

DECEMBER 2016

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Just for Juniors

The fall semester has focused heavily on seniors as they submit college applications, federal and state financial aid applications and prepare for graduation.

After the holiday season, let's focus on getting our juniors ready for the same process by hosting spring financial aid workshops, FSA ID labs and financial literacy webinars. OSFA's Outreach Representatives are available to spend time with your juniors and help them gain a good foundation for their senior year.

Speak with your local outreach representative to schedule a workshop, lab or webinar. We will be glad to work with your students! For contact information, please be sure to visit: [Contact Us](#).

Important Announcements



State Grants and Scholarships Update

A memorandum was sent in October regarding the recent changes to the International Baccalaureate (IB) program which will impact the reporting of service hours for IB students.

The International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO, Inc.) recently restructured the Creativity, Action and Service requirement for IB Diploma students. *As a result of the change, the achievement of an IB Diploma will no longer automatically provide a student 100 service hours.*

Please inform students of ways to earn the service hours and how to report the information to your office to ensure they receive credit.

If further assistance is needed, please call Customer Service 888-827-2004 and ask to speak to a program specialist.

New Resources Added to the NyFF website:

Three new presentations have been added to our Resources page of Navigating Your Financial Future website. Feel free to use these items to supplement what is currently available at your school:

- Bright Futures Eligibility
- Seeking Financial Aid—Spanish version
- Creating the FSA ID

All three can be located under the Downloadable Resources section and the Toolkits located on the Resources page of www.NavigatingYourFuture.org.



Holiday Survival Tips

As busy professionals, time saving resources are valuable to survive the holiday season. Feeling the pressure to have a perfect holiday? Let it go! Focus on simply enjoying the TIME you have with family. Playing board games together, hosting a holiday movie night, making homemade gifts together to share with neighbors and friends—all have the potential to make memories with your family during the holidays. It may sound silly in this age of technology, but sometimes getting back to the basics can help take the excessive materialism, consumerism and stress out of the holidays.



And for those of you who will be tackling the shopping frenzy:

Using this free [holiday budget calculator](#) can help you keep finances under control as holiday shopping begins. Practical Money Skills for Life recommends that you should not spend more than 1.5% of your annual income on holiday spending according to financial planners.

Overspending in December creates a stressful start for your new year in January. Careful planning and budgeting can help you stretch your dollars and make better choices.

1 egg white	Whip together until frothy.
1 Tbs water	
1 pound pecan halves	Add to egg mixture until coated.
1 cup white sugar 3/4 tsp salt	Mix together. Add coated pecans and stir to coat. Spread on baking sheet.
1/2 tsp ground cinnamon	
	Bake for 1 hour at 250 degrees. Stir every 15 minutes.

Recipe for
Cinnamon Sugared
Pecans
(allrecipes.com)

Yummy to eat and makes the house smell great!
Wonderful to give as gifts.





Calendar

December 26—OSFA's office closed

January 2—OSFA's office closed

Happy Holidays

from the

Office of Student Financial Assistance!



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

OSFA Customer Service: **1-888-827-2004**

Email: OSFA@fldoe.org

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

Locally: **850-410-5200**

Email: OSFAStudentLoans@fldoe.org

Visit our website: www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org