FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION YOU SHOULD KNOW APRIL

Contact OSFA

Toll-free Federal Loans: 800-366-3475

Locally Federa Loans: 850-410-5200

E-mail: <u>OSFAStu-</u> dentLoans@fldoe.org

Toll-free State Programs: 888-827-2004

E-mail:

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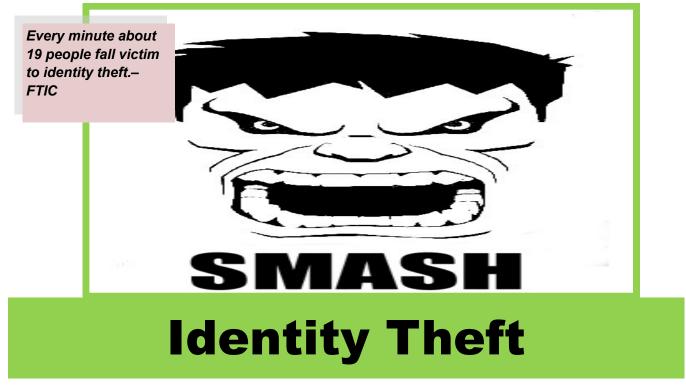
for

Counselors

JUNE

Legislative Session 2015

The 2015 Florida Legislative Session commenced March 3 and is expected to conclude on May 1. The Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) will be monitoring a number of proposed bills that may affect programs currently administered by OSFA. At the end of session, after bills have been signed into law, OSFA will announce any changes pertinent to state scholarship and grant programs. You can track legislative action via <u>Online Sunshine</u>.



Fastweb has some great tools to help you and your students guard against identity theft. Knowing identity theft facts is critical. Identity thieves are less likely to prey on a well-informed population. The more you learn identity theft facts, the less vulnerable you are. Becoming familiar with identity theft facts will allow you to see what a serious problem it is.

http://www.fastweb.com/personal-finance/ articles/fighting-back-against-identity-theft



State Scholarship & Grant Programs

IMPORTANT! Counselors — recommend to your students that they review the State Scholarship & Grant fact sheets online at http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/home/uamain.htm. These fact sheets provide your students eligibility requirements and application deadlines for each program.

EVENTS

April – Financial Literacy Month.
April 15 — deadline for students to file an error-free Free Application for Student
Financial Aid (FAFSA) for some state and federal programs.

 May – Graduation season.
Remind your students to submit the Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) by graduation for Bright Futures.

 June – Final high school transcripts are due for Bright Futures evaluation.
Remember to submit your transcripts be fore leaving for the summer to avoid late notifications for your students.
SAT and ACT test scores are accepted through June 30 for a Bright Futures evaluation.

Contact an OSFA <u>Outreach Representative</u> about your high school's needs. We'll be glad to help!

The **April 2015 NyFF E-News** is available for your students.

Visit April 2015 NyFF E-News

Topics include

- Testing your financial literacy skills
- Comparing financial aid award packages

Students may visit <u>www.NavigatingYourFuture.org</u> and select "Resource" to access this vital information.

Have you missed an issue of the OSFA News for Guidance Counselors? You may visit our <u>archives</u> for prior editions.

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