

SREB/Go Alliance Collaborative Counselor Training Initiative

Oklahoma GEAR UP understands the influence school counselors have on under-resourced students. Because of this GEAR UP is teaming up with SREB/Go Alliance's Collaborative Counselor Training Initiative. The training is called, *College Access for All Students: Strategies for School Counselors in Career and Academic Advising*. It is a unique online training that specifically addresses the college access needs of students and ways school counselors can advise those students. This training consists of three modules. The first three modules include:

Module One: Building a College-Going Culture for All Students: This module includes four sessions: Introduction to the Counselor's Role in Student Career and Academic Planning; Creating a College Going Mission; Understanding and Working with Diverse Populations; and Communicating Effectively with Diverse Student Populations.

Module Two: College, Career and Academic Planning: This module includes four sessions: Engaging Students in Early Career Awareness and Planning; Using Data to Guide Academic Planning; Academic Planning Part II; and College/Postsecondary Choice.

Module Three: Financial Aid and College Applications: This module includes four sessions which address financial literacy, financial aid, completing the FAFSA and preparing college applications. This module focuses on the counselor's role in counseling both students and parents in financial aid and college preparation.

These modules incorporate a learning community approach. **School counselors from the 24 GEAR UP School Districts will participate in the online courses as a cohort group. We will begin Module One with a technical assistance and implementation workshop on June 25-27, 2012.** Each month throughout the year we will meet "online" discussing the reading assignments, activities and resources available.

***Required in Year One**