OSFA News for School Counselors

JANUARY THRU MARCH 2013

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

The 2013-14 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is now available. Students and parents may complete the FAFSA for consideration of Federal and State financial aid for the 2013-14 academic year. This user-friendly application provides built-in edits which help prevent costly errors and implements skip logic to prevent the applicant from answering unnecessary questions. Applicants also have the ability to link information from students' and parents' most recent tax return to the FAFSA beginning February 1st.

Remember the FAFSA may be completed using estimated data with the expectation that it will be updated upon completion of the 2012 income tax form. Visit the <u>website</u> 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.

College Goal Sunday

Florida's College Goal Sunday is February 23-24, 2013. During this weekend, high school seniors and families in your area will be able to receive FREE expert assistance completing the *Free Application for Financial Aid* (FAFSA). For more information on College Goal Sunday Florida, or alternative dates for assistance with completing the FAFSA, please call the Florida Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (FASFAA) at 1-813-974-3897 or visit the website.

Fall NT4CM Update

OSFA is in the process of completing the annual National Training for Counselors and Mentors (NT4CM). We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following institutions for hosting this important training event:

- Panhandle Area Education Consortium (PAEC)
- Ave Maria University
- Aparicio-Levy Technical Center
- Keiser University
- Valencia College
- Professional Training Centers

NT4CM materials may be downloaded online at:

http://www.fsa4counselors.ed.gov/clcf/NT4CMELibrary.html.

Financial Aid Word-Find Puzzle

Have fun and teach financial aid terminology at the same time!

There are 45 financial aid related terms in this puzzle!

amortization grace period graduation asset award grants award letter income bankruptcy independent borrower interest budget late bursar loan consolidation need credit package default Pell Grant **Perkins** deferment degree plus delinquency principle dependent scholarship disbursement sign Stafford enroll **FAFSA** student tuition **Fastweb Fellowship** unsubsidized financial aid verification forbearance work study forgiveness

Thank you Mark Kantrowitz for the awesome puzzle!

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Upcoming Calendar Dates

- January 2013 The 2013-14 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is now available.
- Remind students of approaching ACT & SAT testing dates and locations.
- Initial review of Bright Futures Eligibility
- February 2013 College Goal Sunday workshops are available in your area.

The NyFF E-News is available for your students

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Just visit December 2012 Financial News for Students!

<u>Sign up here</u> to receive E-News updates and other important financial aid industry information.

This month's issue addresses important topics like:

- December Graduates—Managing Your Student Loan Debt
- Selecting a Repayment Plan
- * Current Students: Maintaining Your Bright Futures Scholarship

Please http://www.navigatingyourfinancialfuture.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 <u>archives</u> for prior editions.
Feel free to share our updates with faculty peers!
Contact an OSFA Outreach Representative
about your high school's needs.

OSFA's Outreach Team Contact information

Lori Auxier
Director of Outreach Services
561-357-6340, office/fax
Lori.Auxier@fldoe.org

Isabel Acevedo
Outreach Representative
South Florida
305-364-3062, office/fax
Isabel.Acevedo@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
850-488-3612, fax
Pedro.Hernandez@fldoe.org

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

Reyonna Parrish
Outreach Representative
Northwest Florida
850-410-6830, office
850-488-3612, fax
Reyonna.Parrish@fldoe.org

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

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