usually open) and check out the library. They can explore potential majors by job shadowing. Employers are usually thrilled to have high school students spend a day in the life of their employees.

Professional Development Opportunities & Fun for You

Campus visits are not just for high school juniors. Admission offices would love to have guidance counselors visit to learn all about their campus. The summer months are a great time to visit campuses and learn about new academic programs and campus life. Most colleges have created overnight campus visits for counselors. Take advantage of the following opportunities in your own back yard:

<p>NHCUC Guidance Counselor Tours</p> <p>You will travel by coach bus to each of the colleges, get a feel for the campus and the surrounding geographical area, hear from admissions officers, students and faculty, and have an opportunity to ask many questions! An added benefit is the chance to interact with your colleagues, and discuss the issues facing college admissions and college counseling today.</p> <p>When: October 1 – 5 or October 15 – 19</p> <p>Contact: Brenda Perry, perry@nhcuc.org, 603.225.4199.</p> <p>Fees: No cost. Accommodations, tour travel and meals are all provided.</p>	<p>19th Annual Western Virginia Tour</p> <p>Kick off this summer with a scenic tour of 12 outstanding private colleges and universities in western Virginia. Accommodations, tour travel and meals are all provided. You will also receive 4 continuing education units from Averett University.</p> <p>When: June 25 – June 30</p> <p>Fee: \$75 registration & transportation to & from Roanoke College are your only expenses</p> <p>Contact: Liv Fedorko, 540.586.0606, liv@cicv.org, www.cicv.org</p>
<p>Endicott College</p> <p>Discover the Experience – Endicott invites guidance colleagues and their families for a two-night getaway. The Admissions staff will host a breakfast reception followed by a campus tour on the first morning of your stay. You will then be on your own to explore the historic North Shore and its magnificent beaches. Endicott is located only twenty miles North of Boston – a city filled with culture, history, cuisine and shopping.</p> <p>When: July 18-20</p> <p>Contact: George Sherman, 978.232.2009</p>	<p>DownEast Consortium Tour in Maine</p> <p>The DownEast Consortium is made up of five highly acclaimed, academically diverse, and geographically gifted colleges: Colby College, College of the Atlantic, Husson College, Maine Maritime Academy and University of Maine at Machias. This tour is for counselors and significant others. During your week tour, there will also be a boat tour of Castine Harbor, a lakeside picnic in Waterville, breath-taking vistas of Acadia National Park and Bar Harbor, of course, lots of lobster!</p> <p>When: July 27-August 2</p> <p>Fee: \$50 registration</p> <p>Contact: Hugh Porter, 800.227.8465, hporter@mma.edu</p>

Hiring New Staff for Next Fall?

In addition to the everyday responsibilities of scheduling, meeting, graduation requirements, counseling and advising, guidance counselors are expected to be the experts on college admission and financial aid. The Center for College Planning hosting College 101: Workshop for the New Guidance Professional. This FREE workshop will take place on August 18, 2006. Over 200 guidance counselors have graduated from this training. Topics covered include: the campus visit, the college essay, letters of recommendation, ABCs of financial aid, and what college admissions officers are really looking for in student applicants. Counselors receive free materials and resources to assist them in their college counseling. Dress is casual and lunch is included. Reserve a spot today by calling Zanna Campbell at 1.800.525.2577 x443 or zcampbell@nhheaf.org.

Next issue: September 2006

Your next Guidance Gazette will be sent in September. Meanwhile, enjoy your summer and we'll be in touch next fall. If you don't want to receive further college planning emails, please respond to collegeplanning@nhheaf.org.

The NHHEAF Network Organizations are comprised of four independent, nonprofit organizations: The New Hampshire Higher Education Assistance Foundation, which was established by the banking community in 1962 to guarantee student loans; the New Hampshire Higher Education Loan Corporation, which was designated by the State of New Hampshire in June 1993 to be a lender and holder exclusively for student loans; Granite State Management & Resources, established in 1986 as the loan servicing arm of the Organizations and the NHHEAF Network Educational Foundation, established in 2004 to administer the Organizations' charitable giving. Collectively, the NHHEAF Network Organizations offer complementing services to families including information and materials about planning for higher education, education loan funding and life-of-loan servicing. The NHHEAF Network Organizations can be reached at 1-800-525-2577 or online at www.nhheaf.org.