

# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



JOHN L. WINN  
Commissioner of Education



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October 9, 2006

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** District Student Services Directors  
High School Guidance Supervisors  
High School Guidance Counselors  
Community College Student Services Directors  
State University Student Services Directors

**FROM:** John L. Winn

**SUBJECT:** *2007 Florida Counseling for Future Education Handbook*

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New reforms in education will bring more rigor and relevance to Florida's middle and high schools to better prepare students for postsecondary education and the workforce. More than ever, Florida students depend on guidance counselors for accurate information and careful academic planning. Counselors play an important role in the learning process by helping students make personal and academic decisions and encouraging students to develop the skills necessary to become self-directed learners. Students and parents count on information they seek from counselors to be up-to-date relative to Florida's State University System admission requirements, Florida's 2+2 program and guaranteed articulation agreement, acceleration mechanisms, and other postsecondary transition options.

One valuable resource for counselors is the *Florida Counseling for Future Education Handbook*. This publication, updated annually, provides a comprehensive reference guide to postsecondary education in Florida. Sections taken directly from the *Handbook* can be used as handouts at parent meetings or advising sessions or as supplements to a school's own curriculum guide. The *Handbook* is available at [www.FACTS.org](http://www.FACTS.org), under Advising Manuals. This is the third year that the *Handbook* has been posted in a web-only format, with users expressing an appreciation for the ease of navigation and timely online updates.

We hope you find the *2007 Counseling for Future Education Handbook* helpful, and welcome your input for future improvements. The dedicated work of guidance counselors as academic advisors, mentors, coaches, advocates, and educators is greatly appreciated.

Best wishes for an outstanding academic year in Florida!

JLW/hsa