



COALITION

coalitionforcollegeaccess.org
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MONTHLY MEMO FOR COUNSELORS

August 2016

From the Executive Director

Hello Counselors!

While I haven't given in to the lure of purchasing brand new pencils to start the year, the rapid uptick in activity means that the school year looms. This month, we are busily supporting member colleges as they open their Coalition applications for students for the first time. As you counsel students using the Coalition application, we hope that the following information supports your work.

Applications Open

The first Coalition Applications are now available for students, counselors, and teachers at mycoalition.org. Carleton College, Indiana University, and Vanderbilt University were the first schools to open their Coalition applications. Over 15,000 students are registered Coalition Platform users. As you may have heard, plans for some schools changed very recently. We will maintain an [updated list of schools](#) that plan to accept the Coalition application this fall.

Counselor Resources: Now Available

You can now access a full suite of support resources for working with students who are using the Coalition application. Our online [counselor manual](#) can also be downloaded as a [PDF](#). You may also find our short [video tutorials](#) to be a helpful reference for quick questions.

Partnership with the First Lady's Reach Higher Initiative

The First Lady's staff identified over 500 high schools that would benefit the most from direct engagement with Coalition member institutions. These schools have a substantial percentage of students on free and or reduced lunch, high graduation rates, and low FAFSA completion rates. Students in these schools are facing significant barriers to college admission and matriculation—our members look forward to lending their support as an enhancement to their fall travel plans.

Coalition in the News

I wanted to share these articles with you in case you missed them: my [Op-Ed](#) reflecting the Coalition goals, a [comprehensive Q&A](#), and [an interview with Eric Hoover of The Chronicle of Higher Education](#).

As the school year opens, I know that your need for information about the Coalition quickly will increase. Please invite your students and families to reach out to: info@coalitionapp.org. I invite you to connect with questions, comments, or suggestions as well. If you know of a colleague who would like to receive communication from the Coalition, please invite them to request additional information using the "mailing list" and "connect" links at the bottom of our [home page](#).

Most sincerely,

Annie Reznik