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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

TO: All Certified County Commissioners

FROM: Christopher Holley, Executive Director, Florida Counties Foundation

SUBJECT: The Advanced County Commissioner (ACC) Education Program
"The Florida Forum for County Leaders"

DATE: August 3, 2011

I am pleased to announce that the application process for the 2011-2012 Advanced County Commissioner (ACC) education program is now open. All graduates of the Certified County Commissioners (CCC) program are encouraged to participate in this program.

The ACC program is organized as a series of three seminars, with the first seminar to be held October 13-14, at the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center in Alachua County. The follow-up events will also be in Gainesville on January 5-6 and April 19-20, 2012.

The course content will focus on leadership with an overarching theme of growth and development in Florida. It is our intention to engage the best talent available from across the nation to lead the advanced courses.

I am also pleased to announce that for the fifth year in a row, the 2011-2012 ACC series is being sponsored by the University of Florida, IFAS Extension Program. This continued partnership with the University enhances the caliber of the ACC program.

Applicants must commit to attending and paying for all three courses to be accepted. The ACC program will be limited to 30 Certified County Commissioners selected on a first-come, first-served basis. There is not a waiting list for this program. In order to be considered for the 2011-2012 class, you must submit the attached application.

The total registration fee for all three seminars is \$450, which includes a total of 27 hours of first class training, all materials, and meals. The entire amount must be paid in advance. Some financial assistance is available and is described in the attachments.

We hope you will seriously consider participating in this outstanding program.



ADVANCED COUNTY COMMISSIONER EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Florida Counties Foundation is proud to announce the 2011-2012 Advanced County Commissioner (ACC) education program. This program is open to graduates of the County Commissioners Certification (CCC) Program. It is a 3-part series of seminars that will emphasize leadership skills important given Florida's very dynamic growth and development environment. Commissioners who complete all three seminars will receive an ACC certification to complement their CCC designation.

The seminars will be led by the best faculty available from across the nation and will address:

Seminar 1: **Leadership Skills for Change Agents in Florida's Growth Environment**
Date: October 13-14, 2011 (Thursday-Friday)
Hilton University of Florida Conference Center in Alachua County

Seminar 2: **Strategic Visioning & Implementing that Vision**
Date: January 5-6, 2012 (Thursday-Friday)
Hilton University of Florida Conference Center in Alachua County

Seminar 3: **Understanding and Working with Growth Stakeholders & County Deal Makers in Florida's Growth Environment**
Date: April 19-20, 2012 (Thursday-Friday)
Hilton University of Florida Conference Center in Alachua County

The registration fee for the entire series (all three seminars) is \$450, which includes 27 hours of high quality training, all materials, and meals. The total amount must be paid in advance. The fee does not include hotel or other travel expenses. Scholarships are available for all counties. The Florida Counties Foundation is supplementing the scholarships that were previously offered by the SCTAS program. We will pay for up to eight scholarships for participants from small counties. In addition, the Vivian Zaricki Alarcon Scholarship will pay for up to 3 participants from medium/large counties that need assistance (see application for payment options).

A one-page application is enclosed. To register for the ACC program, complete the application and fax it to the Association office at (850) 488-7752 on or after August 3, 2011. Thirty applicants will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis as date/time recorded on the faxed document.

Hotel information and the first agenda will be sent to applicants accepted in the program. If you have any questions, contact Becky Berentsen at (850) 922-4300.



◆ PROGRAM APPLICATION ◆

ADVANCED COUNTY COMMISSIONER EDUCATION PROGRAM

I hereby submit my application for the **Advanced County Commissioner Program** designed as "post graduate studies" for Certified County Commissioners. I understand that this application is my commitment to complete the 3-part series of seminars. Advanced Certification will be conferred to Commissioners who complete all three events which total 27 hours of class time. The fee for the entire series is \$450, does not include hotel or travel expenses, and must be paid in advance. This form should be faxed to FCF (850-488-7752) starting Wednesday, August 3, 2011. Only 30 applicants will be admitted to the program. Selection will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Once accepted, the tuition payment must follow for receipt by FCF **no later than September 23, 2011**.

Signed: _____

Print Name: _____ County: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ FAX: _____ Email: _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS (Check applicable box):

- My county will remit a check in the full amount no later than September 23, 2011
- I will make on-line payment with a credit card no later than September 23, 2011

I hereby submit a scholarship request:

- Small County Scholarship (first-come, first-served basis up to 8 for counties with a population under 75,000)
- Vivian Zaricki Alarcon Scholarship (first-come, first-served basis up to 3 for counties with a population of over 75,000)

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. To ensure the best educational experience possible, the class will be limited to 30 participants. The first 30 applicants will be approved and will be notified by email, so be sure the application includes your email address. If you do not have email, provide a daytime phone number.
2. **Once you are notified via email or telephone that you have been accepted, payment must be received no later than September 23 or the slot will be given to another applicant. Therefore, please be sure to pre-arrange speedy payment by your county for the registration fee. This is necessary to avoid any vacant slots in the class.**
3. Once approved, you may register and make payment on-line using a credit card via your member login (see www.fl-counties.com). Up to 8 applicants from counties under 75,000 population and up to 3 applicants from counties with a population of over 75,000 may receive a \$450 scholarship for tuition. Again, these are provided on a first-come, first-served basis as documented by the fax dateline.
4. The Application Form should be faxed to the FCF office at (850) 488-7752. **The fax dateline will serve as the means of documenting when applications are received so you must fax in the application form to be considered for the program.**
5. Hotel information will be sent to applicants accepted in the program. The room rate for the first event at the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center will be \$139+tax per night.