December 5, 2013

Dear Project Director,

The U.S. Department of Education’s office of Federal Student Aid has launched a new website, called the Financial Aid Toolkit, at FinancialAidToolkit.ed.gov.

Who is the Financial Aid Toolkit for?

The toolkit is for

- guidance counselors,
- college access advisers,
- staff or volunteers at community-based organizations,
- librarians, and
- anyone who assists students through the process of learning about, receiving, and repaying financial aid for their higher education.

What information is on the Financial Aid Toolkit?

The toolkit consolidates financial aid resources into a searchable online library, making it easy for individuals to quickly access the information they need to support their students. The searchable library provides resources covering the entire financial aid lifecycle from applying for financial aid to repaying loans and includes items such as

- financial aid night materials and presentations,
- brochures,
- videos, and
- sample tweets and Facebook posts.

The toolkit also offers professional development information such as training opportunities and resources for self-instruction.

If this site is for counselors, then where can a student get similar financial aid resources?

Students should visit StudentAid.gov for financial aid information and can find a library of resources designed for them at StudentAid.gov/resources.

How can counselors or other advisers spread the word to colleagues about the toolkit?

For more details, please refer to the Financial Aid Toolkit at FinancialAidToolkit.ed.gov.
We ask for your assistance in sharing this information with your interested members, affiliates and networks.

Thank you,

Linda Byrd-Johnson, Ph.D.
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary
Higher Education Programs