

April 2016

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Financial Literacy Month	1
NyFF Hot Topics	2
Khan Academy Outreach Team 2016 Fall Schedule	3
Upcoming Events OSFA's Outreach Team Contact Information	4
OSFA Philosophy	5

Financial Literacy Month

April is designated by the U.S. Government as Financial Literacy Month. This is a great opportunity to promote financial wellness for students.

Ideas:

Consider hosting a “Lunch and Learn” where students can use their lunch period to ask questions about financial topics of interest. This may prompt future meetings once you see what students are truly concerned about when it comes to managing finances.

Plan a day of financial awareness with trivia questions/prizes, guests from local banking institutions and credit unions offering free student checking accounts. Emphasize the importance of saving for college.

Each region in Florida has an OSFA Outreach Representative who is a Certified Educator in Personal Finance and available to speak with students regarding financial topics. You may locate your representative by visiting www.NavigatingYourFuture.org and selecting the “Contact Us” tab.



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS



NyFF ADDS HOT TOPICS

The Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) makes every effort to keep you informed of important issues that affect the students and families of Florida. To that end, we have added new information to the Navigating Your Financial Future website at

<http://www.navigatingyourfinancialfuture.org/>.

Located under the **Resources** tab, you will find the topics of interest when counseling students and parents. Each section contains a PowerPoint and various resources available to help provide the most up-to-date information.

Current items of interest under the Hot Topics sections include:



Payday Lending — predatory lending is often just around the corner from families in your community causing even more of a financial burden for those who use this type of lending. Learn more about how this industry is now targeting college students and how you can educate the students in your high school about the pitfalls of payday lending.

Unaccompanied/Homeless Youth — your one-stop shop for resources to help this group of teens who think that pursuing a degree is out of reach because of their living situation. Read through these valuable resources to help those who are struggling to exist on a day-to-day basis.

Undocumented Students — resources to help undocumented families and students who have questions about financial aid availability beyond high school.

Located under the **Training** tab, you will find updated audio presentations for students and families to learn more about financial topics. Recently added presentations include:

Seeking Financial Aid — this presentation explains what financial aid is, where to find it, and how to apply for it.

Repayment of Your Student Loan Debt — this three part series covers student rights and responsibilities when it comes to repaying federal student loans, repayment plans available, and how to find help when unable to make monthly payments.

Khan Academy—NEW VIDEO TUTORIALS

Khan Academy recently added video tutorials to a new page of their website [Paying For College](#).

The following topics are addressed in easy to understand video tutorials for students and families to view:

- The Financial Aid Application Process
- Grants and Scholarships
- Work Study
- Loans
- Financial Aid Packages

Full link:

<https://www.khanacademy.org/college-admissions/paying-for-college>

Outreach Team Fall Schedule

With the early release of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on October 1, we encourage all school counselors to review their upcoming school calendars and schedule financial aid nights/FAFSA labs early in the 2016 fall semester.

OSFA's Outreach Representatives are available to provide "train-the-trainer" sessions to equip your staff with the information needed to conduct a financial aid night and FAFSA lab at your school.

As soon as your 2016-17 school calendar is released, contact your regional Outreach Representative to schedule your event.

Not sure who your OSFA representative is? Visit www.NavigatingYourFuture.org and select the "Contact Us" tab to view regional assignments and contact information.



COLLEGE

Monthly E-News for Students

The April 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
- State Scholarships and Grants
- Money Management Tips

Visit

www.NavigatingYourFuture.org and select the **RESOURCES** tab to locate online publications available for you.



Upcoming Events in April

April 1– 30: Financial Literacy MONTH
(February and April issues of the News To Know for Counselors contains ideas to promote financial literacy at your school)

April 13-15: Financial Education Conference
Caribe Royale Hotel
Orlando, FL
1-800-823-8300
<https://FinancialLit.org>

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. 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

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

Locally: **850-410-5200**

E-mail: OSFAStudentLoans@fldoe.org

Visit our website at: www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org