#### **NEWS TO KNOW for Counselors**







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## Welcome Back!



Now that school is back in session and your office begins to fill with students, your role as the primary contact for their transition to postsecondary education becomes front and center.

While the knowledge you pose is vital to their success, please know that you can rely on your <u>OSFA Outreach Team</u> to assist you with guidance.

We are thankful for each of you and the work that you do to make a difference in the lives of the students and families you serve. Together we are better!

# **Important Announcements**



#### SUS Directors of Admissions Tour 2016 dates and locations are listed below:

August 30 – Florida International University

August 31 – Florida Atlantic University

September 1 – Florida Gulf Coast University

September 2 – University of South Florida

September 7 – Florida State University - Panama City

September 8 – University of North Florida

September 9 – University of Central Florida

Registration is required, please visit http://www.flbog.edu/about/cod/asa/admissionstour.php.

Mapping Your Future will be offering FAFSA Trainings. Registration links will be available in early August. OSFA will keep you informed as we receive the information.

The webinars for financial aid professionals and others who will be helping students complete the FAFSA are scheduled for:

- Wednesday, August 31 at 2 p.m. Eastern
- Tuesday, September 13 at 11 a.m. Eastern
- Thursday, September 22 at 2 p.m. Eastern

The student and parent FAFSA webinar is scheduled for September 27 at 7 p.m. Eastern.

#### October 1 is a very important date:

- FAFSA 2017-18 application OPENS
- Florida Financial Aid Application OPENS

Remember, book your Outreach Representative early to assist with the labs! To conduct your own financial aid presentation, visit our Navigating Your Financial Future website to review the <u>Financial Aid Toolkit</u> and <u>How To Host a FAFSA Lab Toolkit</u> for helpful resources to help you organize these events from start to finish.

Need extra hands to help with upcoming financial aid or FAFSA events on your school's campus?

Consider asking underclassmen to:

- set up resource tables
- order materials for your event (see link below)
- prepare social media messages to advertise your event
- assist with greeting families
- serve as parking attendants
- design signage for the event

Not only does this help the students earn service hours, they get exposure to the financial aid process which will be helpful when they become seniors! It's a win-win.



### **ORDER NOW!**

Stock up on our Navigating Your Financial Future brochures, posters, and bookmarks to ensure that students and parents are aware of the <u>application date changes</u> for the FAFSA and the Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA).

#### Resources include:

- Financial Aid brochure
- Bright Futures brochure
- FAFSA posters
- FAFSA bookmarks

All this and more can be found on our online order form.







# **NT4CM Update**

The National Training for Counselors and Mentors (NT4CM) provides useful information to help high school counselors, TRIO and GEAR UP staff, and other mentors advise students about financial aid for postsecondary education.

This training focuses on the federal student aid programs administered by the U.S. Department of Education:

- Pell Grant
- Federal Work Study
- Student Loans

Also included are presentations and handouts on a variety of topics from financial aid scams to determining dependency status as well as applying for the new FSA ID which replaces the FAFSA PIN.

Add in the latest updates to Florida's own state grants and scholarships and you have a comprehensive day of learning all things financial aid!

**Stay tuned** to our upcoming newsletters and other announcements pertaining to dates for this training.

# OSFA'S OUTREACH TEAM CONTACT INFORMATION

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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 <a href="www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org">www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org</a>.

Previous editions may be viewed on the <a href="Archives">Archives</a> page.

#### **Contact OSFA**

Tallahassee, FL

Toll Free State Programs: 1-888-827-2004

Email: OSFA@fldoe.org

Toll Free Federal Loans: 1-800-366-3475

Locally: 850-410-5200

Email: OSFAStudentLoans@fldoe.org

Visit our website: www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org