

OSFA News for Guidance Counselors

January thru March
2012

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

The *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) is now available. Students and parents may complete the FAFSA for consideration of Federal and some State financial aid programs. This user-friendly application has built-in edits that avert costly errors and implements skip logic which prevents the applicant from answering unnecessary questions. One of the most appreciated new features is the ability to link information from the applicant's most recent tax return to the FAFSA. This function will be available beginning February 1, 2012. Visit the following [website](#) for additional 2012 FAFSA updates.

Remember, if a student is anticipating to start classes in the summer term, then they student must complete **TWO** FAFSA applications: 2011-12 for the summer term and the 2012-13 for the upcoming fall term. Visit the [website](#) for answers to questions about the FAFSA or call toll-free at 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243) or 1-319-337-5665.

NT4CM Wrap Up

The Office of Student Financial Assistance thanks the following institutions for hosting the 2012-13 National Training for Counselors and Mentors (NT4CM):

- Panhandle Area Educational Consortium
- Ave Maria University
- Miami Dade College – West Campus
- American Intercontinental University - South Florida
- Seminole State College - Sanford/Lake Mary Campus
- Aparico-Levy Technical Center

We appreciate your outstanding commitment to the community!

Additionally, thank you to the **444** participants that registered and attended the NT4CM workshops. If you were unable to participate in the workshops, download all of the workshop presentations and handouts by visiting our OSFA Training [website](#).

Promote Responsible Loan Borrowing Tools

Are you worried about your seniors going off to college and putting themselves at risk with large student loan debt? Let us help you educate them! You can help them understand their borrower rights and responsibilities by offering a Student Loan Entrance Counseling workshop. Contact your OSFA [Outreach Representative](#) for further information on this workshop.

College Goal Sunday

The [*Florida Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators \(FASFAA\)*](#) is proud to coordinate [College Goal Sunday](#) in Florida.

College Goal Sunday is a national program that assists students and families with the financial aid process to provide access to higher education. Various locations throughout the state will be available to assist students with the financial aid process. Each location will provide:

- Free, on-site professional assistance in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Availability to talk to financial aid professionals regarding the application process and resources for obtaining financial aid.

For pertinent information regarding College Goal Sunday for Students, Families, Counselors, Volunteers and Site Coordinators, please visit the [website](#).

Navigating Your Financial Future (NyFF)

Features Tri-fold Brochures!

The Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) understands how hard it is to compact a wealth of information into a small package. We encourage you to review our NyFF materials that are now available in a convenient tri-fold format.

The benefits of these brochures include:

- Content intensive
- Easy transporting
- Easy to understand
- Esthetically appealing

Visit the website or scan the QR code with your SMART phone to access our site.

Wishing You a Prosperous & Happy 2012!

A new year brings about new changes.

Let The Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) keep you informed of industry changes and updates. Visit www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org for important OSFA updates & announcements.

Upcoming Calendar Dates

- January 2012 – The 2012-13 *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) is now available.
- January 2012 – Remind students of approaching ACT & SAT testing dates and locations.
- February 2012 – College Goal Sunday workshops are available in your area.
- March 2012 – Offer FAFSA Assistance labs for those who missed College Goal Sunday.

The NyFF E-News is available for your students.

[Sign up here](#) to receive E-News updates and other important financial aid information.

Each issue addresses important topic like:

- Scholarship research
- FAFSA information
- Budgeting
- State updates
- Important deadlines

Have you missed an issue of the

OSFA News for Guidance Counselors?

You may visit the [archives](#) for prior editions.
Feel free to share our updates with faculty peers!

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

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