



Presents .... *FOCUS, an Educational Talent Search Project*

2011- 2012

## *What is FOCUS / Educational Talent Search?*

Seminole State College's FOCUS / Educational Talent Search Program, which has been assisting students in this area since 1991, is a **free** academic enrichment program you can join at your school. It is part of the **TRiO** Programs, which are funded by the U.S. Department of Education. During the school year your FOCUS / Talent Search Advisor will visit your school and meet with participants either in groups or individually.

## *What happens in the FOCUS / Educational Talent Search meetings?*

Your FOCUS / Talent Search Advisors conduct workshops and activities that provide you with valuable information—but in fun ways. Not only do you learn about college, careers, study skills, and life skills, you improve your interpersonal skills by interacting with others.

## *How can FOCUS / Educational Talent Search help me? FOCUS / Educational Talent Search can provide you with the tools you need for a successful education and career. What if you ...*

**Need help with a class?** *FOCUS / Educational Talent Search* will provide connections to high quality academic tutoring services.

**Don't know how to study?** *FOCUS / Educational Talent Search* will show you how to develop good study habits you'll use for years to come.

**Are unsure about how to apply for college?** *FOCUS / Educational Talent Search* can help you with the application process.

**Don't know how you will pay for college?** *FOCUS / Educational Talent Search* will assist you in finding sources of financial aid.

**Are confused about what career you want to pursue?** *FOCUS / Educational Talent Search* can help you match your interests and abilities with a career that's right for you!

## *Here are some of the great FOCUS workshops coming your way this year:*

***Ask A College Student!*** Find out how to succeed in college from actual college students!

***Find YOUR Best Career!*** Make the most money AND have the most rewarding career!

***Operation Lifestyle:*** How much money will you need in the future?

***This Is A Test!*** How to conquer fears about testing!

***Study Skills Bingo*** Do these things to be successful in school!

***ACT Strategies*** Practical hints and tips for succeeding with the ACT!

***Extreme Makeover Student Edition*** Make yourself over into the student you want to be!

***Which College is Right for You?*** Find your perfect college!

## *How can I join FOCUS / Educational Talent Search?*

Return this form to your school counselor, our office in Room 109 of SSC's Scott Bldg., or mail directly to:

**FOCUS / Educational Talent Search, Seminole State College, P.O. Box 351, Seminole, OK 74868**  
**Please feel free to call (405) 382-9705 if you have any questions.** We look forward to hearing from you!

Mary Ann Hill – Director, Damaris Haney, Sarah Ledford, Holly Newell, Dianna O'Connell, Ronnie Williamson – Advisors



# FOCUS / Educational Talent Search Application

To be completed by a **parent** or **guardian** only with whom the student lives.

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_  
(required) month, day, year

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Email \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's Email \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Parent daytime / cell number \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. Citizen: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ (If no, please provide documentation of permanent residency)

School \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnic Background: \_\_\_\_\_ African American \_\_\_\_\_ Asian \_\_\_\_\_ White  
\_\_\_\_\_ Hispanic \_\_\_\_\_ Native American (Tribe) \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

With which **adults** does the student live? (Please check **all that apply** and provide names)

\_\_\_\_\_ Natural Mother Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Natural Father Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Step Mother Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Step Father Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Guardian(s) Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Other Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of people residing in household \_\_\_\_\_ Is student a ward of the state? \_\_\_\_\_

What are the names of other students in the household who participate in FOCUS / Educational Talent Search?

\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Educational Background

High School Attended but did not receive diploma \_\_\_\_\_ Graduated \_\_\_\_\_ GED \_\_\_\_\_

2 Year College Attended but did not receive degree \_\_\_\_\_ Received degree \_\_\_\_\_

4 Year College Attended but did not receive degree \_\_\_\_\_ Received degree \_\_\_\_\_

Father/Male Guardian's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Place of employment \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a guardian, have you legally adopted the student? \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Educational Background

High School Attended but did not receive diploma \_\_\_\_\_ Graduated \_\_\_\_\_ GED \_\_\_\_\_

2 Year College Attended but did not receive degree \_\_\_\_\_ Received degree \_\_\_\_\_

4 Year College Attended but did not receive degree \_\_\_\_\_ Received degree \_\_\_\_\_

Mother/Female Guardian's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Place of employment \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a guardian, have you legally adopted the student? \_\_\_\_\_

Parental Financial and Educational Information (REQUIRED FOR ACCEPTANCE INTO FREE PROGRAM)

**Were parents required to file a 2011 income tax return? Yes \_\_\_\_\_** If yes, please enter the amount of **taxable income** (income after deductions) from appropriate form below (1040 or 1040A, or you may attach a copy of your federal income tax return).

This figure is your taxable income--income after deductions. Please note that we need tax information for the family living at the address listed on this application. (If you are unsure about your taxable income, please contact your tax professional.)

If you filed IRS form 1040, please list amount on line 43 (taxable income) \_\_\_\_\_

If you filed IRS form 1040 A, please list amount on line 27 (taxable income) \_\_\_\_\_

If you filed IRS form 1040 EZ, please list amount on line 6 (taxable income) \_\_\_\_\_

**If you did not file a tax return, please provide estimate of your income for 2011: \_\_\_\_\_**

If you did not file a tax return, please indicate if you receive one or more of the following: No \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Social Security

\_\_\_\_\_ Unemployment

\_\_\_\_\_ Retirement

\_\_\_\_\_ Child Support

\_\_\_\_\_ Welfare/Social Services

\_\_\_\_\_ Other

\_\_\_\_\_ Veterans Benefits

Seminole State College's FOCUS / Educational Talent Search Program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education. In order to receive the funds necessary to provide our 700 participants with free services, we are required to obtain income information. We cannot accept participants without this information; however, eligibility is not determined solely from income. If you have questions about this form, please call our office (405)382-9706. This confidential information will not be released to anyone. You may also mail the application directly to our office if you prefer.

**My student has applied for Oklahoma's Promise (formerly known as OHLAP) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_**

My signature indicates that the previous information is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge. (Parent signature mandatory for acceptance)

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**FOCUS  
Educational Talent Search  
Seminole State College**

**Release of Information Agreement**

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_  
(required)

This document will authorize FOCUS / Educational Talent Search to receive and/or release copies of my child's transcripts, test scores, financial aid awards, free and reduced lunch application and other materials necessary for participation in FOCUS / Educational Talent Search.

I understand that my records are protected under State and Federal Confidentiality regulations and cannot be released without my written consent unless otherwise provided for in the regulations. Federal regulations prohibit making any further disclosure without the specific written consent of the person to whom it pertains, or as otherwise permitted by such regulation. Although this release may be revoked upon my written request, I agree that it shall be valid throughout my child's participation in the FOCUS / Educational Talent Search Program.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Before sending this application, please check to be sure that you have completed all information including social security number and financial information. **FOCUS / Educational Talent Search cannot process applications without this information.** We look forward to having your student in **FOCUS / Educational Talent Search**. Please do not hesitate to contact our office at (405) 382-9705 should you have any questions.

**FOCUS**  
**Educational Talent Search**  
**Seminole State College**

**Media Release**

I hereby give permission for my son/daughter's picture, identity, and/or story to be used in connection with the activities of the Educational Talent Search Program (FOCUS) at Seminole State College. It may be used in newspapers, television and magazine articles, program website, etc. I also give my son/daughter permission to speak in public regarding the Educational Talent Search Program (FOCUS). Although this release may be revoked upon my written request, I agree that it shall be valid throughout my child's participation in the FOCUS / Educational Talent Search Program.

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# FOCUS ... on your future!

## Student Questionnaire

In order for FOCUS / Educational Talent Search to provide the best services possible to participants, we request that you answer the following questions about yourself. We want to help you achieve your goals!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you like school? Please explain your answer. \_\_\_\_\_

What classes in school interest you most and why?

What classes in school are most difficult for you and why? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to have tutoring in a particular class (which one)? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you able to study at home? Please explain your answer. \_\_\_\_\_

How often do you miss school? \_\_\_\_\_ Never \_\_\_\_\_ Sometimes \_\_\_\_\_ Frequently

Have you ever repeated a grade? (If yes, which one?) \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the areas in which you feel you need help. (Check all areas that apply)

Listening skills \_\_\_\_\_ Note taking \_\_\_\_\_ Reading a textbook \_\_\_\_\_ Test-taking strategies \_\_\_\_\_

Managing your study time \_\_\_\_\_ The college process (financial aid, applying to college, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Are you doing the best you can in school? If you had help, do you feel that you could do better? Please explain your answer. \_\_\_\_\_

What activities are you involved in at school or otherwise? \_\_\_\_\_

Choose three words to describe yourself.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

What do you like to do in your spare time? \_\_\_\_\_

What are your plans after high school? \_\_\_\_\_ College \_\_\_\_\_ Vo-tech \_\_\_\_\_ Military \_\_\_\_\_ Job

If you chose college, which one are you planning to attend? \_\_\_\_\_

What do you want to be when you grow up? (If you aren't sure, you can list some things you have thought about)

*Thank you for completing this survey! Please return it with your application.*