

From: Thomas, Tameka [mailto:Tameka.Thomas@fldoe.org]
Sent: Friday, August 27, 2010 10:27 AM
Subject: 2010 Dropout Prevention Institute/School Attendance Symposium

The Florida Department of Education is pleased to announce grants to assist participants in attending the 2010 Dropout Prevention Institute/School Attendance Symposium. There are fifty grants available on a first come first serve basis. The grant will cover \$150.00 of the \$195.00 conference registration fee. Each participant awarded a grant will be responsible for paying the remaining \$45.00 of the registration fee before September 22, 2010. Please note that this grant does not cover nor may it be used to cover hotel or other expenses related to travel. To request an application for this grant, you must contact Mrs. Tameka Thomas with the Florida Department of Education no later than September 6, 2010. You may contact Mrs. Thomas by phone at 850-245-0845 or via e-mail at Tameka.Thomas@fldoe.org. In addition, to receive the special hotel rate of \$119.00, participants must reserve their rooms by September 10, 2010.

The theme for this year is Be There to Get There: Engaging the Promise in Every Graduate. The Institute/Symposium will be held October 4-7, 2010 at the Hilton in the Walt Disney World Resort, Lake Buena Vista, FL. This event will provide a professional development opportunity for educational administrators, teachers, school social workers, attendance specialists, faith and community based leaders, college administrators, volunteer coordinators, other student services personnel and program coordinators who provide services to students who are truant and/or at risk of not graduating from high school.

The Institute/Symposium will provide a forum for sharing and promoting programs, research-based strategies and best practices that positively impact school engagement and student achievement. The Institute/Symposium will feature over 80 workshops with topics that include dropout prevention programs, alternative education, attendance incentives/programs, truancy prevention/enforcement, policy issues related to dropout prevention & attendance, teen pregnancy prevention/parenting programs, student engagement, disciplinary programs/strategies, tutoring/mentoring, volunteer outreach, gang avoidance, parental involvement, exceptional student education, zero tolerance, DJJ programs, faith and community-based involvement, workforce education, grant writing, quality data, access to postsecondary education, and resource mapping.

The Institute/Symposium will also feature three nationally renowned keynote speakers, including Dr. Debbie Silver, Dr. George McKenna, & Ms. Kim Bearden.

Hotel reservations may be made by calling 1-800-782-4414 and referencing the name of the meeting as Dropout Prevention/School Attendance Conference.

You may also reserve rooms online at

http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/ORLDWHH-FDO-20101002/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG.

To register and/or submit a proposal to present, please visit the National Dropout Prevention Center website at the following link:

<http://www.dropoutprevention.org/home>.

To be included in the Institute/Symposium program, proposals must be submitted by August 31, 2010. Proposals submitted after August 31 will be included in the Institute/Symposium program addendum.

If you have further questions, you may also contact Dr. Kimberly Davis at 850-245-0551 or via e-mail at Kimberly.Davis@fldoe.org or Gria Davison at 850-245-7837 or via e-mail at gdavison@usf.edu.