

ISAC Family of Websites

- www.KnowHow2GOIllinois.org **KnowHow2GO Illinois**
Free access to a wealth of financial aid and college planning information
- www.WhatsNextIllinois.org **What's Next Illinois**
Making college accessible and affordable, one click at a time
- www.collegezone.com **College Zone**
The official web site of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC)
- www.collegeillinois.com **College Illinois!**
The State of Illinois 529 prepaid college tuition plan that locks in the cost of college today
- www.idapp.org **Illinois Designated Account Purchase Program**
A resource for student loan information

ISAC Outreach Calendar

Throughout the year, we participate in a number of college fairs, financial aid events, financial literacy sessions, and FAFSA completion workshops. For the one nearest you, see the list of outreach events on KnowHow2GOIllinois.org. All events listed are open to the public at **no fee**.

Sign-up for e-Messaging

ISAC's e-Messaging service at collegezone.com will notify you when new information and announcements that may be of interest to you are added to College Zone. Summaries of new information, along with links to additional relevant information, will be sent to the e-mail address that you provide.

Get ISAC printed materials

ISAC printed materials pertaining to career exploration and information about planning for, applying to, and paying for college in Illinois are available to order at collegezone.com. Some are also available in Spanish and Polish. Please allow approximately 10 days for delivery.



"Making college accessible and affordable for all Illinois students."

www.KnowHow2GOIllinois.org
Phone: (800) 899-4722
Fax: (847) 831-8508
E-Mail: OutreachTraining@isac.org



Professional Development Opportunities for Counselors and Mentors



www.KnowHow2GOIllinois.org



Professional Development Opportunities

You're invited!

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) is pleased to announce that the staff in the *Division of College Access and Outreach* will once again present a series of professional development opportunities. Scheduled to take place in the fall and winter, these interactive workshops are uniquely designed to help you and other college access professionals in assisting students and families through the process of planning for, applying to, and paying for educational opportunities beyond high school.

- Locations:** Twenty sites across the state
- Time:** 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (welcome desk opens at 8:30 a.m.)
- Cost:** None, \$0, Zip, Zilch, Nada
- Note:** Continental *breakfast* will be provided. *Lunch* is on your own.

How to register

Registration details, dates, and locations will be available *online* in the *Partner Training* area of the *e-Library* in the *Counselor* tab at collegezone.com. Additionally, we will send e-Messages with updates. If you have colleagues who are not subscribed to receive e-Messages, encourage them to sign-up from the *Counselor* tab at College Zone.

How to earn CE and CPDU credit

ISAC Professional Development Opportunities are approved for *Continuing Professional Development Units* (CPDU) as authorized by the Illinois State Board of Education and for *Professional Counselor/Clinical Counselor Continuing Education* (CE) credit as authorized by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulations. We will award CE and CPDU to session participants at a rate of one per contact hour.

How ISAC links you to NT4CM and KnowHow2HELP

The ISAC Professional Development Series is part of the National Training for Counselors and Mentors (NT4CM) and the statewide KnowHow2Help initiative.

National Training for Counselors and Mentors (NT4CM)

Developed by Federal Student Aid, National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA), and National Council of Higher Education Loan Programs (NCHLP), the program has expanded its partnership to include the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) and American School Counselor Association (ASCA). This **free**, annual training program is designed to provide counselors and mentors with information and materials that will help them more effectively advise students and their families about how to prepare financially for college. These one-day training sessions provide attendees with comprehensive up-to-date information regarding federal and state student aid programs. **The Illinois Student Assistance Commission is the designated provider of NT4CM training in the state of Illinois and has been since the inception of the program in 2007.**

KnowHow2HELP

Created by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission as a counselor and mentor-focused supplement to the national KnowHow2GO college awareness campaign, a variety of ready-to-use college awareness materials is available to session participants at no cost during the 2009–10 ISAC Professional Development Series. As the lead partner of the campaign in Illinois, ISAC offers an ever-expanding array of professional development sessions and college access tools designed to help the educational, counseling, and social service professionals that support the students of Illinois in their pursuit of postsecondary education.

Fall Sessions

Online registration for fall sessions becomes available on September 10, 2009 at collegezone.com.

FAFSA Made Easier

Developed as an intensive line-by-line review of the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* for 2010-11. Participants will gain insight about current intricacies of the FAFSA and anticipated changes. Special emphasis is placed on dependency questions, financial aid worksheets, issues of student eligibility, and how to avoid common mistakes.

Guide to Conducting a Financial Aid Presentation – in English

Designed to enhance your helping relationship with students and parents, this interactive session introduces financial aid concepts and strategies for maximizing on limited resources. Participants will learn to speak “financial aid” and to prepare interactive financial aid presentations for parents, students, and multilingual audiences. Ready-to-use presentations and tools will be made available to complement your next financial aid event.

Guide to Conducting a Financial Aid Presentation – in Spanish

Spanish is the second-most popular language in the country and the primary language spoken in more American homes than any other foreign language. This interactive session was created to help participants speak “financial aid” and to prepare a financial aid presentation in Spanish. You will be provided with ready-to-use presentations and *Novelas Educativas™* - a series of short films created in the style of popular Spanish-language *telenovelas*. ****Note:** Fluency in *Spanish* is required to attend. It is only offered at sites designated with an ^(S).

What's Next Illinois

An introduction to major functions of *WhatsNextIllinois.org*, an interactive online tool of ISAC. Participants will learn how this tool can support student achievement and integrate career development and college planning into academic activities. Emphasis will be placed on how it can be customized for your community and tailored to enhance your counseling efforts, reporting mechanisms, and lesson plan development.

| Date | Host Site | Date | Host Site |
|------------------|---|-------------------|--|
| October 8, 2009 | Illinois Valley Community College Oglesby, IL | November 03, 2009 | Lincoln Land Community College Springfield, IL |
| October 20, 2009 | ISAC Deerfield, IL | November 06, 2009 | Malcolm X College ^(S) Chicago, IL |
| October 22, 2009 | Elgin Community College ^(S) Elgin, IL | November 13, 2009 | Rend Lake College <i>Market Place</i> Mt. Vernon, IL |
| October 27, 2009 | John Wood Community College Quincy, IL | November 20, 2009 | Oakton Community College ^(S) Des Plaines, IL |
| October 29, 2009 | Danville Area Community College Danville, IL | December 11, 2009 | ISAC Deerfield, IL |

Winter Sessions

Online registration for winter sessions becomes available on December 1, 2009 at collegezone.com.

FAFSA Made Easier

See session description in fall sessions.

FAFSA Expert

Participants will build on information presented in *FAFSA Made Easier*. Complex tax, asset, eligibility and need analysis questions are discussed. Using case studies that reflect real life situations, participants will complete guided calculations of the *Federal Need Analysis Methodology* and learn how the information reported on the FAFSA impacts a student's *Expected Family Contribution* (EFC).

Consumer Economics of Higher Education

At this highly rated session, participants are introduced to key elements for understanding financial aid options and to comprehensive consumer education information. You will gain insight to help students identify their best college options, decipher award letters, and prepare for the responsibilities associated with financing college.

| Date | Host Site | Date | Host Site |
|------------------|---|-------------------|--|
| January 21, 2010 | Kaskaskia College Centralia, IL | February 5, 2010 | Waubonsee Community College Sugar Grove, IL |
| January 22, 2010 | Lincoln Land College Springfield, IL | February 10, 2010 | Lake Land College Matoon, IL |
| January 27, 2010 | Black Hawk College Moline, IL | February 11, 2010 | Illinois Central College East Peoria, IL |
| January 29, 2010 | Malcolm X College Chicago, IL | February 19, 2010 | Kankakee College Kankakee, IL |
| February 3, 2010 | ISAC, Deerfield, IL | February 26, 2010 | ISAC, Deerfield, IL |