

**SOUTHERN REGIONAL FORUM ON COLLEGE READINESS
SREB and SHEEO in alliance with the
Pathways to College Network**

**RENAISSANCE CONCOURSE HOTEL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
September 18-19, 2003**

Information for Members of State Teams

The Southern Regional Forum on College Readiness serves as a culminating activity of SHEEO's P-16 initiative, in alliance with the Pathways to College Network, and SREB's College Readiness Policy Connections. The two programs, both funded by the U.S. Department of Education, have worked cooperatively for the past three years. SHEEO conducted five case studies of P-16 state efforts, including three SREB states: Louisiana, Maryland and North Carolina. The Pathways Network conducted K-16 state roundtables in four states, including Tennessee. SREB has worked closely with three states, Georgia, Texas, and West Virginia, in aligning state and federal policies.

Meeting Purpose: The forum will provide opportunities for those participants involved in SREB and SHEEO efforts, as well as others, to share "lessons learned" and "best practices" from the past three years' efforts to improve educational achievement. Discussions will focus on four key areas of college readiness and access as identified both by SHEEO and SREB: curriculum and assessment, early outreach, teacher quality, and affordability. State teams will identify continuing needs and next steps. The meeting will culminate in a discussion of regional strategies to meet state needs.

Target audience: Two key policy-makers in each SREB state will co-convene a four-person team. In nearly all cases, the state's higher education executive officer and a member of the Southern Regional Education Board have agreed to co-convene a state team. Additional team members include chief state school officers or deputies, legislators, heads of business and educational alliances, or heads of community or technical college systems. Representatives from SREB, SHEEO and the Pathways to College Network will also attend.

Background Materials: All participants will receive briefing materials prior to the meeting, including *Student Success: Statewide P-16 Systems* (SHEEO, 2003), *Student Readiness for College: Connecting State Policies* (SREB, 2002) and *High School to College and Careers: Aligning State Policies* (SREB, 2002).

Registration: No registration fee will be charged for the members of the four-person state teams. Please do complete the registration form (below) so that we can prepare name tags and a participant roster.

Expenses: Hotel and coach airfare for state team members will be paid through grant funds, including hotel for the night of September 17 for those traveling great distances and September 18. Four meals are also provided, per the agenda below. See details about hotel and airfare below.

Hotel and Airline Reservations: Participants must make their hotel reservations by August 27 directly with the Renaissance Concourse Hotel through Marriott reservations at 1-888-391-8724 or 404-209-9999 to insure the group rate. Identify yourself with the Southern Regional Forum on College Readiness to receive the group rate of \$109 per night. Rooms have been reserved for the nights of September 17 (as needed for long-distance travel) as well as the September 18.

All participants will make their own arrangements for coach air travel. **We encourage you to use SREB's travel agency, TRAVEL INC.** to insure the best rates for your travel plans. If you do so, *you may charge your ticket directly to SREB.* Please contact Penny Ponder at 1-800-241-0944, extension 5163 or 770-291-5163 or email her at penny.johnson-ponder@travelinc.com.

Abbreviated Meeting Agenda

Thursday: September 18, 2003

11:00 a.m. to noon	Registration
Noon to 1:00 p.m.	Lunch Welcome Overview
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Facilitated State Discussions
2:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	Session I: Curriculum and Assessment*
3:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.	Break
3:45 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.	Session II: Early Outreach*
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Dinner with Facilitated State Discussions

Friday: September 19, 2003

7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast
8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.	Session III: Teacher Quality*
9:45 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.	Break and Hotel Check out
10:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Session IV: Affordability*
11:30 – 12:30 p.m.	State Teams identify key issues and next steps
12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.	Lunch
1:15 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Group identifies key issues for region and potential joint efforts

* Sessions will highlight at least one best practice in the region

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**REGISTRATION FORM
For Members of State Teams**

September 18, 11:00 a.m. to September 19, 2:00 p.m.

**Renaissance Concourse Hotel
One Hartsfield Center Parkway
Atlanta, Georgia 30354
404-209-9999**

First Name **MI** **Last Name** *First Name for name tag*

Title: _____

Mailing Address:

Telephone Number:

E-Mail Address:

Fax Number: _____

Dietary restrictions: _____

Mail or FAX or E-mail Registration form to

**Southern Regional Education Board (SREB)
Attention: Heather Andrews
592 10th Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30318-5790
FAX: 404-872-1477**

heather.andrews@sreb.org