NCSET

Creating Opportunities for Youth With Disabilities to Achieve Successful Futures

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December 2012 E-News

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Announcements

The latest news and information from around the country.

New Projects

Disability.gov Campaign Sparks Conversations About Inclusion Of Individuals With Disabilities

https://www.disability.gov/home/newsroom/what%27s_your_connection
"What's Your Connection?" is a new Disability.gov initiative to remind people that the 57 million Americans who identify as having a disability are not separate, but an integral part of society. The campaign, which is built around the use of social media and grassroots efforts, is intended to spark conversations about inclusion. Individuals can participate online by submitting photos or videos, with accompanying descriptions, about how disability touches their life.

Organizing Early Warning Indicator and Intervention Work Groups for Dropout Prevention: A How to Guide for Schools

http://tinyurl.com/cw5vvew
A new tool has been posted to the Secondary Schools group. "Organizing Early Warning Indicator and Intervention Work Groups for Dropout Prevention: A How to Guide for Schools" is designed to assist school leaders and leadership teams in planning how to implement effective organizational structures and routines within the school to address the early warning indicators of dropping out.

Calls to Participate

President's Environmental Youth Awards

http://www.epa.gov/peya/
The President's Environmental Youth Award program promotes awareness of the nation's natural resources and encourages positive community involvement. Since 1971, the President of the United States has joined with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to recognize young people's efforts in protecting the nation's air, water, land, and ecology. Through this award, EPA and the

Administration demonstrate commitment to environmental stewardship efforts created and conducted by the nation's young people. Application deadline: December 31, 2013.

Request for Proposals: IEP Facilitation Training March 12-13, 2013

http://www.directionservice.org/cadre/fieprfp.cfm
CADRE, the National Center on Dispute Resolution in Special Education, in partnership with the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE), Bureau of Special Education and the Connecticut State Education Resource Center (SERC), is seeking proposals from skilled trainers to deliver a two-day IEP Facilitation Training and host four one-hour follow-up calls with trainees. Trainees will include private mediators/facilitators who will be made available to facilitate IEP meetings in Connecticut, representatives from other State Education Agencies who are involved with IEP facilitation programs, and CADRE staff. Trainees will arrive at the training having knowledge of special education and prior facilitation experience. It is hoped that the successful applicant will be identified by January 4, 2013.

The Resource Zone

Other National Resources

ACT National College Readiness (August 2012)
Report
http://www.act.org/newsroom/releases/view.php?lang=english&p=2402
ACT's 2012 "Condition of College & Career Readiness" report is out. It focuses on the college and career readiness levels of the ACT-tested U.S. high-school graduating class of 2012. The findings suggest that the condition of college and career readiness has slightly improved over the past several years, specifically in the subject areas of math and science but far too many students continue to leave our high schools ill-prepared for the demands of college and work.

ACT Policy for Documentation (2012)
Policy Document
http://www.actstudent.org/regist/disab/policy.html
The ACT Policy To Support Requests for Test Accommodations on the ACT (No Writing) or ACT Plus Writing document was developed by ACT to provide individual students, professional diagnosticians, and educational programs/schools with specific information about ACT's policies regarding documentation of an applicant's disability and the process for requesting accommodations on The ACT tests. Proper documentation helps avoid delays in decisions related to providing accommodations and other services for candidates with disabilities.

Child Trends' Assessing Peer Relations: A Guide for Out-of-School Program Practitioners
 (October 2012) 📄**PDF**
Research-to-Results Brief
http://www.childtrends.org/Files/Child_Trends-2012_10_01_RB_PeerRelations.pdf
Getting along well with peers and supportive friendships are important to youth development. Child Trends' "Assessing Peer Relations: A Guide for Out-of-School Program Practitioners" discusses factors that promote positive peer relations, measures for assessing positive and problematic relations, and resources for promoting positive peer relations for children and youth. Available in pdf (203 KB, 5 pp).

College and Career Readiness and Transition (2012) 📄**PDF**
Report
http://careerreadynow.org/docs/CRPC_4pagerB.pdf
The Career Readiness Partner Council has developed a document defining what it means to be Career Ready. It provides information on academic and technical knowledge and skills needed to become Career Ready and indicates employability knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to

be Career Ready and resources necessary to build a comprehensive system that supports career readiness. Available in pdf (560 KB, 4 pp).

College Students with Disabilities: What Factors Influence Successful Degree Completion? A Case Study (September 2012) PDF
Report
http://www.heldrich.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/content/College_Students_Disabilities_Report.pdf
The John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development and the Kessler Foundation have released "College Students with Disabilities: What Factors Influence Successful Degree Completion? A Case Study." The study examined five community colleges and universities in New Jersey and 20 individuals with disabilities who had successfully completed their college education. Available in pdf (230 KB, 16 pp).

Improving the Juvenile Justice system for Girls: Lessons from the States (October 2012)
Report
http://tinyurl.com/c65bt2s
The Georgetown Center on Poverty, Inequality and Public Policy has released "Improving the Juvenile Justice system for Girls: Lessons from the States." The report reviews the literature documenting pathways into the juvenile justice system; examines recent gender-responsive, trauma-informed reform efforts; highlights reform efforts in three jurisdictions; and concludes with recommendations for future efforts at the local, state, and federal levels. Available in pdf (951 KB, 56 pp).

ODEP's Skills to Pay the Bills Videos (2012)
Videos
http://www.dol.gov/odep/topics/youth/softskills/#.ULyoDIWJM7A
The U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP unveiled a series of videos to complement its Skills to Pay the Bills: Mastering Soft Skills for Workplace Success training curriculum – a creative program of interactive, hands-on activities that educators and youth service professionals can use to help young people prepare for employment. The videos portray workplace scenarios related to enthusiasm and attitude, teamwork, communication, critical thinking and problem solving, networking, and professionalism.

Research on the Referral Stage of Youth Mentoring in Six Juvenile Justice Settings: An Exploratory Analysis (October 2012) PDF
Report
http://www.mentoring.org/images/uploads/OJJDP%20Final%20Report_p10.pdf
The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has published "Researching the Referral Stage of Youth Mentoring in Six Juvenile Justice Settings: An Exploratory Analysis," a study conducted by MENTOR : The National Mentoring Partnership, Global Youth Justice, the National partnership for Juvenile Services, and criminal justice researchers from the University of Texas at San Antonio. The study examines best practices for the referral stage of high-risk youth to mentoring from six juvenile justice settings: detention, corrections, probation, and delinquency, teen/youth, and dependency courts. Available in pdf (3.72 MB, 10 pp).

States Report New High School Graduation Rates Using More Accurate, Common Measure (November 2012)
Report
http://tinyurl.com/d82h4mr
The U.S. Department of Education has released data detailing state four-year high school graduation rates in 2010-11, the first year for which all states used a common, rigorous measure. The varying methods formerly used by states to report graduation rates made comparisons between states unreliable, while the new, common metric can be used by states, districts and schools to promote greater accountability and to develop strategies that will reduce dropout rates and increase graduation rates in schools nationwide.

Student Engagement Blog: Attend, Engage, Invest (2012)
Blog
http://attendengageinvest.wordpress.com/

Check & Connect has published a new blog, "Attend, Engage, Invest" to offer stories, perspectives, and resources on issues of dropout, student engagement, and related topics. Check & Connect is a comprehensive intervention to enhance student engagement at school and with learning for marginalized, disengaged students in grades K-12, through relationship building, problem solving and capacity building, and persistence. People concerned about student disengagement and dropout, whether already using Check & Connect in their schools or organizations and looking to refine their use, or looking for approaches to use and thinking about adopting Check & Connect, will find information here.

What's Happening

Other National Events

Moving from Awareness to Action in Bullying Prevention: Training Resources for the Field
Web-based Event
December 5, 2012
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM   (Eastern)
http://www.learning.mchb.hrsa.gov/LiveWebcast.asp?id=317
The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) will present "Moving from Awareness to Action in Bullying Prevention: Training Resources for the Field." During this Webcast, presenters will discuss how communities can use HRSA's "Bullying Prevention Training Module" and "Community Action Toolkit" in the fight against bullying.

Beyond School Improvement: Partnering to Strengthen Educational Opportunities for Urban Children and Youth
Web-based Event
December 6, 2012
8:30 AM - 10:30 AM   (Central)
http://tinyurl.com/bmx83a7
Urban students and their families find that students' community experiences affect whether and how much they can benefit from educational services, and this awareness often leads to a call for partnerships of schools, community institutions, and public agencies to respond to the diverse, often extensive, academic and nonacademic needs of students and to provide them with supportive environments in which they can learn and thrive. Such cross-sector and cross-institutional arrangements require focused attention from policymakers, administrators, and researchers to accomplish their goals. The forum will discuss why and how partners engage and work with each other, what structures and supports are required for these often complex relationships, and what the opportunities and challenges are in evaluating these efforts; and will examine partnerships initiated and supported by a public agency (the police department) and a major community institution (a university).

Legislation, Advocacy, and Systems Change
Web-based Event
December 12, 2012
2:00 PM - 3:30 PM   (Eastern)
http://tinyurl.com/cm5t6a9
"Legislation, Advocacy, and Systems Change," the first in a series of six "Think College!" webinars, will review important legislative and policy changes that have directly and indirectly affected postsecondary education for students with intellectual disabilities. A wide variety of federal legislation and policies can be used to support the development and growth of PSE options. The Higher Education Opportunity Act, SSA Work Incentives, DD Act of 2000, and many other initiatives will be discussed.

Conflict Coaching: Its Value in Special Education Dispute Resolution
Web-based Event
January 9, 2013
11:30 AM - 12:45 PM   (Pacific)
http://www.directionservice.org/cadre/joneswebinar.cfm
The Consortium for Appropriate Dispute Resolution in Special Education (CADRE) will host a free webinar on conflict coaching, a one-on-one process that helps someone in conflict gain a better understanding of the conflict and how to manage conflict constructively. The session explores this

process, increasingly used in workplace and community conflicts, and how it may help parents, educators and special education dispute resolution professionals work through conflicts.

CADRE's Exemplary Practices Symposium on Conflict Coaching: Its Value in Special Education Dispute Resolution
Web-based Event
January 9, 2013
2:30 PM - 3:45 PM   (Eastern)
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The National Center on Dispute Resolution in Special Education (CADRE) will host a free webinar. Conflict coaching is a one-on-one process that helps someone in conflict gain a better understanding of the conflict and how s/he may manage conflict constructively. Conflict coaching is increasingly used in workplace and community conflicts, and this session explores how it may help parents, educators, and special education dispute resolution professionals work through conflicts.

Check & Connect Overview Webinar
Web-based Event
January 15, 2013
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM   (Central)
http://checkandconnect.umn.edu/training_consultation/webinar.html
This Overview Webinar is an introduction to the components, elements, and implementation of Check & Connect, a comprehensive intervention designed to enhance student engagement at school and with learning for marginalized, disengaged students in grades K-12. The webinar will present the basics of Check & Connect and highlight the importance of keeping students engaged in order to prevent truancy and dropout, with time provided for participants to ask questions regarding Check & Connect and its implementation. Cost: $30/registered computer (multiple people can be included at one computer). Registration period: December 4, 2012-January 4, 2013.

Preparing for what? Employment and Community Participation
Web-based Event
January 22, 2013
2:00 PM - 3:30 PM   (Eastern)
http://tinyurl.com/ccgtxrt
"Preparing for what? Employment and Community Participation," the second in a series of six "Think College!" webinars, will discuss factors related to job outcomes for students with intellectual disabilities who are attending postsecondary education (PSE) programs; present a case study of a program that addressed these issues and improved their employment outcomes; and discuss strategies for developing meaningful work and community-based participation during PSE experiences that lead to long-term careers and active community life and how to partner with and access post-school services and resources to help these young adults be active, working community citizens.

Positive Outcomes for At-Risk Children and Youth
Conference
January 24, 2013 - January 25, 2013
Washington, DC
http://gppi.georgetown.edu/leadconference?utm_source=Ready%20News%20N1
Registration is open for the inaugural Georgetown Public Policy Institute LEAD Conference (Leadership. Evidence. Analysis. Debate.), which brings together experts and key stakeholders to examine a particular policy challenge and to discuss solutions. The 2013 theme is "Positive Outcomes for At-Risk Children and Youth: Improving Lives Through Practice and System Reform." The event is presented by the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform, Georgetown University and the Georgetown Public Policy Institute.

Positive Outcomes for At-Risk Children and Youth
Conference
January 24, 2013 - January 25, 2013
Washington, DC
http://tinyurl.com/d49r64u
Registration is open for the inaugural Georgetown Public Policy Institute LEAD Conference (Leadership. Evidence. Analysis. Debate.). It will bring together experts and key stakeholders to examine a particular policy challenge and to discuss solutions. This year's theme is "Positive Outcomes for At-Risk Children and Youth: Improving Lives Through Practice and System Reform." Presented by the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform, Georgetown University and the Georgetown Public Policy Institute. Registration deadline: January 8, 2013.

College-Based (Dual-Enrollment) Transition Programs
Web-based Event
February 6, 2013
2:00 PM - 3:30 PM   (Eastern)
http://tinyurl.com/d9dwxq6

Preparing transition-aged students for college requires comprehensive planning at the district and individual student level. "College-Based (Dual-Enrollment) Transition Programs," the third in a series of six "Think College!" webinars, will discuss policies and practices that have been developed to promote successful college experiences for students. These include student and family preparation, professional development for secondary teachers and coaches, new transportation policies, school-college schedule alignment and ongoing communication with college partners. **^ Top of Page ^**

Get Wired!

Web Sites

All About Adolescent Literacy

http://www.adlit.org/
All About Adolescent Literacy's Web site, AdLit.org, is dedicated to resources for parents and educators of kids in grades 4-12, has a wealth of resources on adolescent literacy, classroom strategies, approaches for teachers, and research on college readiness, etc.

Inclusive Schools Network

http://inclusiveschools.org/
The Inclusive Schools Network (ISN) is a web-based educational resource for families, schools and communities that promotes inclusive educational practices.

Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance Center

http://rems.ed.gov/
The Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance Center Web Site provides resources to support schools, school districts, and institutions of higher education in emergency management, including the development and implementation of comprehensive emergency and crisis response plans.

Youth to Work Coalition at NSTTAC

http://www.nsttac.org/ytw/home
NSTTAC, in partnership with the USBLN and other organizations focused on employment of youth and young adults with disabilities, has launched a newly reorganized Youth to Work Coalition (YTWC) website, accessible through NSTTAC's website.

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Funding Forecast

Federal Grant Opportunities

Forecast of Funding Opportunities under the Department of Education Discretionary Grant Programs for Fiscal Year 2012-2013

http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/find/edlite-forecast.html
This document lists virtually all programs and competitions under which the U.S. Department of Education has invited or expects to invite applications for new awards for fiscal year 2013 and provides actual or estimated deadlines for the transmittal of applications under these programs. The lists are in the form of charts organized according to the Department's principal program offices and

include programs and competitions previously announced as well as those to be announced at a later date.

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FY 2012-2013 Discretionary Grant Application Packages

http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/grantapps/index.html
This site, from the Department of Education, provides information on grant competitions that are currently open.

FY 2013 Discretionary Grant Application Packages

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Additional Funding and Award Opportunities

C-SPAN StudentCam

http://www.studentcam.org/
C-SPAN's StudentCam is an annual national video documentary competition that encourages students to think seriously about issues that affect our communities and our nation. Students are asked to create a short (5-8 minute) video documentary on a topic related to the theme "Message to the President": What's the most important issue the president should consider in 2013? Maximum award: $5,000, plus $1,000 in digital equipment for school. Eligibility: individuals or teams of two to three students grades 6-8 or grades 9-12; Deadline: January 18, 2013.

LEGO: Children's Fund Grants

http://www.legochildrensfund.org/Guidelines.html
The LEGO Children's Fund provides grants for collaborative programs, either in part or in total, to organizations that focus on early childhood education and development; technology and communication projects that advance learning opportunities; or sport or athletic programs that concentrate on underserved youth. Maximum award: $5,000. Eligibility: 501(c)(3) organizations. Deadline: January 15, 2013.

National Community Schools Awards for Excellence

http://tinyurl.com/cub2uau
Individual Community Schools Awards ($2,500) go to schools that have been operating as community schools for at least three years and have demonstrated success. Community School Initiative Awards ($5,000) go to initiatives with joint efforts between schools and community stakeholders that have organized multiple community school sites. These awards are sponsored by the Coalition for Community Schools. Deadline: December 15, 2012.

NEA Foundation Learning & Leadership Grants

http://www.neafoundation.org/programs/Learning&Leadership_Guidelines.htm
The NEA Foundation Grants to Educators/Learning & Leadership Grants support public school teachers, public education support professionals, and/or faculty and staff in public institutions of higher education for one of two purposes. Grants to individuals fund participation in high-quality professional development experiences such as summer institutes or action research; grants to groups fund collegial study, including study groups, action research, lesson study, or mentoring experiences for faculty or staff new to an assignment. Maximum award: $5,000. Eligibility: public school teachers grades K–12; public school education support professionals; or faculty and staff at public higher education institutions. Deadline: February 1, 2013.

NEA Foundation Student Achievement Grants

http://www.neafoundation.org/programs/StudentAchievement_Guidelines.htm
The NEA Foundation Grants to Educators/Student Achievement Grants provide funds to improve the academic achievement of students by engaging in critical thinking and problem solving that deepen knowledge of standards-based subject matter. The work should also improve students' habits of inquiry, self-directed learning, and critical reflection. Maximum award: $5,000. Eligibility: practicing U.S. public school teachers, public school education support professionals, or faculty or staff at public higher education institutions. Deadline: February 1, 2013.

Starbucks Christopher Columbus Awards

http://tinyurl.com/clqsedb
The Starbucks Foundation will support organizations that equip young people (ages 15 to 24) in the areas of "business savvy," "social conscience" and "collaborative communication." Letters of intent are accepted through December 15, 2012.

The Christopher Columbus Awards Program

http://www.christophercolumbusawards.com/contact_info.php
The Christopher Columbus Awards Program combines science and technology with community problem-solving. Students work in teams with the help of an adult coach to identify an issue they care about and, using science and technology, work with experts, conduct research, and put their ideas to the test to develop an innovative solution. Maximum award: $25,000. Eligibility: middle-school-age (sixth, seventh, and eighth grade) children; teams do not need to be affiliated with a school to enter. Deadline: February 4, 2013.

William T. Grant Foundation Accepting Letters of Inquiry for Studies on the Use of Research Evidence in Policy and Practice Affecting Youth

http://tinyurl.com/cl44ue8
The William T. Grant Foundation seeks to fund high-quality empirical research with the goal of improving the lives of youth between 8 and 25 years of age in the United States. To help accomplish this goal, the foundation is requesting Letters of Inquiry for its Request for Proposals on Understanding the Acquisition, Interpretation, and Use of Research Evidence in Policy and Practice. Support will be provided for empirical theory-building studies of what affects policy makers' and practitioners acquisition, interpretation, and use of research evidence. To be eligible for consideration, applicants must be employed at a nonprofit institution, either in the U.S. or abroad. The foundation will support research projects with awards ranging from $100,000 to $600,000 for direct and indirect costs over two to three years. Deadline for Letters of Inquiry: January 3, 2013.

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End of Issue

Contributing to E-News
If you have information on new products, resources, funding opportunities, and conferences or training events and want to contribute these to a future E-News issue, please e-mail the information to ncset@umn.edu or see Suggest an Item for E-News for more information.

Purpose of the Listserv
E-News features resources, activities, products, and funding information from around the country. E-News is dedicated to assisting youth, parents, educators, service providers, and administrators to stay connected and informed about secondary education and transition issues.

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E-News was supported in whole or in part by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, (Cooperative Agreement No. H326J000005). However, the opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the policy or position of the U. S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, or any of the six partners of the National Center on Secondary Education and Transition, and no official endorsement should be inferred.

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Please contact us with your questions, comments, or suggestions
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We will reply to you as soon as we can. Thank you for your interest!

This page was last updated on October 6, 2011.