

Keeping It In Perspective: Managing Student Stress in the College Admission Process

2020 Counselor Summer Institute (CSI)



Commitment to Students and Colleagues



As schools continue to manage uncertainties due to covid-19, our top priorities are the health and safety of students and educators.

We will continue to provide updates for students, families, and our K–12 and higher ed members via our <u>website</u>, <u>blog posts</u>, email, and social media as we have new information.

2020 Counselor				
Summer Institute	Tues, Aug 4	Wed, Aug 5	Thurs, Aug 6	Fri, Aug 7
Counseling for College and Career Readiness	All Means All: Advising and Counseling Students from Low-Income Backgrounds in the College Admissions Process	All Means All: Advising and Counseling Rural Students in the College Admissions Process	All Means All: Advising and Counseling African- American Students in the College Admissions Process	Topics in International College Counseling and Admissions [On-Demand]
Navigating the College Admissions Process	Across the Desk: College Admissions Issues, Perspectives, and Opportunities	The Power of the School Profile in College Admissions	Living in a Covid-19 World— The Evolution of College Planning and College Admissions	The Language of Access: Important Considerations for College Counseling [On-Demand]
Counselor Professional Knowledge and Practice	Beyond the Basics: A Focus on Financial Aid	Keeping it in Perspective: Managing Student Stress in the College Admissions Process	Agency and Equity: A Matter of Professional Practice for Counselors	Using National Student Clearinghouse Data to Plan Postsecondary Initiatives [On-Demand]

Your Learning Experience

Continuing Education Units are available for live and on-demand counselor webinars.

To Earn Continuing Education Units

Register and attend the entire event

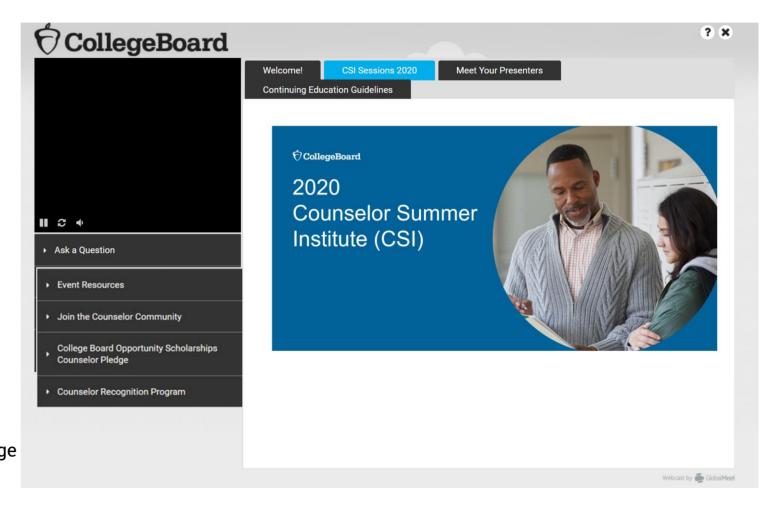
Show mastery of the learning outcomes by taking the 5-question quiz that will pop up at the end of the webinar

Top of Your Screen

Welcome CSI Sessions 2020 Meet your Presenters Continuing Education Guidelines

Left of Your Screen

Ask a Question Event Resources Join the Counselor Community College Board Opportunity Scholarships Counselor Pledge Counselor Recognition Program

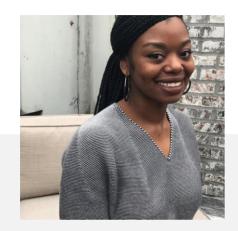


Poll Question

How knowledgeable are you about this topic?

- A. Very knowledgeable
- B. Somewhat Knowledgeable
- C. Not at All Knowledgeable

Presenters



Jessica Orenstein, MPH

Senior Manager The Jed Foundation





Tonika Dew Evans, LPC

Owner All In Dew Time Counseling & Consulting Richard Tench, NCC, NCSC, LPC

School Counselor St. Albans High School

Overview

The college admission process is stressful. Students tasked with selecting colleges or universities to attend, coupled with determining how their education will be funded, can cause an avalanche of emotions.

This workshop aims to offer suggestions in creating a systematic plan to educate students on the college application and admission processes in order to mitigate the anticipated stressors and introduce skills and techniques to recognize signs and prevent counselor burnout.

What You'll Learn



Gain an understanding of the current landscape for students who are transitioning from high school to postsecondary options



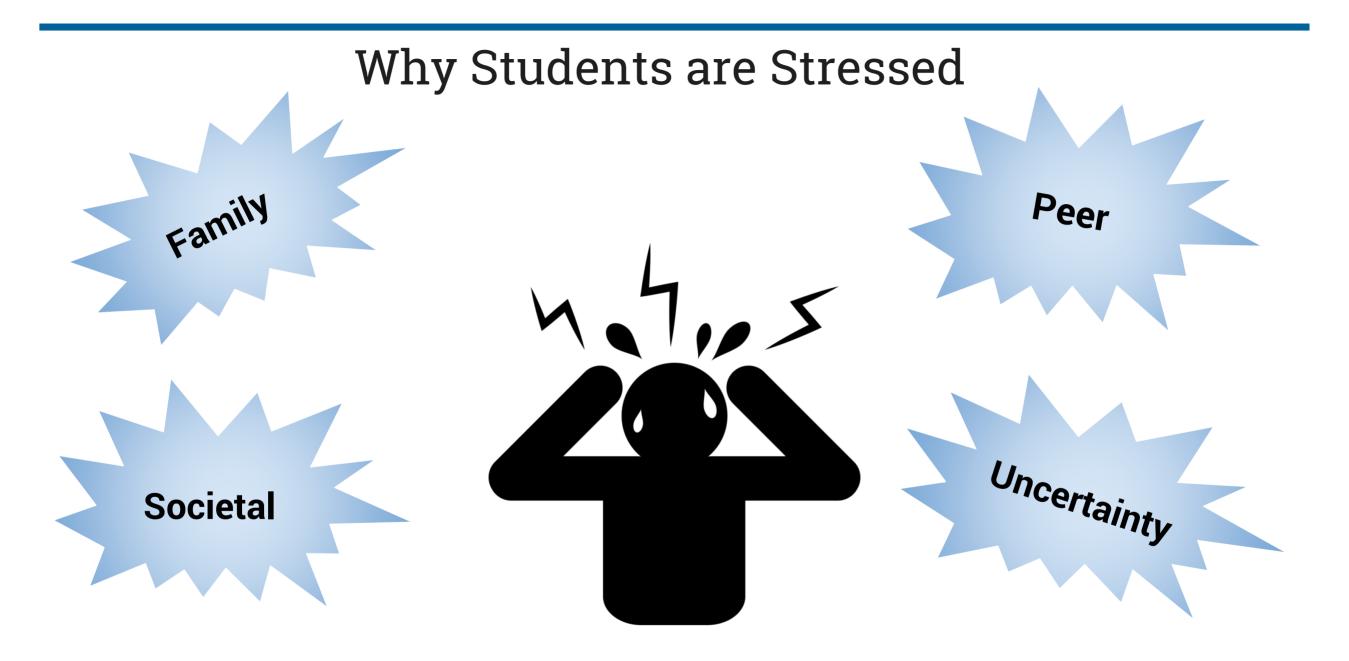
How to identify signs and symptoms of elevated stress in students and provide the required supports



How school counselors can develop comprehensive programming to educate on the college application process and the associated stressors



How to manage counselor self-care to avoid burnout



On Average, Colleges Accept Two-Thirds of First-Time Freshmen Applicants

Current Landscape

PERCENT CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS BETWEEN FALL 2017 AND FALL 2018



Transfer

2%



First-time freshmen

6%



International 7%

Factors in Admission Decisions

Admission Offices Identify Grades, High School Curriculum, and Test Scores as Top Factors for First-Time Freshmen

Factor	N	Considerable Importance	Moderate Importance	Limited Importance	No Importance
Grades in All Courses	220	74.5	15	5.5	5
Grades in College Prep Courses	220	73.2	16.8	5.9	4.1
Strength of Curriculum	219	62.1	21.9	8.7	7.3
Admission Test Scores (SAT, ACT)	221	45.7	37.1	12.2	5
Essay or Writing Sample	220	23.2	33.2	24.1	19.5
Student's Demonstrated Interest	218	16.1	23.9	28	32.1
Counselor Recommendation	218	15.1	40.4	26.6	17.9
Teacher Recommendation	219	14.2	40.2	26.5	19.2
Class Rank	220	9.1	29.1	34.1	27.7
Extracurricular Activities	219	6.4	42.9	32	18.7
Portfolio	219	6.4	11.9	26.9	54.8
Subject Test Scores (AP, IB)	219	5.5	18.3	35.2	41.1
Interview	219	5.5	16.4	28.3	49.8
Work	217	4.1	28.6	36.9	30.4
State Graduation Exam Scores	218	2.3	8.7	18.8	70.2
SAT II Scores	216	1.9	5.6	14.8	77.8

SOURCE: NACAC Admission Trends Survey, 2018-19.

Factors in Admission Decisions (continued)

Student Background Information

Factor FIRST-TIME FRESHMEN	N	Considerable Influence	Moderate Influence	Limited Influence	No Influence
High School Attended	221	4.5	19	32.1	44.3
Race/Ethnicity	219	6.8	17.8	16.9	58.4
State or County of Residence	220	4.1	22.3	17.3	56.4
First-generation Status	220	5.5	25.5	20.9	48.2
Ability to Pay	221	1.2	4.2	13.7	81
Gender	221	3.2	10.4	18.6	67.9
Alumni Relations	220	0.9	11.8	35	52.3

SOURCE: NACAC Admission Trends Survey, 2018-19.

What do we mean by "mental health"?

Mental health is a state of well-being in which every individual realizes their own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to their community.



MENTAL

HEALTH

Students are under more burden than they show

- 1 out of every 4 has a mental health condition right now, yet, 46% are not receiving treatment or counseling
- **Depression and anxiety** rates among teens are rising
- 60% of 1st year college students wish they were better prepared emotionally to leave high school
- Students of color, LGBTQ+ youth, international students, firstgeneration students, and other potentially marginalized populations, face additional mental health stressors that can place them at incremental risk for adverse outcomes

Cultural Competence vs. Cultural Humility

Why is this relevant?

• Schools across the country are more diverse now than in years past. The need of educators and counselors to develop skills, gain knowledge and maintain positive attitudes to serve and value the diversity will aid in enriching the students' academic experience.



Cultural Competence vs. Cultural Humility

Cultural Competence

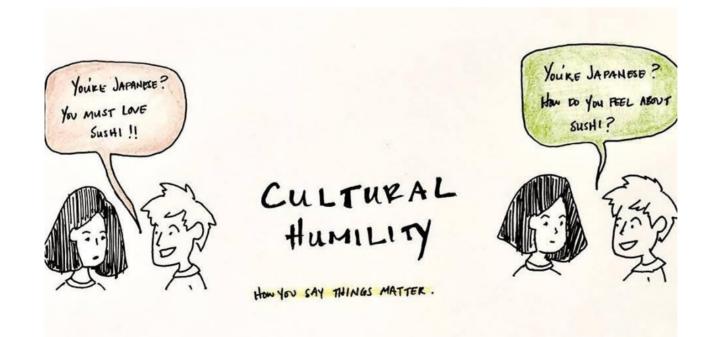
Cultural competence is having an awareness of one's own cultural identity and views about difference, and the ability to learn and build on the varying cultural and community norms of students and their families. -National Education Association



Cultural Competence vs. Cultural Humility

Cultural Humility

Cultural humility is a humble and respectful attitude toward individuals of other cultures, that pushes one to challenge their own cultural biases and realize that they cannot possibly know everything about other cultures. This requires an approach to learn about other cultures as a lifelong goal and process.



Teens are dealing with a lot *while* preparing for college. Why?

- Macro-environmental stress or trauma (school shootings, discrimination, economic uncertainty, etc.)
- Sleep deprivation (possibly greater than for any previous generation)
- Too little time outside (less than one hour per school day)
- Feeling like they have too much going on
- Pressure to live up to expectations

The Impact of COVID-19 on Students Why is this relevant?

- The COVID-19 crisis is likely to hit teens especially hard
- Developmentally, adolescents are wired to be social and to want to spend time away from their parents
- A recent study found young people aged 13-25 are now feeling frustrated (54%), nervous (49%), and disconnected (40%)



Identifying signs and symptoms of elevated stress

Managing problems and challenges

- Problems are an **inevitable** part of growing up
- Dealing with problems and personal challenges provide us with opportunities to grow, mature and learn about ourselves and the world
- Not every problem requires professional help

Signs and Symptoms of Elevated Stress in Teens

- Academic performance
- Difficulty concentrating
- Negative changes in behavior
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ Noticeable changes in socialization
- Depressed mood



Signs and Symptoms of Elevated Stress in Teens (cont.)

- Frequent headaches, stomach aches and or illness
- Change in sleep habits
- Change in physical appearance
- Increased irritability



You don't need to be an expert or clinician to notice! You just need to trust your observations.

How can you show up for your students?



- Know how to recognize a student in distress
- Know how to engage the student: what to say, how to follow up
- Know how and where to refer: what are the school resources
- Help students feel comfortable and confident in supporting each other

How can you show up for your students?

- You don't need to know exactly what is wrong-just that there is a problem-and that is **intuitive**
- Trust your gut-if you think there is a problem, good chance there is
- Use your resources and contacts-know your backup resources/system and use them/it
- If concerned, always consult with colleague
- If you need to make a referral, please follow your school or district policy

How can you show up for your students? (continued)



- Explain why you are concerned (be specific, "You have been missing lots of school, look sad all the time, you haven't finished your college apps...")
- Show compassion ('I am worried about you")

• Know your own limits (if it is requiring time, effort, concern on your part that feels beyond what you can do, you probably need to get others involved)



Best Practices in College Planning

The Anatomy of the College Application

Application

- Forms
- Fees

Scores and Reports

- College Admission Test Score
- High School Transcript
- Secondary School Report
- Midyear School Report

Supplemental Materials

- Letters of Recommendation
- Essays
- Interviews, Auditions, and Portfolios



College Planning

9th Grade

4-Year high school plan

Life after high school

Participate in extracurricular activities

Explore summer opportunities

Familiarize self with CollegeBoard Assessments

Take PSAT 8/9

Meet with High School Counselor!!!

10th Grade

Meet with Counselor

Take PSAT 10 or PSAT/NMSQT

Military?

Financial aid and college savings

College/career fairs

School activities/volunteer

Tour college campuses

College Planning

Fall

- College Research
- Consider the PSAT
- Estimate Financial Need

Winter

- Sign up for SAT
- Financial Aid Search
- Explore AP
- Opt into CollegeBoard Opportunity Scholarship

Spring

- College List
- Take SAT

Summer

- Get FSA ID
- College Visits
- Create Resume

College Planning

Fall

- Strengthen College List
- Calendar of Deadlines
- Improve Scores
- FAFSA
- Complete CSS Profile
- Recommendation Requests
- Apply

Winter

• Send High School Transcripts

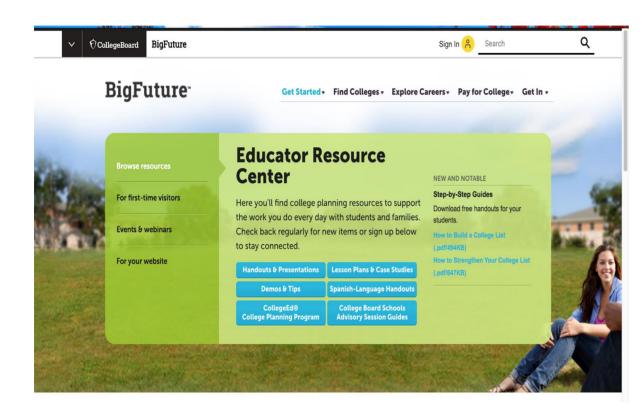
Spring

- Engage in School
- Focused College Visits
- Take AP Exams
- Pay Deposits/Fees
- Review Financial Packages



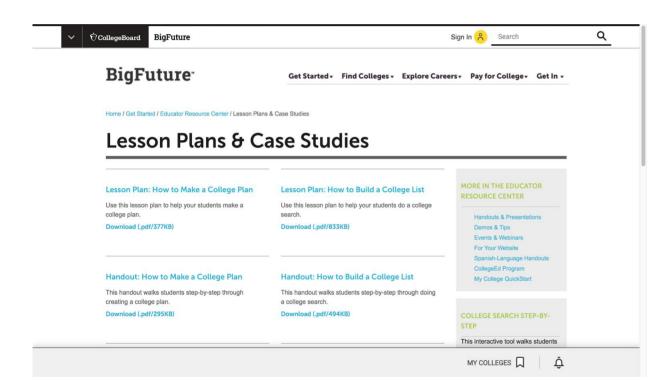
College Board Resources

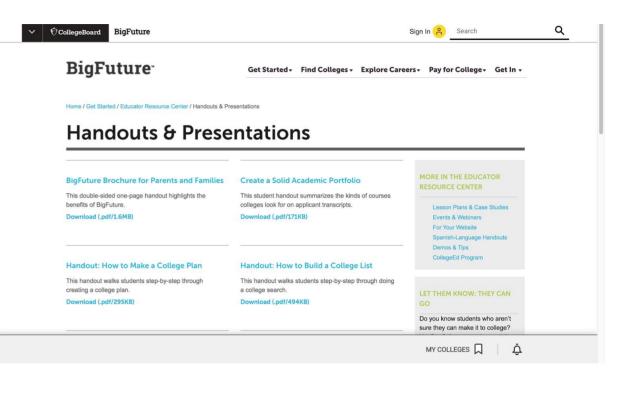
BigFuture



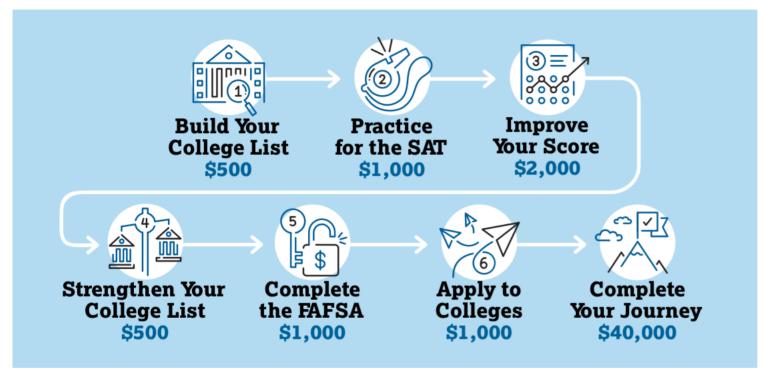
- Allows students to build a virtual portfolio and serves as a "one stop shop" for students
- Educator Resource Center

BigFuture (continued)





College Board Opportunity Scholarships



No essay No application No specified GPA

Six Step Plan that rewards students for participating

\$500 - \$40,000

4,000 awarded annually

Half of the scholarships are designed for families earning less than \$60,000

Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy



- Link accounts to provide personalized study and preparation for all of the College Board Suite of Assessments
- Encourage students to create account after taking first College Board assessment (PSAT 8/9, PSAT 10, PSAT/NMSQT)



Counselor Self Care

Preparing students to transition from high school to college is a rewarding and challenging task. In order to ensure that students receive the help they need it is important that counselors take care of themselves, emotionally and physically to avoid burnout. WWW.SCHOOLCOUNSELOR.ORG

Researchers have

identified that the

range of school

counselors who have high

levels of emotional

exhaustion and burnout

is between 30 percent

and 66 percent.

Causes of Burnout

- Role ambiguity
- Unbalanced counselor to student ratio
- Lack of decision-making authority
- Interpersonal and professional conflict

Signs of Burnout

- Decreased empathy
- Poor performance of duties
- Social isolation
- Delayed response to crisis
- Physical exhaustion

Self-care as a mandate



"...the multilayered demands of school counseling and the potentially devastating consequences of a school counselor's impairment, the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) Ethical Standards for School Counselors address self-care as an ethical mandate.

Section E. Responsibilities to Self, encourage professional school counselors to "function within the boundaries of competence and accept the responsibility for their actions."

This professional mandate also requires school counselors to self-assess and monitor their own physical or mental health issues and seek necessary support to maintain professional effectiveness." www.schoolcounselor.org

Tips to Prevent and Reduce Burnout

- Create a support system/team (personal & professional)
- Routine medical checkups
- Consultation and Supervision
- Seek counseling when needed
- Participate in recreational activities
- Schedule time off
- Ask for help. It is the most powerful thing that you can do.

66 Give yourself to yourself before you give yourself away.

SUSAN TAYLOR

Key Take-Aways



Students have many stressors that can impact their college admission process



Keep in mind the signs to notice when a student is struggling emotionally.

03

How school counselors can develop comprehensive programming to educate on the college application process and the associated stressors

04

There are many resources available to support counselors and prevent burnout. Don't forget to take care of yourself



Poll Question

After participating in this presentation, how knowledgeable are you about this topic?

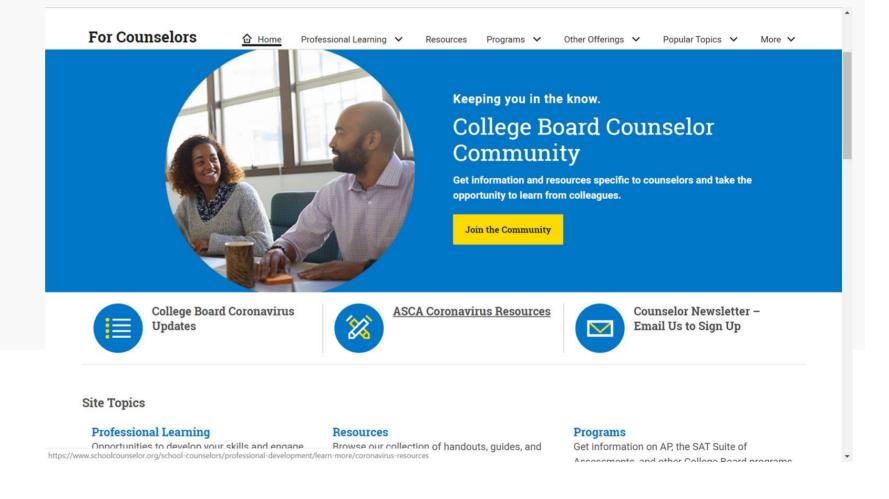
- A. Very knowledgeable
- B. Somewhat Knowledgeable
- C. Not at All Knowledgeable

College Board for Counselors

Collegeboard.org/counselors

- Professional Learning
- Resources
- Programs

Free CEU credit for all professional development workshops...including today!



Advanced Placement: No-Risk Registration

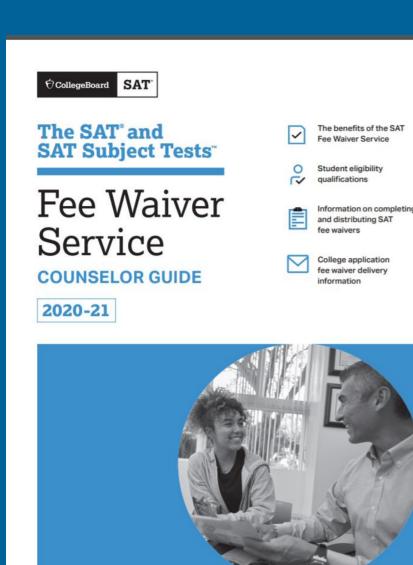
	Description	Cost/exam
Fall registration	Exam ordered by Nov. 13, 2020	\$95
Late registration	Ordered Nov. 14, 2020 – March 13,2021	\$95 + \$40 fee
Unused/canceled exam	No fees for unused exams	\$0

- Every AP student should register for the exam before November 13 because there is no risk to do so: given this year's unusual circumstances, we'll waive the \$40 per exam cancellation or unused exam fee for any student who decides not to test.
- Students who don't register by November 13 and then decide they want to test will incur the usual \$40 late registration fee.

Fall 2020 SAT Suite of Assessments Updates

- Local schools and test centers make individual decisions about whether to administer the SAT. They must adhere to local public health guidelines and follow the College Board's requirements.
- For in-school assessments including SAT School Day and PSATrelated assessments – the College Board is offering flexibility with administration dates and has adapted policies and procedures to provide opportunities for students who wish to test.
- In all our efforts, we will work with you to protect health and safety, provide opportunities to test, and ensure test fairness and security.

Visit sat.org/covid-19 for more details



SAT Fee Waivers

Key Information for 20-21:

- Electronic fee waiver codes available in the K-12 Reporting Portal for use beginning with September 26 administration
- Fee waiver cards will NOT be mailed to schools

This process allows:

- Streamlined access to fee waiver codes and benefits for students
- Easy distribution of fee waiver codes in the event of further social distancing
- Faster delivery of fee waiver codes to your school (to meet critical registration deadlines)

OCollegeBoard

2020-21

Counselor's Guide to Professional Development



2020-21 Counselor Professional Development

Available for download at collegeboard.org/counselors in mid-August and at Counselor Workshops!

Join us for:

- College Board Counselor Workshops
- Fall into PSAT series
- Spring into the SAT series
- Counselor Webinar series
- E-learning modules



Build Your College List \$500 on December throw ly of junior yea



A Clearer Path to en December junior year College

mprove Tour Score \$2.000



This new scholarship program guide you through the college planning process and offers you a chance to earn money for college for each action you complete \$5 million in scholarships is awarded to thousands of students each year.

College Board

Opportunity

Scholarships

cb.org/opportunity











Colleges

51,000





Complete Your Journey by completing all six actions \$40.000

CollegeBoard

College Board Opportunity Scholarships Counselor Pledge

Take the pledge to join a national movement to support students on their college journeys and encourage them to take advantage of the clear steps and benefits of the College Board Opportunity Scholarships.

- Gain exclusive access to our Digital Counselor Pledge Kit •
- **Receive monthly tips, tools, and resources**
- Schools with Counselor Pledges are more likely to have Student • Winners!

cb.org/counselorpledge

Counselor Recognition Program

Eligibility criteria for nominees:

- Serve as a full-time middle or high school counselor in a public, private, or independent school
- Provide direct guidance and counseling services for a caseload of students and their families
- Hold a master's degree
- Nominations will be accepted beginning September 1

Highlighting the work of innovative, resultsoriented middle and high school counselors

Visit collegeboard.org/counselors to nominate a school counselor by October 23, 2020



OCollegeBoard

Counselor Recognition Program

Thank you for joining us today!

At the close of the webinar, please

- Complete the webinar evaluation. We want to ensure we continue to provide excellent professional development.
- Complete the 5-question quiz to earn CEU hours (optional).
- Feel free to review and share today's webinar. The presentation will be forwarded to your email address in 24 hours.
- Thank you for all that you do in the service of students!

collegeboard.org/counselors