

# Student Access & Success

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## Lumina Foundation Award

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## LEARN and EARN

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## Lumina Foundation Awards NCAN, OCAN, ICPAC, TERI, CFNC & OBR \$1.9 Million to Expand College Access Programs Nationally

The Lumina Foundation for Education awarded \$1.9 million to the National College Access Network (NCAN) to expand college access programs nationally. Indiana Career and Postsecondary Advancement Center (ICPAC), The Ohio College Access Network (OCAN), The Research Institute (TERI), the College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC), and the Ohio Board of Regents (OBR) are partners in this effort.

The overarching goal of the Lumina Foundation for Education is to expand access to education by supporting research, innovative programs and communication initiatives. The goal of the partnerships is to work together to increase the number of effective college access initiatives nationwide by creating a blueprint of successful college access models. Essentially, the collaboration will recommend models that can be used across the country for community-based college access programs and college access centers.

For Ohioans, this translates into more students and families receiving information on postsecondary options. Some of the components that will be addressed in the grant include:

- f School-based advising
- f Last dollar scholarships
- f Resource centers
- f Direct services to targeted populations
- f Career and postsecondary encouragement systems
- f Comprehensive website for access resources
- f Student tracking database
- f Marketing concept for raising college awareness
- f Statewide college access networks

## Learn and Earn Scholarship

Ohio's future depends on the high academic achievement of every student. Yet many Ohio students are coming out of high school under-prepared for a postsecondary education. Too many do not go on to college and too few even consider postsecondary education as an option due to lack of finances and/or low aspiration. At this time, the *Learn and Earn Scholarship* program is an **idea** designed to provide demanding academic challenges and valuable rewards for students (particularly low-income students) in all of Ohio's school districts. The intent of the program is to increase the opportunity for more Ohioans to successfully pursue postsecondary education. **If the Learn and Earn Scholarship becomes a reality, it will reward students who:**

- f Meet Ohio's new academic content standards
- f Take the pre-college core curriculum
- f Attend school regularly
- f Explore career options and find out about college and financial aid
- f Engage in extracurricular and/or community activities

To be eligible for the Learn and Earn Scholarship, students would have to achieve a specified number of points during their K-12 career. Students would earn their first point in Kindergarten and could earn the additional points in their elementary, middle, and high school years. Even though the majority of points would be earned in high school, one of the major objectives of the scholarship program is to start students and their parents thinking and planning for college during the students' elementary school years.

## Legislative Staff Workshop

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## Articulation and Transfer

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Similar need-based programs have been implemented successfully in Indiana, Oklahoma, and Rhode Island, and the Board plans to learn as much as possible from these states.

If the Learn and Earn Scholarship program becomes a reality in the future, students who currently do not think college is possible for them will more readily begin to prepare themselves for education beyond high school. While working toward eligibility for a Learn and Earn Scholarship, students will be preparing themselves not only for college, but for life.

## Legislative Staff Workshop Held to Inform Aides about Current College Access Issues

On October 30, 2003, the Ohio Board of Regents' Governmental Relations Division teamed up with the K-12 Linkages and Access staff to present a *Legislative Staff Workshop*. The workshop was targeted at informing the legislative staff about important issues facing higher education, while assisting and equipping the aides with helpful information to respond to constituent concerns and requests related to higher education. As legislative staffers frequently receive constituent inquiries related to college access and available college scholarships and grants, the topic of "College Access" was appropriate and timely. Nearly 50 legislative staffers were in attendance. But the attendance figures only reflect a portion of the event's success. For information about the "Access Pathway" and critical issues related to college access in Ohio, visit the Regents' website at [www.OhioAccess.org](http://www.OhioAccess.org).

## Articulation and Transfer Initiative Will Help More Ohioans Earn College Degrees More Easily, Quickly, and Cost-Efficiently

The Articulation and Transfer Advisory Council continues to move forward with its changes to the current Ohio Articulation and Transfer Policy. The results of this work will continue to facilitate ease of transfer and more timely and cost-efficient degree completion for Ohioans. Most Ohio public institutions have examined the recommendations for policy improvements and have given a written response to the Council. The Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Ohio provided input for non-public institutions.

The Council will meet again in January to discuss the responses from higher education campuses and make its recommendations to the Ohio Board of Regents. The Regents' staff is in the process of creating various committees and panels to carry out the work anticipated as the recommendations come forth from the Board of Regents.

Substitute Amended House Bill 95 provides that the Board of Regents, in conjunction with Ohio institutions of higher education, will establish procedures for transfer that will remove unnecessary duplication or institutional barriers to transfer students. House Bill 95 further stipulates that the Board of Regents will develop and implement a universal course equivalency classification to provide consistent responses on how already completed courses will transfer. This classification will provide equal access to transfer schools and courses as is provided to native students. There are additional provisions to the legislation available on the Board of Regents' website. The legislation will provide the greatest possibility for students to transfer within Ohio's institutions while receiving the maximum credits toward a degree at the institution of their choice. See also [www.regents.state.oh.us/transfer](http://www.regents.state.oh.us/transfer).

## College Tech Prep

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## College Tech Prep Applies for Expanded Enrollment Planning Grants

The 26 College Tech Prep consortia are currently writing proposals for FY'04 Expanded Enrollment Planning Grants. Each grant is for \$20,000 and the primary goal of these grants is to demonstrate the capacity to develop new and innovative delivery models for College Tech Prep in Ohio. Once completed, these planning grants will form the basis of the FY'05 Expanded Enrollment Implementation Grants, of which ten competitive grants of \$150,000 will be awarded. These planning efforts are to focus on the development of delivery models which foster innovation and transformation of secondary and postsecondary academic and technical education. Each consortium will be asked to identify those partners from respective governing board members of at least two consortia and/or representatives of other agencies, business/industries, and educational reform initiatives at either the secondary or postsecondary level.

As you may not know, College Tech Prep begins in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade and combines two years of secondary and a minimum of two years post-secondary education in a four-year sequential and non-duplicative course of study. It integrates rigorous academics with technical instruction to prepare students for high skill and high paying careers. It is the only formal statewide linkage between secondary and higher education with approximately 17,000 students enrolled. Currently, there are 26 College Tech Prep consortia across the state, with over 500 school districts, all 96 vocational education planning districts, and 44 public college campuses.

## Columbus Urban League's Achievement Matters College Access Program

The Ohio College Access Network is proud to announce its newest member, the Columbus Urban League's **Achievement Matters College Access Program**. This Program is dedicated to providing college entrance and success to low-income and minority students. The Program offers information to middle and high school students along with mentoring and academic support for students to master the knowledge needed to enter and complete postsecondary education.

The overall goal of the Columbus Urban League's Achievement Matters College Access Program is commensurate with the purposes of the Pathways to College project, which is a consortium of 19 organizations and associations (including the National Urban League), focused on improving the participation and success of underrepresented groups in higher education. Ultimately, the Achievement Matters College Access Program will make students aware of the benefits of education beyond high school by preparing them with the skills necessary for postsecondary education coursework and assisting in the college selection process. Subsequently, this program will increase the number of economically disadvantaged persons in Franklin County who have access to and are admitted into postsecondary educational institutions.

## OASFAA Celebrates 35 Years

The Ohio Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (OASFAA) celebrated its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the annual OASFAA Winter Conference **December 10-12, 2003 at the Holiday Inn - Worthington, Ohio**. Dallas Martin, President of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA), gave the keynote address at Wednesday's General Session via telephone connection. The NASFAA President's availability for state conferences is rare, so OASFAA was pleased to be able to provide this opportunity for the Winter Conference attendees.

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## **Program Spotlight!!!**

Canton City Schools' **GEAR UP For Life** students are going to college. Twenty tenth grade students who have high GPAs and score high on the Compass test will have the opportunity to enroll in postsecondary options as a cohort group and attend Kent State University Stark Campus in June of 2004. The Compass test is a college entrance exam that is aligned with the ACT. The students will take English 1 for college credit, attend a study table and participate in an ACT workshop. Also, the students will have the opportunity to take Psychology in the summer of 2005. Because of the dedicated partners in Canton, the GEAR UP students are earning scholarship dollars from the Stark Education Partnership for passing subtests of the Ohio Proficiency tests and/or attending GEAR UP academic summer camps. Students can use these dollars to pay for the college credit for the camp next summer. To learn more about the GEAR UP For Life program in Canton, contact the Program Coordinators, Paralee Compton and Gloria Dunnivan at (330) 438-2695 or [Compton\\_p@ccsdistrict.org](mailto:Compton_p@ccsdistrict.org) and [gdunniva@kent.edu](mailto:gdunniva@kent.edu).

## **OACHE Conference Draws Record Crowd**

A near-record crowd of 267 attendees from Ohio, West Virginia, and several other Appalachian states gathered at the Tenth Annual OACHE/WVACHE Conference on October 2-4, 2003 to share strategies for encouraging more Appalachian students and adults to participate in college. This annual event, which draws K-12 and college educators, elected officials, and government representatives at all levels, was hosted this year at the Greenbrier Valley Campus of New River Community & Technical College of Bluefield State College in Lewisburg, West Virginia.

The multi-state conference was co-sponsored by the Ohio Appalachian Center for Higher Education (OACHE) and the West Virginia Access Center for Higher Education (WVACHE), with funds provided by the KnowledgeWorks Foundation, the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation, and the Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation, which named the OACHE one of only five winners of its prestigious Innovations in American Government award in May 2003. Highlights of the conference included more than 20 breakout sessions; plenary addresses by former Maryland Lieutenant Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, Appalachian Regional Commission Federal Co-Chair Anne Pope and West Virginia Secretary of State Joe Manchin; and recognition of outstanding educators from Ohio, West Virginia, and Tennessee. Three of the five surviving Rocket Boys, whose true story of college dreams in a West Virginia coal-mining town was told in Homer Hickam's best-selling memoir *Rocket Boys*, and the major motion picture *October Sky*, also attended.

## **Future Articles and Topics**

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or if there is a topic in the area of "Access," that you would like to see featured in future issues of this newsletter. Please send all inquiries to:

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