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October 14, 2008



Dr. Eric J. Smith **Commissioner of Education**



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: Dr. Eric J. Smith

SUBJECT: 2008-09 Florida Counseling for Future Education Handbook

More than ever, Florida students depend on guidance counselors for accurate information and careful academic planning. Students and parents count on current and accurate information from counselors regarding Florida's State University System admission requirements, 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, advising sessions, or as supplements to a school's own curriculum guide. The *Handbook* is available at www.FACTS.org, under Counselors and Educators > Advising Manuals.

We hope you find the 2008-09 Florida Counseling for Future Education Handbook helpful, and welcome your input for future improvements. The dedicated work of guidance counselors is greatly appreciated.

Best wishes for an outstanding academic year in Florida!

EJS/hsa