# **Financial Aid Toolkit**

### A Resource for School Counselors and Other Mentors Who Prepare Students and Families Financially for College

Counselors and college access advisors: Federal Student Aid (FSA) created the Financial Aid Toolkit (FinancialAidToolkit.ed.gov) website just for you. The toolkit consolidates FSA resources into a searchable online database intended for use by organizations and individuals who interact with, support, or counsel students and families on making financial preparations for college or career school. While the toolkit's target audience is high school counselors and college access professionals, financial aid administrators may also find toolkit resources useful for their student outreach efforts.

#### What the Toolkit Offers You

The toolkit provides the following for counselors and mentors:

- **Updates**. Find announcements about changes to the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) process or loan repayment programs. Learn when a draft of next year's FAFSA form will be available.
- **Answers**. Get basic financial aid information, tips and talking points, and links to details so you can advise students with confidence.
- **Resources**. Access a searchable library of resources to hand to, screen for, or email to your students.
- **Outreach**. Stay in touch with FSA by subscribing to the resources and announcements RSS feeds on the site and by using the "Contact Us" page when you have questions or comments.

Explore the Financial Aid Toolkit at FinancialAidToolkit.ed.gov.

#### Key Feature: The "Search Tools and Resources"

Use the toolkit's search function to find and sort resources by audience, topic, and type of resource.

Simply visit the "Search Tools and Resources" page at FinancialAidToolkit.ed.gov/resources.

Examples of the kinds of resources in the toolkit include

- outreach resources such as financial aid night materials, fact sheets, videos, infographics, and PowerPoint presentations;
- suggested messages for social media in the form of tweets, Facebook posts, and articles;
- sample articles for organization newsletters and sample emails; and
- FSA publications.

## The Financial Aid Toolkit is for you, the counselor or mentor. Please send students and parents to StudentAid.gov for financial aid information.

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