



News To Know

Florida Department of Education

Technical Guidance for Florida Legislative Changes to State Programs

August 2011

Senate Bill 2000 General Appropriations Act (GAA) requires that institutions receiving Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) state scholarships and/or grant funds to report the total loan amounts disbursed and the total number of students receiving loan funds to the Florida Department of Education by September 1, 2011. This information for the 2010-11 academic year is required to be submitted in the format that is specified by the Florida Department of Education.

This requirement was restricted in last year's GAA to institutions participating in the Florida Student Assistance Grant (FSAG). This year, the requirement was expanded to include institutions that receive funds from any state scholarship and grant program administered by OSFA. Please keep in mind that OSFA is required to report this information to the Florida Legislature. To assist you in meeting this Legislative reporting requirement, we have developed an easy online reporting process. Visit the website at <http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/home/uamain.htm>. Go to the Postsecondary Institution tab. Select the Federal Loan Disbursement Report.

Should you have any questions or need assistance, you may contact OSFA's Outreach Representatives.

Inside this issue:

Technical Guidance for Florida Legislative Changes to State Programs	1
Navigating Your Financial Future	2
State Scholarship & Grant Programs	3
New Default Prevention Resource Information Web Page	4
National Training for Counselors and Mentors	5
Tax-free Week in Florida	5
OSFA Outreach Teams Contact Information	6
OSFA Philosophy	6

The OSFA mission is to facilitate higher education access and services by providing exemplary customer attention, comprehensive financial aid information, and convenient and efficient products.

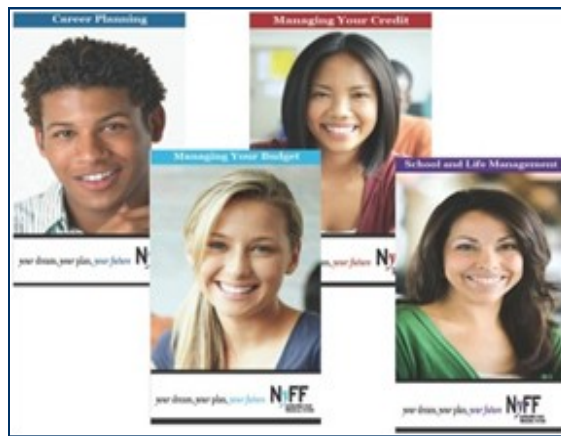
Navigating Your Financial Future (NyFF)



Our new NyFF brochures are here! You spoke, and we listened. Our new, one-page, tri-fold brochures were created to provide busy students the most important information in a quick-read style with a step-by-step format.

Topics available include:

- Career Planning
- Managing Your Budget
- Managing Your Credit
- School and Life Management



Sample of Career Planning Tri-fold Brochure

Career Planning

1 Create a career portfolio.

A career portfolio is a group of documents that you keep for yourself to show your planning process. These documents may include: career plan, work experience, personal life history, school history, awards and honors, applications, resumes, letters of recommendation, and other documents that you think will be helpful for a job or internship. Update this portfolio as you gain more experience and information.

2 Set career goals and establish a career plan.

A career plan helps you gain focus on your goals. The plan can include information that you have gathered about your own skills and interests, along with information about the job market and the education and training needed to reach your career goal.

3 Create (or update) a cover letter and resume.

The purpose of a cover letter is to get employers' attention to read your resume. The purpose of the resume is to get the employer's attention. An effective cover letter includes a series of paragraphs that clearly describe a series of paragraphs that clearly describe your personal achievements, and demonstrate your knowledge of the employer's needs and needs.

4 Begin the job search.

Identify sources of job openings: career centers on campus, professional organizations, teachers, family, friends, employers, and local newspapers. Develop a list of potential employers based on your preferences, skills, and qualifications you can offer to the organization, and your timing and cost goals. Complete applications as needed.

5 Prepare for the interview.

First impressions are made within minutes of the first few seconds. Be sure to dress appropriately for the type of job to which you are applying. Prepare questions to ask the employer. "What are you looking for in an employee?" "Why are you hiring?" "What are the most important skills, qualifications, and experiences you are looking for?" "How do you see your future?" "What are the most important skills, qualifications, and experiences you are looking for?"

6 Use the power of networking.

Ask people you know about job openings, past employers, family members, and members of your network about their own career experiences and how they got started. Create a list of references and ask permission to use their names in your job search. Consider asking for informational interviews about your chosen career path and experience.

Components of an effective resume include:

- Contact information
- Work experience
- Education
- Career objectives
- Career-related skills, interests, and hobbies

Three common types of resumes are:

- Chronological (most common)
- Functional (skills-based)
- Combination (mix of both)

Career Planning

Your success starts here, your future starts now. Navigating Your Financial Future offers easy-to-use financial resources such as online calculators, worksheets, and more.

Download the full brochures and more resources at www.nyff.org. Scan the QR code with your smartphone to access our site.

Florida Department of Education
www.fde.org

www.navigatingyourfuture.org

Additional Resources:

- www.collegeboard.com/satbook
- www.collegeboard.org
- www.collegeboard.com/sat
- www.collegeboard.com/sat/sat

OSFA

©2013 Florida Department of Education, State of Florida. All rights reserved.

your dream, your plan, your future **NyFF**

Inside cover with step-by-step information

Outside cover with additional resources

www.navigatingyourfuture.org

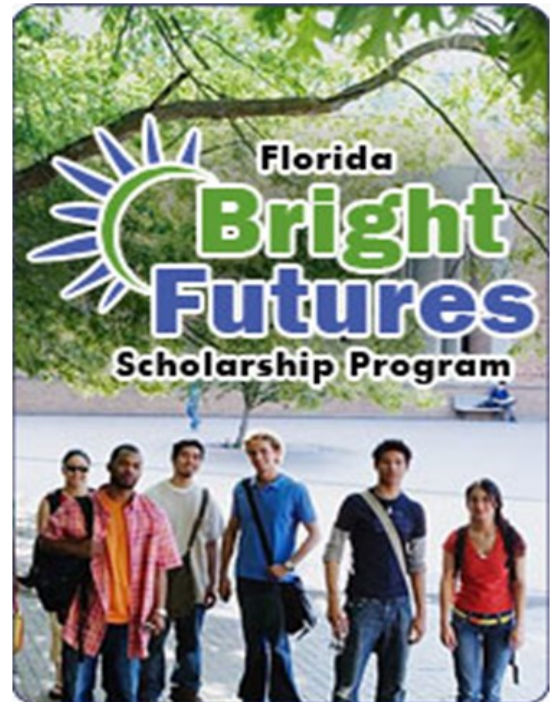
Scan the QR code with your SMART phone to access our site.

Each brochure has a Smartphone code on the outside cover to access our website.

State Scholarship & Grant Programs

August Calendar

- State scholarship and grant programs begin funding in the fall and end in the spring. Students who only attend one term will receive a prorated amount of the annual award funding.
- Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program initial 8th semester evaluations and award notifications are posted to students' financial aid recipient history screen web pages.
- August 31 – The *Initial Student Florida Financial Aid Application* closes. By this date, all school districts have completed graduation (including summer session) for the prior academic year.



Visit our State
Programs
[Calendar!](#)



Important Announcements

New Default Prevention Resource Information Website

In an [electronic announcement](#), the Office of Federal Student Aid announced that it has developed a new Default Prevention Resource Information website on the Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) website. This website consolidates delinquency and default prevention resources in one location for schools. Prior to the launch of this website, it was necessary for staff to provide schools with individual item-by-item resource listings. The new website brings these resources together for easier reference, access, and updates.

Information is organized by these key subjects:

- Addressing delinquency
- Cohort default rates (CDRs)
- Delinquency reports
- Encouraging successful repayment
- Reducing default risk
- Training at your fingertips

Included on the Default Prevention Resource Information website are helpful links to contact information for the following areas:

- Default Prevention Assistance
- Default Resolution Group
- Loan Servicing Centers for Schools
- Loan Servicing Centers for Students
- Operations Performance Division (for CDR assistance)



Important Announcements

National Training for Counselors and Mentors

OSFA is pleased to that announce we are planning for the upcoming National Training for Counselors and Mentors (NT4CM). Stay tuned for upcoming dates and times.

Tax-Free Weekend in Florida

Florida's tax-free weekend has been reinstated for 2011! It is scheduled to take place August 12-14, 2011, which is perfect for parents who need to purchase school supplies, clothing, shoes, and other back-to-school items.



OSFA's Outreach Team Contact information

Lori Auxier
Director of Outreach Services
561-292-6002, office/fax
Lori.Auxier@fldoe.org

Isabel Acevedo
Outreach Representative
South Florida
305-542-3800, office/fax
Isabel.Acevedo@fldoe.org

Robin Blank
Outreach Representative
Greater Palm Beach/Broward
561-357-4837, office/fax
Robin.Blank@fldoe.org

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

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

Reyonna Parrish
Outreach Representative
Northwest Florida
850-410-6830, office
850-488-3612, fax
Reyonna.Parrish@fldoe.org

Stephanie Rosh
Outreach Representative
Greater Tampa
727-738-6498, office
N/A, 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, better 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** is now available on the [Policy, Regulations, and Guidance](#) page of our website. Previous editions may be viewed on our [Archives](#) page.

Contact OSFA

State Programs

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

E-mail: OSFA@fldoe.org

Federal Loans

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

E-mail: OSFAStudentLoans@fldoe.org

Visit our website at www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org

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