

December 2011

# News To Know

## Happy Holidays from the Florida Department of Education Office of Student Financial Assistance

### Special Direct Consolidation Loan Information - High-Level Overview for FFEL Lenders and Lender Servicers

The [Information for Financial Aid Professionals \(IFAP\)](#) website posted an October 26, 2011, Electronic Announcement, first of a series of communications to inform the financial aid community about the availability of a short-term Special Direct Consolidation Loan opportunity through the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program. This special consolidation opportunity will be offered to eligible borrowers by the U.S. Department of Education (the Department) from January - June 30, 2012.

In "Getting Started — High-Level Overview," the Department addresses:

- What is the Special Direct Consolidation Loan process, and how will FFELP lenders and lender-servicers fit into that process?
- What form will FFELP lenders and lender-servicers use to verify loans for the Special Direct Consolidation Loan process?
- What will be different about the special Loan Verification Certificate FFELP lenders and lender-servicers will use?

You will be kept informed through subsequent communications on the [IFAP](#) and [Financial Partners Portal](#) websites. Generally, these communications will be Electronic Announcements that include the words "Special Direct Consolidation Loan Information" in the subject line.

# Navigating Your Financial Future (NyFF)

## Searching for Scholarships

The [Searching for Scholarships brochure](#) provides vital information for seeking scholarships, avoiding scholarship scams, and writing an effective essay.

## Stay, Stop, or Drop?

The [Stay, Stop, or Drop brochure](#) provides helpful information for students facing the decision of staying in school, stopping out for a term, or dropping out completely

# State Scholarship & Grant Programs

## December

December 1 – The *2012-13 Florida Financial Aid Application* for next award year funding is available on the website via:

- [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org)
  - Select **State Grants, Scholarships & Applications**
  - Select **Apply Here**, then
  - **Initial State Student Application**
- Students check the status of their financial aid application and correspondence received from OSFA on the website via:  
[www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org)
  - Select **State Grants, Scholarships & Applications**
  - Select **Application Status & Award**

**History** to view program status, check on certifications, and view all notifications.

## **February**

February 1 – The *Reinstatement/Restoration Application* will be available on the website via: [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org)

- Select **State Grants, Scholarships & Applications**
- Select **Apply Here**
- Select **Reinstatement/Restoration Application**

This application is for students who were eligible, but not funded the last academic year or for students who lost their scholarships and wish to restore eligibility.

# **Important Announcements**

**Join us for a Webinar on January 11, 2012**

## **FAFSA Line-by-Line Training**

**Space is limited.**

Reserve your Webinar seat now at:

<https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/374340358>

Mapping Your Future will be providing a 2012-13 FAFSA line-by-line training for financial aid professionals and others who assist students complete the FAFSA. Our presenter, Andrea Cross, Associate Dean for Financial Aid at Saint Joseph's College (Standish, Maine), will review the FAFSA and provide special emphasis on the

changes from prior years. After registering you will receive a confirmation e-mail providing information about joining the Webinar.

<b>Title:</b>	<i>FAFSA Line-by-Line Training for Financial Aid Professionals, Others</i>
<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday, January 11, 2012
<b>Time:</b>	2:00 PM – 3:00 PM Eastern 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM Central 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Mountain 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM Pacific

### **System Requirements**

PC-based attendees

Required: Windows® 7, Vista, XP or 2003 Server

Macintosh®-based attendees

Required: Mac OS® X 10.5 or newer

## **Important Announcements**

### **College Goal Sunday**

Need Money for College? We can help!

Applying for financial aid involves filling out complicated applications. College Goal Sunday makes the process easier. Students can attend College Goal Sunday for free assistance filling out their *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA). They can start off on the right track by learning how to pay for college.

Save the Dates: February 11th and 12th.

Encourage your students to attend.

Become a volunteer. Every person's help makes a difference!

## OSFA's Outreach Team Contact information

Lori Auxier  
Director of Outreach Services  
561-292-6002, office/fax  
[Lori.Auxier@fldoe.org](mailto:Lori.Auxier@fldoe.org)

Robin Blank  
Outreach Representative  
561-357-4837, office/fax  
[Robin.Blank@fldoe.org](mailto:Robin.Blank@fldoe.org)

Pedro Hernandez  
Outreach Representative  
850-245-1821, office  
850-488-3612, fax  
[Pedro.Hernandez@fldoe.org](mailto:Pedro.Hernandez@fldoe.org)

Gerri McCormick  
Outreach Representative  
407-207-4944, office/fax  
[Gerri.McCormick@fldoe.org](mailto:Gerri.McCormick@fldoe.org)

Reyonna Parrish  
Outreach Representative  
850-410-6830, office  
850-488-3612, fax  
[Reyonna.Parrish@fldoe.org](mailto:Reyonna.Parrish@fldoe.org)

Stephanie Rosh  
Outreach Representative  
727-738-6498, office/fax  
[Stephanie.Rosh@fldoe.org](mailto:Stephanie.Rosh@fldoe.org)

Isabel Acevedo  
Outreach Representative  
305-542-3800, office  
[Isabel.acevedo@fldoe.org](mailto:Isabel.acevedo@fldoe.org)

Jan Smith  
Manager of Outreach Services  
850-245-1822, office  
850-488-3612, fax  
[Jan.Smith@fldoe.org](mailto: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.