

Minnesota College Access Network

"Building a Network to Impact College Pathways
for all Minnesotans."



MCAN E-Alerts

As a member of the Minnesota College Access Network, you will receive these e-alerts with news on college access in Minnesota and around the country.

If you are not a member yet, visit our website at www.mncollegeaccess.org to join online!

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INVESTING IN HIGHER ED PAYS OFF: a message from MCAN Executive Director, Jennifer Godinez

Many of you probably reiterate a thousand times in your college access program the concept that a higher education provides not only a greater earning potential for every student—but also greater opportunities from a rewarding lifelong career...This Fall, I get to live out an experience that brings back several "returns on my investment" in my own higher education. I am very proud to share with you all that I will be traveling to Europe from October 1st to November 1st, 2008 on a [German Marshall Fund Fellowship \(GMF\)](#) to learn from global leaders educational, political and social issues affecting people in Europe. [Jennifer's message continues here.](#)

FINANCIAL FOCUS SERIES

As college costs continue to rise, accurate information about college financing options is crucial to college access. This fall MCAN will co-host, along with member organizations, a series dedicated to financial options for specific populations. This October series will focus on Student Parents, Foster Children, American Indian Students, African American Male Students and Undocumented Students. To join us for one or all of the sessions, please click [here](#) or [email Amanda](#) for more information.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Access & Success, College of St. Catherine
Dale Thornton, Concordia College, Moorhead
Dr. Robert Johnson, St Cloud State University
La Escuelita

MEMBER HIGHLIGHT: ACCESS AND SUCCESS

Student parents face the difficult challenge of balancing school, finances and family life. The [Access and Success](#) program at the College of St. Catherine provides information and resources around such issues as finding housing, child care, and community and campus resources for student parents. Access and Success will be co-hosting the Financial Focus Series on Student Parents, October 2, 2008. Staff from the program will share best practices and resources they use when working with student parents.

NEWS AND LINKS


[National News](#)

Changing how college is done

The Higher Education Opportunity Act, passed by Congress after years of negotiations, should expand access to college, streamline the financial-aid process and restore integrity to student-loan programs. Almost everyone is a fan. For the full article, [click here.](#)

[Local News](#)

Nice ACT scores, but ready for college?



Minnesota high school students have top scores, but only a third reach the benchmark for college preparedness, and minority students' scores lag. Is being the best good enough? When it comes to how Minnesota's high school graduates fared on the ACT college entrance exam, that's a question educators are facing. [Click here for the full article.](#)

[Tools and Resources for College Access](#)

Financial Aid Calendar From Sallie Mae

A calendar for Juniors and Seniors that outlines how to prepare for college and financial aid applications, month by month. Click here for the [calendar](#).

Posters

Turn students onto the advantages of postsecondary education and training. Get poster graphics in a colored 8 1/2 x 11, pdf version that you may print or save to your computer. [Click here.](#)

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Questions or comments? [Email us](#) or call Amanda Ziebell-Finley at 651-645-7400 ext. 201