

# The Ability Advisor

"Focusing on Student Abilities"



careertech

DATE: February 2010

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## Quote of the Month:

"In the long run men hit only what they aim at."

— Henry David Thoreau

## Scholarship Information:

### Financial Aid for Students Whose Parents Have Disabilities:

Subject: Scholarships for high school seniors & college students who have parents with disabilities

#### 2010 THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

Through the Looking Glass and its National Center for Parents with Disabilities and their Families are pleased to announce new scholarships specifically for high school seniors and college students who have parents with disabilities. A total of ten \$1000 scholarships will be given out Fall 2010. These scholarships are part of Through the Looking Glass' National Center for Parents with Disabilities and their Families <<http://lookingglass.org/ncpd/index.php>>. Please note that the 2010 awards have different application procedures than previous years. There are separate scholarship awards for high school seniors and for college students, and each has separate eligibility requirements:

1. High School Seniors. To be eligible, a student must be a high school graduate (or graduating senior) by Summer 2010, planning to attend a two-year or four-year college in Fall 2010 in pursuit of an AA, BA or BS degree, and have at least one parent with a disability.
2. College Students. To be eligible, a student must be currently enrolled in a two-year or four-year college in Fall 2010 in pursuit of an AA, BA or BS degree, be 21 years of age or younger as of March 1, 2010, and have at least one parent with a disability.

All application materials must be postmarked by March 1, 2010. Individuals may submit only one application per award period.

Selection criteria for all scholarships include academic performance, community activities and service, letter of recommendation and an essay describing the experience of growing up with a parent with a disability.

Please go to our website: <http://www.lookingglass.org> <<http://www.lookingglass.org/>> for more information, including the application form, complete application directions and an FAQ page that answers many common questions as well as offers helpful suggestions.

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[www.lookingglass.org](http://www.lookingglass.org) <<http://www.lookingglass.org/>>  
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## Think College:

Website devoted to college options for individuals with disabilities:

Site includes newsletters with valuable information for students and families. The site also includes links to helpful resources that could prove necessary for successful transition to post-secondary education.

<http://www.thinkcollege.net/>

## Summer Conference 2010:

The preliminary information on Summer Conference has been released. Professional development and networking provides a valuable resource to our educators and administrators. However, there have been some changes made in an effort to streamline the conference and reduce expenses.

### Changes to the 2010 Oklahoma CareerTech Summer Conference

Because of the serious revenue shortfall our state is facing as well as an effort to improve overall efficiency, we have revised the plans for this year's CareerTech Summer Conference. The major changes include:

- 1.) Date and Format: The conference will now be a two-day format, beginning Monday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. and adjourning at 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> (This is a change from the previously announced dates of August 3-5, 2010.)
- 2.) General Session: There will be only one general session this year. It will be held Monday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10:00 a.m – 12Noon at the Tulsa Convention Center.
- 3.) Exhibits: The exhibits are now scheduled for one day only. Show hours are Monday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the Tulsa Convention Center.
- 4.) Professional Development Sessions: A two-hour time block Monday afternoon will be allotted for professional development concurrent sessions.
- 5.) Divisional Meetings: Divisional business meetings will be held Monday afternoon from 3:45 – 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> (day two) will be entirely dedicated to divisional meetings.
- 6.) Stipends: Regrettably, ODCTE is not in the financial position to provide stipends to conference participants this year. Schools will need to work out a travel reimbursement policy for its employees. Comprehensive schools will be permitted to use "incentive funds" to provide a stipend if they so choose.

Please be aware that plans are **preliminary** at this time and **are subject to change** because of the uncertainty of future budgets cuts. In the future, any significant changes to the Summer Conference schedule will be sent via email by the ODCTE State Director or OkACTE Executive Director. More detailed plans will be posted on the conference website when it is launched April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### Upcoming Events:

Date	Event	Location
2/4/2010	Diabetes Training	McAlister, Kiamichi Technology Center
2/15/2010	Autism workshop	Norman, Moore-Norman Tech Center South Penn
2/26/2010	Austism workshop	Alva, Northwest Technology Center
3/3/2010	Counselor's Conference	Norman, Moore-Norman Tech Center South Penn

See Oklahoma State Department of Education website to register:

<http://sde.state.ok.us/Services/Conference/default.html>



**Wow, February's newsletter had quite a bit of information, but I hope that you found something that you could use or pass along. I am always open to requests from the field. Have a great **February!** Spring is just around the corner.**

**Please contact me with questions, comments, or concerns. I am anxious to meet many of you, and I'll look forward to your emails and phone calls.**

***KIM***

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