

August 2013

News To Know

Managing Your Cohort Default Rate

The Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) provides guidance to school personnel in the implementation of default prevention management activities. Having a default prevention action plan in place strengthens the foundation of your students' financial futures.

OSFA Outreach Representatives offer dedicated assistance to your institution and can provide guidance to you and your students with the default prevention action plan process.

In working with your institution, Outreach Representatives are committed to supporting your efforts to educate borrowers on their rights and responsibilities. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact any of them. In addition, if you would like information on how to review and challenge incorrect data on a draft Cohort Default Rate, please contact your OSFA Outreach Representative today.

As of July 1st, there were a few minor changes made to the OSFA Outreach Representatives' respective territories. Please visit the updated link below for the most current information.

<http://www.navigatingyourfinancialfuture.org/ContactUs/Images/OutreachRepMap3.pdf>

Navigating Your Financial Future (NyFF)

Certified Educators in Personal Finance

NyFF is proud to announce that four additional members of the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) Outreach team are now Certified Educators in Personal Finance. A Certified Educator in Personal Finance® provides professional development and training for individuals working with consumers in a group or community setting. This comprehensive program is designed to train financial educators to teach their clients how to develop a plan of action by establishing personal budgets, evaluating debt loads, and setting financial goals. Certification ensures that individuals have been trained and tested in education techniques, the elements of financial management, and various published content standards in financial literacy.

For more information on this program, please review the fact sheet available online at <http://fincert.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/CEPF-Info-Sheet.pdf> .

Robin Blank– Greater West Palm, Isabel Acevedo– South Florida, Reyonna Parrish– Panhandle, Stephanie Rosh– Tampa Bay

State Scholarship & Grant Programs

July

- **July 1** – State of Florida fiscal year begins for state scholarship and grant programs.
- Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program initial 8th semester evaluations and award notifications continue to be posted to students' Financial Aid Recipient History screens.

August

- State scholarship and grant financial aid programs begin funding in the fall and end in the spring. Students who only attend one term may receive a prorated amount of the annual award funding.
- **August 31** – The *Initial Student Florida Financial Aid Application* closes. By this date, all school districts completed graduation (including summer session) for the prior 2012-13 academic year.
- **August 31** – Deadline for fall 2013 Mid-Year high school grads to file applications for mid-year evaluations.

Reminder

For State grant and scholarship eligibility purposes, students must be Florida residents and U.S. citizens/eligible non-citizens. According to http://www.flbog.edu/forstudents/_doc/ati/ResidencyRegulation.pdf, non-U.S. citizens who have been granted withholding of deportation status shall be considered eligible to establish Florida residency for tuition purposes. However, these students will not qualify for state grants and scholarships until they meet the residency and citizenship requirements.

Important Announcements

U.S. Department of Education (ED) Regulatory Changes Effective July 1, 2013 **Interest subsidy:**

On or after July 1, 2013, a first-time borrower may be eligible for Direct Subsidized loans for a period not to exceed 150 percent of the published length of the borrower's current educational program. Under certain conditions, borrowers who exceed the 150 percent limit will also lose the interest subsidy on their Direct Subsidized loans.

- Entrance and exit counseling provided on or after July 1, 2013, must be updated to include this new information.

ED will make system changes to the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System, the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS), and the Central Processing System (CPS) to implement the 150 percent limit. See e-ANN dated June 20, 2013, for phase one of the COD system changes.

Effective for all loans with a first disbursement on or after July 1, 2013, postsecondary institutions must report a Direct Loan's academic year dates and loan period dates to COD, and report updates to this information, if applicable. See *Dear Colleague Letter GEN-13-13*.

Income-based repayment (IBR): Effective July 1, 2013, there are new disclosures requirements related to the IBR plan to provide greater transparency for borrowers including:

- notification of income documentation requirements,
- repayment options after leaving the IBR plan, and
- the IBR loan forgiveness process. See the November 1, 2012 Final Rule.

Total and permanent disability (TPD): Effective for TPD discharge applications received on or after July 1, 2013, all applications will be processed by ED's TPD servicer, Nelnet. The new TPD discharge process will apply to all of the Title IV loan programs — Direct Loan, FFEL, and Perkins — and the Teacher Education and Access to College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program. See e-ANN dated June 20, 2013 for more information on this topic.

Verification: ED published a list of potential verification items for the 2013-2014 award year in the July 12, 2012, *Federal Register*.

Important Announcements

Net Price Calculator Template Update and Up-dated Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Author: Brenda Dann-Messier, Delegated the Authority to Perform the Functions and Duties of the Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education

In accordance with section 132(h) of the *Higher Education Act* of 1965, as amended, each post-secondary institution that participates in the Title IV federal student aid programs must post a net price calculator on its website that uses institution-al data to provide estimated net price information, based on a student's individual circumstances, to current and prospective students and their fami-lies. This calculator must allow students to calcu-late an estimated net price of attendance at an in-stitution (defined as cost of attendance minus grant and scholarship aid) based on what similar students paid in a previous year. The net price calculator is required for all Title IV institutions that enroll full-time, first-time degree- or certificate-seeking undergraduate students. Institutions may meet this requirement by using the U.S. Department of Education's (ED's) Net Price Calculator template or by developing their own customized calculator that includes, at a mini-mum, the same elements as the ED template.

As noted in GEN-13-07, the 2011-2012 version of ED's Net Price Calculator template is currently available at ED's Net Price Calculator Information Center (https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/resource/net_price_calculator.asp). Other materials such as the 2011-12 template Quick Start Guide, source code, and the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) tables used in the template are also available.

Additionally, we have recently updated the FAQs regarding the Net Price Calculator requirement. Please visit the Net Price Calculator Information Center to review the most recent guid-ance. https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/resource/net_price_calculator.asp

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
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.