

October 2016

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Introduction by Dawn Taylor Owens, executive director, College In Colorado

Suddenly October is the busiest month of the year. In addition to the staples – Halloween and football – we have College Application Month (CAM) and now the FAFSA opening date. So we at College In Colorado are ramping up for a successful October – we have our costumes picked out, our tailgates scheduled, and we have all of the information and tools you need to prepare your students to submit their college applications and their FAFSA.

In this edition of our newsletter, you will hear about one of those tools – the College Admissions Tool – which I think will be a favorite go-to when talking to students about preparing for postsecondary success.

We already have numerous events planned for CAM, but as always, if you need ideas for, or assistance with, a CAM activity, please don't hesitate to reach out. Happy October!

New site Helps You Navigate Web Resources

With October just a few days away, high school seniors are taking the first steps of their postsecondary journey—and College In Colorado is here to help! We've unveiled a [redesigned College Application Month website](#) featuring downloadable calendars, checklists, toolkits and other resources that help students prepare and submit applications. To get started, check out the [Students page](#)!

CAM Calendar Keeps You on Track

As Ferris Bueller once said, "Life moves pretty fast!" Stay on top of tasks and reminders with the help of the College Application Month calendar, which breaks down daily activities and links to specific web resources. [Download it here](#).

Win Prizes for your CAM Accomplishments

Sometimes students need a little motivation to kick off the application process. Each week, we're giving away a scholarship, laptop or College Go-Pack to a student who participates in our College Application

Month challenges, listed on our [2016 Calendar](#). We're also giving away a [\\$250 IKEA gift card](#) to one outstanding educator!

Educator Handbook Outlines Activities and Resources

We know this time of year gets busy for educators. That's why we've put together handbook just for you, full of tried-and-true programming ideas that inspire a college-going culture at your school. You'll also find a timeline and checklist that help you stay on track. [Download it here](#).

Website Spotlight: College Admissions Tool

Whether students know where they're headed or just exploring their options, the College Admissions Tool can help them stay on track throughout College Application Month. The "Options Wizard" matches students to their ideal schools based on their preferences, grades and test scores, showing how they stack up against historic admissions data. Once students apply, they can enter reminders that help them keep track of important tasks. [Get a quick tutorial here](#).

Request a College In Colorado Training or Presentation

The College In Colorado outreach team provides a variety of presentations/trainings to meet your needs. Think of us when planning your event or training and fill out an online request [here](#) (note: this is a new link). Please remember that presentations are provided on a first-come, first-served basis and we may not be able to accommodate every inquiry, although we will do our best to do so.

View the New Updated Admissions Index

The [Admission Index](#), used by public four-year institutions in Colorado for first-time freshmen admission standards, has been updated and is available on the [CDHE Admission Eligibility](#) page. The index was updated with the following:

- Inclusion of the new SAT test scores;
- Update to Colorado Mesa University's index score (updated from 85 to 92 per CCHE approval in 2012);
- Inclusion of CSU Global's index (per legislation and CCHE approval in 2014); and
- Brief explanation of new admission policy standards information.

Search Programs in Your Area with the Student Support Directory

The [Student Support Directory](#) is an interactive online tool that allows students, families and educators to find support programs in their communities. Users can search by high schools or postsecondary institutions and filter from more than 15 types of services and identify programs. The website also has a scholarship search function and link to additional resources. This directory replaces the Pre-Collegiate Directory previously found on the College In Colorado site.

Gully Stanford Legacy Award

We will again pay homage to the man behind the Pre-Collegiate Conference and so many of College In Colorado's other successes by seeking nominations for the third annual Gully Stanford Legacy Award. The award will be presented to an individual who has been instrumental in assisting Colorado students in their pursuit of postsecondary education, within the K-12 and postsecondary systems, or through education-minded organizations and non-profit organizations. Additional consideration will be given to those who have concurrently pushed for the inclusion of arts education in school curriculum.

To nominate an individual, please submit a thorough letter of recommendation that includes answers to the questions below and a current CV or resume of the nominee. Also, please let us know if the nominee is aware of their nomination (this does not have any bearing on the selection).

- In what way does the nominee work with students looking to pursue postsecondary education?
- How long has the nominee been involved in the education community and what are some highlights of his/her accomplishments?
- In what way has the nominee been involved in arts education?
- List some exemplary practices that have resulted in student success.

Please submit the nomination letter and the CV or resume to:

College In Colorado

Attn: Dawn Taylor Owens

1560 Broadway, Suite 1700

Denver, CO 80202

or

Dawn.TaylorOwens@cic.state.co.us

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