



College Access Seminar Schedule Fall 2008 – Spring 2009

The OPTIONS College Access Professional Development Institute (CAPDI) is offering both full- and half-day seminars on important college access issues in 2008-2009. **Registration for these seminars will open in August 2008.** Each seminar is described below. Please note our three new seminars – *Using Data to Support College Access Programs*, *Counseling Fundamentals*, and *Making Sense of Financial Aid Awards*.

To attend a seminar,

- You **must** apply online at <http://www.goddard.org/options/capdi.htm>. We do not accept walk-ins due to space restrictions.
- Applications and payments are due two weeks prior to the date of the seminar.
- Participants will be notified about their acceptance into the seminar.
- Course space is limited, and registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Early registration is recommended.
- All seminars open at 9:00 a.m. with breakfast and start promptly at 9:15 a.m. Lunch is not served.
- There is a materials fee of \$100 for full-day seminars and a \$60 for half-day seminars. The other costs of the seminars are covered by the generous support of our sponsors.

Our cancellation policy:

- You must notify us at least 48 hours in advance if you will not be able to attend a seminar to which you have been accepted. We generally have waiting lists for our seminars, and this policy allows us enough time to notify others of an opening.
- If you fail to notify us with enough time, we will require that you pre-pay to reserve seats for any future seminars.

2008-09 CAPDI Seminar Offerings:

Title: *Working with Immigrant Students on the College Process*
Dates: Tuesday, September 23, 2008 (will be offered again on Tuesday, May 12, 2009)
Type: HALF-DAY
Time: 9:00am – 12:30pm
Description: Applying to college is often overwhelming and confusing. Immigrant students, whether documented or undocumented, can face additional obstacles and fears in this process. This seminar, led by both legal and college access professionals, will examine strategies and discuss resources that college access counselors can use as they help immigrant students through the college application process.

Title: *Engaging Families in the College Process*
Date: Tuesday, October 7, 2008
Type: HALF-DAY
Time: 9:00am – 12:30pm
Description: As college counselors, we recognize the importance, power, and potential of families in the college access process. While we treat the student as the central decision-maker, we understand that the student is not an island. As part of a family, a student may be influenced in different ways and to varying degrees. This seminar will explore the many different ways to define “family.” It will address how alternative family make-ups impact the college application process, how college access counselors can help students work with their families, and how to effectively engage and involve families.



Title: *Working with Students with Disabilities*
Date: Tuesday, October 21, 2008
Type: HALF-DAY
Time: 9:00am* – 12:30pm
Description: College access counselors work with students who have hearing impairments, asthma, or learning disabilities, students who use a wheelchair, a guide dog, or have a cardiac condition, diabetes or sickle cell anemia. These students face special challenges in applying to and successfully entering college – or do they? This seminar will identify and address some of the concerns that college access professionals might have when assisting students with disabilities. It will explore how to aid students and parents in applying and transitioning to college. It will also identify resources for the professional counselor, the student, and the student's family to be used during this process.

Title: **NEW!** *Counseling Skills Fundamentals*
Date: Tuesday, November 18, 2008 (will be offered again on Tuesday, March 3, 2009)
Type: FULL-DAY
Time: 9:00 am – 4:30 pm
Description: Helping young people and adults access college takes more than just facts and information. It involves helping people examine their lives and identify those strategies and programs that can best meet their particular needs and circumstances. Being able to effectively assist students in this process requires a sophisticated set of counseling skills. Led by a clinical social worker and experienced facilitator, Counseling Fundamentals focuses on the basic counseling skills needed to work with students on the college process. Through the day, participants will work on listening skills and basic communication skills, learn a range of counseling techniques and tools, and engage in practice sessions using scenarios directly relating to college access counseling and handling difficult issues with students. This seminar grew out of a very successful and highly rated day during our 50-hour certificate course in college access counseling.

Title: *Working with Students on Financial Aid*
Date: Tuesday, December 2, 2008 (will be offered again on Tuesday, January 13, 2009)
Type: FULL-DAY
Time: 9:00am -- 4:00pm
Description: Financial aid is perhaps the most intimidating aspect of the college application process, not only for students and their families, but also for college access counselors. It is easy to feel overwhelmed by the abundance of seemingly complicated forms and deadlines. This seminar gives counselors the informational framework necessary to advise students about the financial aid application process. It will provide an overview of the federal, state and private financial aid programs, examine the three main financial aid applications in depth (FAFSA, TAP, and CSS PROFILE), review the criterion which allow students to apply for financial aid independently from their families, analyze and compare financial aid awards from different colleges, allow time for participants to practice applying their new knowledge to individual student situations, provide important informational materials, and answer questions.

Title: *Working with Students on Financial Aid*
Date: Tuesday, January 13, 2009
Type: FULL-DAY
Time: 9:00am -- 4:00pm
Description: *See description for December 2, 2008 seminar above.*



Title: **NEW! *Using Data to Support College Access Programs***
Dates: Tuesday, February 3, 2009
Type: HALF-DAY
Time: 9:00am – 12:30 pm
Description: Every social service program is pressed to demonstrate its effectiveness to attract clients, garner community support, and raise funds. College access programs are no different. This seminar will explore the kinds of data and information college access programs need to demonstrate success and ensure that the program is running smoothly and effectively.

Title: ***Building a Successful Early College Awareness Program***
Dates: Tuesday, February 24, 2009
Type: FULL-DAY
Time: 9:00am -- 4:00pm
Description: Often, motivated students reach their senior year eager to go to college but without the academic or social foundations they need to apply to and succeed in college. Some other students appear unmotivated because they think they have no options. Data shows that one of the most significant ways to improve college access and readiness is to work with younger students on exploring their post-secondary options. This seminar will allow participants to jointly define the outcomes of successful early awareness, explore different program models, and identify activities and practices which support effect early awareness and readiness for college.

Title: ***Counseling Skills Fundamentals***
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2009
Type: FULL-DAY
Time: 9:00 am – 4:30 pm
Description: *See description for November 18, 2008 seminar above.*

Title: **NEW! *Making Sense of Financial Aid Awards***
Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2009
Type: HALF-DAY
Time: 9:00am – 12:30pm
Description: Financial aid award letters are the culmination of the financial aid process. They tell student and their families how much support they can expect from a given college. Unfortunately, understanding and comparing financial aid awards may be one of the most complicated and confusing parts of the financial aid process. This seminar will focus on giving college access professionals practice deciphering and comparing a range of financial aid packages. It will begin with a brief review of federal, state and private sources of financial aid and the applications students need to complete for each, and move quickly into the examination and analysis of different financial aid awards. (**Note:** This content is covered in our full-day Working with Students on Financial Aid)



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Title: *Helping Students Transition Successfully to College*

Date: Tuesday, April 7, 2009

Type: HALF-DAY

Time: 9:00am – 12:30pm

Description: College access counselors know that getting into college is difficult enough. But just when students have completed this daunting task, they are faced with another hurdle: making the transition to college. For any student, this moment presents significant new challenges, whether they are leaving home, taking responsibility for money and time management, transitioning to a less ethnically diverse environment, or having to find child care while going back to school. The more college access counselors can do to prepare students and point them to the resources they will need, the more likely the students are to succeed. This seminar explores methods and approaches to addressing these issues with students.

Title: *Working with Immigrant Students on the College Process*

Dates: Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Type: HALF-DAY

Time: 9:00am – 12:30pm

Description: *See description for September 23, 2008 seminar above.*