## News To Know

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

## Default Prevention... Does Your Office Need a Plan?

No need to reinvent the wheel. OSFA's Financial Literacy Program, Navigating Your Financial Future (NyFF) can supplement your institution's current default prevention and financial literacy activities by:

- offering free workshops and materials for your students
- training your staff to provide Entrance/Exit counseling
- providing information about your Cohort Default Rate
- customizing a Default Prevention Plan for your institution

OSFA representatives assigned to your region are available to meet your Default Prevention needs. Contact us today!

### **Navigating Your Financial Future (NyFF)**

Our online workshops are updated and now easier to access. Please visit the NyFF website today and click on OSFA University to preview these effective and newly revised workshops!

#### **Available online workshops include:**

- Repayment of Your Student Loan Debt
- Managing Your Credit
- School and Life Management
- Financial Aid
- Grace Period Counseling
- For Delinquent Borrowers
- For Defaulted Borrowers
- · Career Planning
- · How to Use NSLDS
- Private Student Loans
- School: Stay, Stop or Drop?

Please contact your OSFA Outreach Representative for additional information.

## State Scholarship & Grant Programs

**December 1** – The *Initial Student Florida Financial Aid Application* for 2013-14 award year funding is available on the website at <a href="https://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org">www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org</a>

- Select State Grants, Scholarships & Applications
- Select Apply Here, then
- Initial State Student Application

Students check the status of their financial aid applications and notifications posted from OSFA on the website at www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org

- Select State Grants, Scholarships & Applications
- Select Application Status & Award History

#### **February**

February 1 – The *Reinstatement/Restoration Application* will be available on the website at <a href="https://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org">www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org</a>

- 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**

#### Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Program

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) issued the final regulations for the new, more generous student-loan repayment program announced by the president last October.

Borrowers will be able to apply for the plan via ED's online portal (<u>studentloans.gov</u>) by the end of this year.

To qualify, a borrower must have obtained at least one federal loan in or after fiscal year 2012 (October 1, 2011, through September 30, 2012) and acquired no loans prior to fiscal year 2008 (October 1, 2007, through September 30, 2008).

Borrowers who do not qualify may still apply under the older version of the program, Income-Based Repayment Plan (IBR), where payments are 15% of discretionary income and balances are forgiven after 25 years.

## **Important Announcements**

OSFA is in the process of completing the annual National Training for Counselors and Mentors (NT4CM). We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following institutions for hosting this important training event:

- Panhandle Area Education Consortium (PAEC)
- Ave Maria University
- Aparicio-Levy Technical Center
- Keiser University
- Valencia College
- Professional Training Centers

NT4CM materials may be downloaded online at:

http://www.fsa4counselors.ed.gov/clcf/NT4CMELibrary.html.

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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, 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.