



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

CHRISTOPHER D. CERF
Acting Commissioner

May 31, 2011

TO: Chief School Administrators of High School Districts
Charter School Lead Person (High Schools)
Public High School Principals
Directors of Guidance
Non-Public Advisory Committee Members

FROM: Rochelle Hendricks
Acting Deputy Commissioner

SUBJECT: The 2011 Malcolm Bernard Historically Black Colleges and
Universities College Fair of New Jersey

I am pleased to announce that the New Jersey Department of Education will once again co-sponsor the Malcolm Bernard Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) College Fair of New Jersey. The week-long fair will be an excellent opportunity for institutions of higher education to meet New Jersey's students and share the rich legacy and opportunities that an HBCU can offer. This year's fair will be held from **November 12-18, 2011** at five regional sites throughout New Jersey. A flyer providing the date, time and location for each fair is attached.

This year's fair will again feature:

- College application fee waivers,
- On-site admissions acceptance,
- Guest speakers,
- Panel discussions, and
- Workshops for educators, students, and parents that focus on the necessary tools to pursue post-secondary education and succeed in institutions of higher education

Last year, the college representatives were able to meet and provide information to over 5,700 New Jersey high school students. These students were afforded the opportunity to meet and receive valuable decision making information from admission counselors representing more than 40 HBCUs. Of the 1,489 high school seniors offered admission to an HBCU, 24 percent were granted on-site college acceptance and 304 scholarships were offered to students which totaled \$2.3 million, thereby demonstrating the high caliber of academically talented students from New Jersey interested in attending HBCUs.

I encourage you to continue to provide this opportunity to your students and add the Malcolm Bernard HBCU College Fair to your 2011-2012 school calendars of events. Attached for your information and use are the high school registration forms for the college fairs. Please select the location that best accommodates your school and make the necessary arrangements to schedule the event for your junior and senior high school students. In addition, please post the attached flyer in your school. Finally, we ask that you help to prepare the students attending to ensure their experience affords them the greatest opportunity, including taking the SAT or ACT at least once before the college fair.

The online registration system made available last year will be active beginning in September at www.HBCU-CFNJ.com. All students attending the fair at any location must register using this online registration system and print their student admittance pass. Additional student preparation and online student registration information, currently being redesigned, will be available on the website as well.

If you have any questions, please contact Diane Schonyers in the Office of Career and Technical Education at (609) 984-6409 or visit www.HBCU-CFNJ.com for more information.

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Attachments

c: Christopher Cerf, Commissioner
Senior Staff
Members, State Board of Education
Executive County Superintendents
Marie Barry
Diane Schonyers
Division of District and School Improvement Staff
Barbara Bernard