

June 2011

News To Know

Florida Department of Education

Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA)

Sponsors Mapping Your Future

On July 1, 2011, **Mapping Your Future** will offer a new “Membership Program,” providing schools, companies, and other organizations a new way to participate in **Mapping Your Future** as well as continuing its support for student and family services.

OSFA is pleased to continue its sponsorship of **Mapping Your Future**. Florida schools will not be required to pay a membership fee. However, after July 1, schools in non-sponsored states will be required to pay a membership fee to access “Online Counseling” and other services, such as college preparation, career exploration, money management, and financial aid.

Mapping Your Future developed the new “Membership Program” following legislative changes over the past few years which impacted financial aid structures. The new program accommodates those changes, provides access to new services based on new higher education challenges, and enables organizations to support public service through their membership.

Mapping Your Future offers this tool to serve students and families, which emphasizes rapid response to industry changes and customer needs, provides information and services that support college access and success, encourages collaboration through reliance on volunteer support, and enables innovation through technological solutions.

Navigating Your Financial Future (NyFF)

The Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) provides online entrance and exit counseling services, as well as the following services accessed via the **Navigating Your Financial Future** platform:

- School and Life Management,
- Career Planning,
- Financial Aid,
- Managing Your Budget,
- Repayment of Your Student Loan, and
- Managing Your Credit.

The following free seminars on **Student Loan Repayment** are provided by the NyFF Outreach/Default Prevention Representatives:

- Workshops on Budget Management (for postsecondary institutions)
- Default Prevention Programs (for postsecondary institutions)
- Financial Literacy Training Materials (for adult learners and parents)

OSFA can help you promote financial literacy with the **Navigating Your Financial Future** program. Your Outreach Representative is available to assist you with on-site workshops.

State Scholarship & Grant Programs

Student Activities

June

State scholarship and grant applicants' initial and renewal notifications are viewable on the students' financial aid recipient history for:

- Bright Futures
- Rosewood Family Scholarship Fund
- José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant
- Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans and Servicemembers
- Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program

Students can check the eligibility status of their financial aid programs and notifications received from OSFA on the [website](#).

Select **State Grants, Scholarships & Applications**

Select **Application Status & Award History**

Institutional Activities

June

- **June 1** — Academic year program budget reconciliation per institution is due.
- **June 8** — The renewal application is due to OSFA for institutional participation in State Programs for the next academic year.
- **June 30** or 30 days after the last day of classes (whichever comes first) — Grade and Hours Report deadline
- **June 30** — State of Florida fiscal year ends for state scholarship and grant programs

Important Announcements

U.S. Department of Education (ED) clarifies effective date of new R2T4 regulations

An [electronic announcement](#), published on May 6, 2011, by ED, provided critical information in a question and answer format about the July 1, 2011, effective date for the new return of Title IV funds (R2T4) rules.

ED indicated that the new R2T4 requirements are applicable to students who withdraw from payment periods or periods of enrollment that begin on or after July 1, 2011. Also noted was that new rules do not apply to students who withdraw from a 2011 crossover payment period even if the student received Title IV, HEA program funds from the 2011-12 award year for that crossover payment period.

This guidance will help schools prepare to implement new R2T4 rules. These new rules cover programs offered in modules and expand the definition of schools that are considered "required to take attendance" for R2T4 purposes.

New Resources for Gainful Employment FAQs

ED has a new gainful employment [resource page](#) that includes answers to [frequently asked questions](#) and announcements about upcoming webcasts. The page focuses on gainful employment regulations included in the [Final Rules](#) published Oct. 29, 2010.

Florida Department of Education (FDOE) Social Media Presence

The Office of Communications and External Affairs is proud to announce the launch of the official FDOE social media presence! Our new outreach methods include:

- A Department of Education [Facebook page](#)
- Department of Education [Twitter account](#)
- A Department of Education [blog](#)

FDOE launched these new outreach resources to help improve the frequency and the quality of departmental communication with Floridians throughout the state. We are confident these new outreach methods will be a worthwhile resource.

OSFA's Outreach Team Contact information

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

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

Pedro 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

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

Stephanie Rosh
Outreach Representative
727-738-6498, office/fax
Stephanie.Rosh@fldoe.org

Isabel Acevedo
Outreach Representative
305-542-3800, office
Isabel.acevedo@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.