# OSFA News For Guidance Counselors

Florida Department of Education

October to December 2010

# 2011-12 NT4CM Workshops

The Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance is offering the NT4CM workshops for high school guidance counselors and mentors. It is not too late to register for a <u>workshop</u> in your area. Locations details include:

October 26, 2010
Naples
Avo Maria Universit

Ave Maria University

November 5, 2010 Miami

**Professional Training Center** 

November 17, 2010 West Palm Beach Keiser University - West Palm Beach

November 19, 2010 Weston

American International University

December 1, 2010 Ocala

Rasmussen College

December 2, 2010 Fort Pierce Indian River State College

December 3, 2010
Tampa
Aparicio-Levy Adult Techn

Aparicio-Levy Adult Technical Center

December 8, 2010 Orlando Valencia Community College -Osceola Campus

Other Cities (Dates and Locations TBA)
Jacksonville

# Who's My Rep?

The Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA), would like to introduce you to our dedicated outreach staff members who are located throughout Florida. Get to know these smiling faces. They are committed to serving you and our students.

# **Financial Aid Nights**

OSFA outreach representatives are available to assist you with providing information to your students. They welcome the opportunity to participate in your on-site high school activities, to facilitate financial aid awareness and financial literacy by providing workshops throughout the upcoming year. Please contact your OSFA <a href="Outreach Representative">Outreach</a> Representative when planning your Financial Aid Night events.

# Visit www.MappingYourFuture.org

<u>Mapping Your Future</u> provides information and tools to help you provide effective service to your students and their families, especially as they explore the avenues to higher education.

- Explore careers.
- Prepare for college.
- Save for your child's education.
- Subscribe to the Early Awareness E-News.
- Claim tax credits and deductions for education expenses.
- Research and find financial aid.

Mapping Your Future is a public-service, nonprofit organization.

# Planning a Career Fair!

Planning and presenting a successful <u>Career Fair</u> for students is a great early awareness tool that can go a long way toward helping students identify their future educational and occupational goals.

Great tips include:

**Timing is everything**. Plan your fair so that you will receive the maximum number of visitors. High schools may wish to plan experiences and activities that initiate career choice exploration and assessment.

*Marketing*. Advertising is a key ingredient to ensuring your fair's success. Consider flyers, radio blast, televised public service announcements, and social networks.

**Venue**. Choose a location with plenty of space to ensure smooth traffic flow. Arrange vendors and materials in a floor plan that will promote easy movement.

**Representation**. Invite a variety of career representation. Register four-year universities, Florida colleges, and vocational and technical schools to accommodate all types of interests. Remember to invite representatives from the various branches of our military. Extend a warm welcome to local companies. All of these groups will welcome potentially lucrative recruiting opportunities. Get started by requesting an <a href="Outreach Representative">Outreach Representative</a> as one of your event presenters!

Career Fairs are a great way for students to network with professionals within their fields of interests and have fun in the process.

## Visit www.FastWeb.org

- <u>FastWeb</u> offers a free scholarship database that includes over 1.3 million scholarships worth over \$3 billion.
- Database sources include local, national, and college-specific scholarships.
- Search and compare detailed college profiles on FastWeb's database.
- FastWeb's database allows you to also search for internships or part-time job openings near your home or school.
- FastWeb is recommended by more than 16,000 schools and 3,600 colleges.

# OSFA Partners with the Public Broadcasting System (PBS)

Your Life, Your Money features compelling, real-life stories of young people facing and overcoming intense economic challenges. This one-hour special will empower our youth with sound, simple, financial advice - raising awareness on banking, credit, investments, budgeting, insurance, self-employment, and more. Visit the Navigating Your Future website at <a href="https://www.navigatingyourfinancialfuture.org">www.navigatingyourfinancialfuture.org</a> and learn more about this documentary that features Russell Simmons and is hosted by actor Donald Faison of Scrubs, Clueless, Felicity, and The Law (2009).

# Happy Holidays! From the Office of Student Financial Assistance

### **Upcoming Calendar Dates**

- October 2010 through December 2010 Attend a NT4CM Workshop in your area.
- November 2010 Begin scheduling now for financial aid workshops.
- December 2010 The 2011-12 Florida Financial Aid Application is available for high school seniors to apply for Bright Futures and other state scholarship and grant programs. Visit the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) website.

# Contact an OSFA Outreach Representative about your high school's needs.

The September 2010 NyFF E-News is available for your students.

Please go to the following link:

#### http://tinyurl.com/24htzg8

In this month's issue:

- School and Life Management
- Fun and Frugal Food
- Student Loan Mistakes

Have you missed an issue of the OSFA News for Guidance Counselors? Visit our archives for prior editions.

#### **OSFA's Outreach Team Contact information**

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#### **Lori Auxier**

Director of Outreach Services 561-292-6002, office/fax Lori.Auxier@fldoe.org

#### **Robin Blank**

Outreach Representative Greater Palm Beach/Broward 561-357-4837, office/fax Robin.Blank@fldoe.org

#### Pedro "Pete" Hernandez

Outreach Representative Northeast Florida 850-245-1821, office 488-3612, fax Pedro.Hernandez@fldoe.org

#### **Gerri McCormick**

Outreach Representative Greater Orlando 407-207-4944, office/fax Gerri.McCormick@fldoe.org

#### Revonna Parrish

Outreach Representative Northwest Florida 850-410-6830, office 488-3612, fax

Reyonna.Parrish@fldoe.org

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#### **Stephanie Rosh**

Outreach Representative Greater Tampa 727-738-6498, office N/A, fax Stephanie.Rosh@fldoe.org

#### (TBA) - Contact Lori Auxier

Outreach Representative South Florida 305-265-8665, office/fax Lori.Auxier@fldoe.org

#### Jan Smith

Manager of Outreach Services 850-245-1822, office 850-488-3612, fax Jan.Smith@fldoe.org

#### Contact OSFA

Toll-free Federal Loans: 1-800-366-3475 Locally Federal Loans: 1-850-410-5200 E-mail: OSFAStudentLoans@fldoe.org Toll-free State Programs: 1-888-827-2004

E-mail: OSFA@fldoe.org

Visit our website!