

**AUGUST 2015**



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## WELCOME BACK!

Now that the hallways are once again filled with students, your office becomes the primary point of contact for many families needing assistance with college information. We are so thankful for you and the work you do to make a difference in the lives of students.

Take time to read through this issue to learn more about hosting financial aid nights, FAFSA labs and the FAFSA completion tool. There are materials that you can order to assist you.

Outreach Representatives are also available to answer your questions and provide guidance. We are confident that this year will continue to be a successful partnership between our agency and your school.

## TOGETHER WE ARE BETTER!

# IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

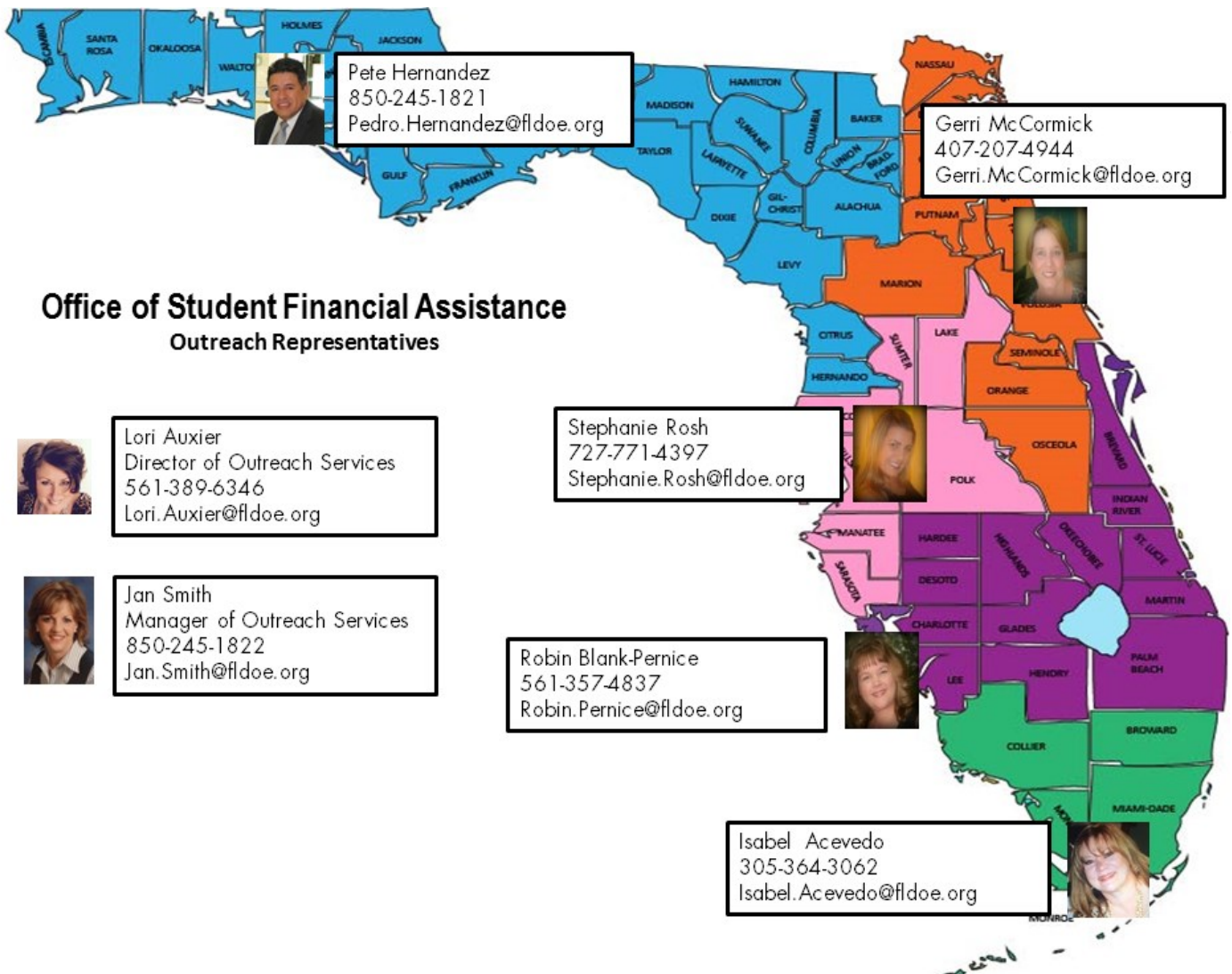


## OUTREACH TEAM RESTRUCTURE

On January 3, 2008, the Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) had the pleasure of hiring Reyonna Parrish to serve as the Region 1 OSFA Outreach Representative. For more than seven years, Reyonna has been an instrumental part of the Outreach Team, assisting Florida's students in their pursuit of higher education. While we are sad to see her go, we are proud of her as she begins this new opportunity at Florida State University (FSU) as the Assistant Director of Academics and Student Services.

In light of this change, we have restructured the OSFA Outreach Representatives regional assignments. You may be working with a new representative during the 2015-16 academic year. Be assured that we will continue to work together on financial aid awareness for the students and parents we serve.

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## New Financial Aid Night/FAFSA Lab TOOLKITS

We have created a brand new TOOLKIT to help you host your very own Financial Aid Night and/or FAFSA Lab at your school. Each event has a template to aid you in the decision-making process.

Each TOOLKIT will offer the following items:

- PowerPoint presentation w/speaker's notes
- Audio presentation
- Brochures
- Additional handouts
- Marketing information
- Day of the event ideas
- After the event suggestions

Simply print, download and order items needed. You'll be off to a great start hosting a Financial Aid Night in the fall semester and a FAFSA Lab in the spring semester. Go to [www.NavigatingYourFuture.org](http://www.NavigatingYourFuture.org) and select the RESOURCES tab to access the TOOLKIT.



Have you checked out the State Scholarship & Grant Programs FACT SHEETS?

Each program offered by the state of Florida has a fact sheet with eligibility requirements, application deadlines, and legislative updates (if any).

We recommend that your students and their families review these to see all the programs the state of Florida has to offer!



COLLEGE

## Monthly E-News for Students

The Back-to-School issue of the monthly E-News for Students is now available!

Print, download or e-mail this financial well-being newsletter monthly as an additional resource for your students.

The E-News provides important information pertaining to preparing for college access:

- Scholarship Searches
- Creating a Budget
- State Scholarships and Grants
- Money Management Tips

Visit

[www.NavigatingYourFuture.org](http://www.NavigatingYourFuture.org) and select the RESOURCES tab to locate our online publications available for you.

# FAFSA Completion Tool

Did you know there are tools that will help you determine how many of your high school seniors have completed the FAFSA?

- Visit [www.StudentAid.ed.gov](http://www.StudentAid.ed.gov) and use the search box to enter FAFSA Completion by High School.
- The Florida College Access Network (FCAN) also has a tool, “The Florida FAFSA Finish Line”, that features the FAFSA completion rates for 12th graders at over 500 public schools in Florida, including district- and state-level figures. Included in the dashboard are 11 different filters that can help counselors and administrators chart the progress of their schools and track progress statewide.
- Your district liaison can contact the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) to discuss participating in the 2016-17 FAFSA Completion Project. Through this effort, districts can enter into a formal agreement with OSFA to access student-level FAFSA completion data. The student-level FAFSA completion indicator will only populate (as outlined below) for students whose transcripts have been provided to OSFA.

Y = has completed

N = not completed

I = incomplete

For more information, contact:

Brian Underhill ([Brian.Underhill@fldoe.org](mailto:Brian.Underhill@fldoe.org)) or

Lori Auxier ([Lori.Auxier@fldoe.org](mailto:Lori.Auxier@fldoe.org))

## NYFF MATERIALS

Order your materials early! Navigating Your Financial Future inventory is fully stocked and ready to go for your fall semester needs. Place an order through the website

[www.NavigatingYourFuture.org](http://www.NavigatingYourFuture.org). Select the **RESOURCES** tab to access the online order form.

This is a listing of the most popular items:

(Financial Aid Night favorites)  
Seeking Financial Aid  
Searching For Scholarships  
Bright Futures  
FAFSA poster

(Financial Literacy favorites)  
Financial Literacy poster  
Managing Your Budget  
Managing Your Credit  
Repayment of Your Student Loan Debt  
School and Life Management  
Career Planning

(Postsecondary favorites)  
Repayment of Your Student Loan Debt  
Exit Counseling  
Stay, Stop, or Drop?



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## SUS Tours:

Florida State University - Panama City  
Tuesday, August 25

University of North Florida - Jacksonville  
Wednesday, August 26

University of Central Florida - Orlando  
Friday, August 28

Florida International University - Miami  
Tuesday, September 8

Florida Atlantic University - Boca Raton  
Wednesday, September 9

New College of Florida - Sarasota  
Thursday, September 10

University of South Florida - Tampa  
Friday, September 11

## OSFA'S OUTREACH TEAM CONTACT INFORMATION

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## THE OSFA PHILOSOPHY



The Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) has the ability to offer its partners and customers something few public agencies can, the ability to shape OSFA programs and services based on their specific needs and concerns. OSFA provides financial aid workshops, publications, prompt services for participants, and helps fund scholarship and grant programs. If a participant has a problem or suggestion, the OSFA management team listens and makes every effort to implement a solution that meets their needs. Public dollars deserve the kind of accountability OSFA provides in financing education.

**The News to Know for Counselors is now available on the Counselors page of the website [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org). Previous editions may be viewed on the [Archives](#) page.**

### **Contact OSFA**

**Tallahassee, FL**

**Toll-free State Programs: 1-888-827-2004**

**E-mail: [OSFA@fldoe.org](mailto:OSFA@fldoe.org)**

**Toll-free Federal Loans: 1-800-366-3475**

**Locally: 1-850-410-5200**

**[Click here](#) to contact  
an OSFA Outreach  
Representative about  
your school's needs.**