

SEPTEMBER 2016

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Here for YOU	1
Important Announcements	2
Important Dates/State Grants and Scholarships Update	3
Student Information/Contact Information	4
OSFA Philosophy	5

Here for YOU

As your schedule starts filling up for the fall semester, do not hesitate to contact your regional Outreach Representative for assistance. We can offer help via phone, e-mail, webinars and presentations for the students and families who may have financial aid questions. Contact information is located on page 4 of this publication.



To assist you and your students with completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), be sure to check out the fall 2016 CGS!FL event locations:

www.tinyurl.com/CGS-locations.

Sponsored by the National College Access Network (NCAN), Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) and Florida Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (FASFAA).

Important Announcements



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

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>.

OSFA's Outreach Team will be hosting three webinars in September to provide counselors with up to date financial aid information. Each session will be tailored to a specific group and will contain information from the National Training for Counselors and Mentors initiative. These interactive sessions will include time for questions to assist you in counseling students.

Register for any or all of these events. After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the training.

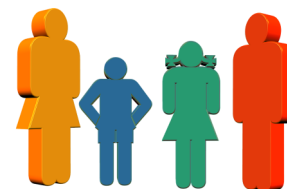
- Wednesday, September 14, 10-11 AM Financial Aid Overview (for staff with <3 years' experience) [REGISTER HERE](#)
- Wednesday, September 21, 10-11 AM FAFSA: Overview and Upcoming Changes [REGISTER HERE](#)
- Wednesday, September 28, 10-11 AM FAFSA: Dependency, Who Is My Parent, Professional Judgment [REGISTER HERE](#)

Mapping Your Future will be offering FAFSA Trainings for financial aid professionals, counselors and mentors helping students to complete the FAFSA. [REGISTER HERE](#)

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

Specifically for students and parents:

- Tuesday, September 27 at 7 p.m. Eastern. They may register [REGISTER HERE](#).



Don't be late for a very important date! October 1

- 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 [Financial Aid Toolkit](#) and [How To Host a FAFSA Lab Toolkit](#) for helpful resources to help you organize these events from start to finish.

State Grants and Scholarships Update:

For high school students with questions about initial eligibility for state grants and scholarships, please refer them to the newly updated Student Handbook Chapter 1.

The following legislative updates (and more) are included in the handbook:

Service Hours may now include business or government internships, nonprofit community services organizations, or activity on behalf of candidates for public office.

Career And Professional Education (CAPE)

CAPE award for 2016-17 students who:

- earn 5 postsecondary credit hours through CAPE industry certifications
- complete at least 30 hours of volunteer service work

CAPE students initially eligible in the 2017-18 academic year may receive an award for:

- specific applied technology diplomas
- technical degree programs
- career certificate programs

Once CAPE students complete a technical degree program that articulates into a higher degree, expanded funding will be available for an eligible:

- Bachelor of Science degree
- Bachelor of Applied Science degree



Student Info

Tis the month of college fairs and financial aid nights. Encourage students to attend these events to get valuable information.

To make the most of their time at these events, suggest that students prepare their questions in advance so they do not get distracted by all of the commotion at a college fair or confused by financial aid verbiage.

Sample questions for admissions reps at a college fair:

- Does your school offer my major?
- Are there Master's and Doctorate degrees available?
- How much does it cost to attend?
- Does your school offer financial aid?
- What are the admission requirements for freshmen?
- Can the admission fee be waived?

Sample questions for financial aid reps:

- Where can I find free assistance to complete the FAFSA?
- My parents are divorced—who should I report on the FAFSA?
- Who should I speak with if I have a special circumstance that impacts my ability to pay for college?

OSFA'S OUTREACH TEAM CONTACT INFORMATION

Lori Auxier
Director of Outreach Services
561-389-6346, office
Lori.Auxier@fldoe.org

Isabel Acevedo
Outreach Representative
305-364-3062, office
305-819-0652, fax
Isabel.Acevedo@fldoe.org

Robin Blank-Pernice
Outreach Representative
561-357-4837, office/fax
Robin.Blank@fldoe.org

Pedro "Pete" Hernandez
Outreach Representative
850-245-1821, office
850-488-3612, fax
Pedro.Hernandez@fldoe.org

Gerri McCormick
Outreach Representative
407-207-4944, office/fax
Gerri.McCormick@fldoe.org

Stephanie Rosh
Outreach Representative
727-771-4397, office/fax
Stephanie.Rosh@fldoe.org

Jan Smith
Manager of Outreach Services
850-245-1822, office
850-488-3612, fax
Jan.Smith@fldoe.org



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**

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