



Blacks In Government®

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30 April 2010

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Regional Council Presidents
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FROM:  J. David Reeves
National President

SUBJECT: **FUTURE LEADERS IN AMERICA'S GOVERNMENT (FLAG)**

1. The National Organization of Blacks In Government (BIG) is implementing a Future Leaders in America's Government (FLAG) pilot program. The purpose of the program is to provide guidance and mentorship to junior high, high school, and college students throughout the nation, as well as provide college scholarships annually to build future leaders in America's government. Every BIG chapter is requested to start a FLAG program as part of our emphasis on youth development.
2. The FLAG program utilizes the talents and skills of BIG members as mentors to help youth transition from adolescence to adulthood. In line with BIG's preamble, this program will help ensure that our youth will have the opportunity for full, complete and equitable access to jobs, education, advancement, housing and health services.
3. We have designed the program around five critical areas that will help prepare our youth to reach their full potential—mentorship; financial literacy and leadership training; career training and education; pre-professional career opportunities; and scholarship opportunities.
4. The FLAG program is divided into two groups—Junior FLAG and Senior FLAG. A Senior FLAG program participant is an undergraduate student who is enrolled in an accredited college or university who is in accord with the principles, policies and objectives of the organization and is not qualified as a regular member. Senior FLAG become student associate members by paying the student membership fee of \$20.00. Junior FLAG program participants are youth currently enrolled in Junior High or High School who agree to participate in the FLAG program.
5. In addition to conducting the program throughout the year, we are planning a Youth Leadership Conference to be held at the National Training Conference in August 2010. Based on corporate donations and funds availability, we plan to provide transportation and lodging for one representative from each Junior and Senior FLAG program to participate in the Conference. For those who participate

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in the Junior FLAG program and attend the Youth Leadership Conference, there is a mandatory requirement that they have a BIG member chaperone during the conference.

6. Please use the enclosed program package to assist you in establishing a Junior or Senior FLAG within your area. All student participants, student advisors, and chapters must adhere to the program guidelines. If you have questions or need further details, please contact the FLAG Program Coordinator, Dr. Doris Sartor. She can be reached at (202) 439-2483 or e-mail: FLAG@bignet.org. Your support and involvement in this pilot program is appreciated.

Attachments:

1. FLAG Program Overview Handbook
2. Junior FLAG and Senior FLAG Start-Up Handout
3. FLAG Program Sample Guidelines
4. FLAG Parent Permission Form
5. FLAG Application Form
6. Summary of Career Education and Training Handout
7. Mentoring Brochure
8. FLAG Marketing Brochure
9. BIG Membership Application