



The Foundation and Framework for College Access Counseling Eight-Week Certificate Course 2008-09

Description: This 50-hour introductory course is designed for social service and youth work professionals interested in developing or improving their skills and capacity to deliver high quality college access counseling. It is also intended to support the development of college access programming at each participant's organization. It is administered by trainers with extensive experience in college access, youth development and training. The eight sessions of the course provide:

- A comprehensive and in-depth look at all aspects of college access counseling, from initial intake to readying a student for college;
- Relevant examples and case studies so that trainees can apply the information to real situations;
- Hands-on activities in which trainees can practice using newly learned skills and knowledge;
- Tools and resources that trainees can use after the training;
- An additional copy of the course binder for the program's general use;
- Access to other technical assistance to be arranged with the training staff.

The topics covered over the eight weeks include:

- **The Foundation of College Access Counseling:** The definition of college access; the students we serve; the college access landscape; the college access counseling calendar.
- **Tools and Approaches for Assessment:** Using transcripts, test scores, and interviewing skills to explore the six categories of information for getting to know a student.
- **Colleges Admissions:** How to help students take advantage of CUNY, SUNY, and private college and university opportunities; perspectives from college admissions representatives; alternate admissions routes; organizing college resources.
- **Financial Aid:** An insider's overview of financial aid; steps and strategies for counselors in helping students apply for financial aid; how to compare financial aid packages and help students understand them.
- **Making College Recommendations:** Tools and resources for doing effective college research; the impact of making individualized college recommendations to students; how to recommend the best colleges for each student.
- **Counseling Skills:** Listening and communication skills, identifying students' strengths; discussing challenges that come up when working with students; supporting students to develop skills to advocate for themselves and make complex life decisions; supporting students through the decision-making process and transition to college; effective approaches to involving students' families in the college process.

Dates for Fall 2008: Wednesday, October 22 – December 17, 2008, Applications due September 17

Dates for Spring 2008: Wednesday, March 4 – May 6, 2009, Applications due January 28

Time: Wednesdays 9:00am – 4:00pm

Fee: There is a materials fee of **\$500** for the course. The other costs of the course are covered by the generous support of our sponsors.

To Apply: Visit our website at <http://goddard.org/options/capdi.htm> and follow the link to apply for the Foundation and Framework for College Access Counseling course. A complete application will include: a series of questions answered in the online form, your resume submitted via email, and a letter of support from your supervisor also submitted via email and outlined in the application. Applications will then be considered, and notifications of acceptance will be sent out on September 24th for the fall and February 4th for the spring.

For more information please contact: Judith Lorimer, or Amy Greenwood, 212.873.6600, capdi@goddard.org