

OSFA News for School Counselors

April thru June
2013

Florida Legislative Session 2013

The Florida 2013 Legislature is now in session. The Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) will be monitoring a number of proposed bills that may affect currently administered programs. As additional information becomes available and bills are signed into law, OSFA will notify schools of any pertinent changes that may affect the administration and funding of any State Programs award.

College Goal Weekend 2013 A Huge Success!!!

Over 600 students and parents received assistance applying for financial aid.

FASTER submission for Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program / Florida Private Schools

The Florida Department of Education announced that Florida private schools submitting student transcript information via the Florida Automated System for Transferring Educational Records (FASTER) must submit a minimum of 200 transcripts per grade level.

The private schools may e-mail FSTR@fldoe.org with their questions regarding the FASTER process.

The FASTER MANUAL updates annually and can be accessed via the following link:
<http://www.fldoe.org/faster/>

Remember to Update the FAFSA!

During the application process, all 2013-2014 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) applicants, who indicate that they have already filed a federal tax return, will be expected to use the [IRS Data Retrieval Tool](#). Anyone indicating that they “will file” a tax return, will be advised to use the IRS Data Retrieval to update their information after their 2012 federal income tax return has been filed. Applicants who are selected for verification will be required to either use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool or obtain a tax transcript from the IRS and submit it to their financial aid administrator.

Upcoming Calendar Dates

April 2012 – Financial Literacy Month! Contact an Outreach Representative about money management sessions for graduating seniors.

May 2012 – Seniors should complete their *Florida Financial Aid Applications* to be evaluated for Bright Futures awards.

June 2012 – SAT and ACT test scores are accepted through June 30 for Bright Futures evaluations.

The March 2013 NyFF E-News is available for your students.

Just visit [March 2013 Financial News for Students!](#)

In this month's E-News issue:

- Student Loan "Help" Scams
- March Money Madness: How to save \$1,378 in 52 weeks!

Please visit www.NavigatingYourFuture.org and select "Current E-News" to access this vital information.

Have you missed an issue of the OSFA News for Counselors?

You may visit the [archives](#) for prior editions.
Feel free to share our updates with faculty peers!
Contact an OSFA Outreach Representative
about your high school's needs.

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