

NEWS TO KNOW



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DECEMBER 2014



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CAP Report Calls for New Federal-State Compact to Reverse State Divestment in Higher Education

From the October 27, 2014, *National Council of Higher Education Resources*:

"The Center for American Progress ([CAP](#)) released a new [report](#) titled "A Great Recession, a Great Retreat: A Call for Public College Quality Compact," which is focused on how to reverse or further prevent state divestment in higher education. The report details, on a state-by-state basis, the extent to which recession-driven reductions in public higher education financing since the 2008 Great Recession have caused tuition rates to soar and disproportionately impacted low- and middle-income students and the institutions which serve them. The report also claims that many low- and middle-income students have been pushed out of public institutions as a result. The report calls for the federal government to increase investment in higher education in order to encourage states to spend more of their own

funds to increase college attendance and graduation, particularly for low- and middle-income students."

"To reverse this trend, CAP argues that the federal government should give states incentives to enroll and award degrees to students who receive Pell Grants or G.I. Bill funds. Under the proposed *Public College Quality Compact*, the federal government would provide funds to states under a formula that rewards them based on the number of Pell Grant and G.I. Bill recipients who enroll at public colleges and universities, who can afford to pay their college fees without taking out federal or private loans, and who receive degrees from public institutions. The report suggests that the \$1.5 billion needed to fund the compact could come from changes in the tax code that could fully offset the cost to the federal government."

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS



Federal Student Aid's Training for Financial Aid Professionals (TFAP)

website contains information on current and future training activities and learning resources. TFAP has tailored their training



to your experience level. [Facilities](#). TFAP has provided the following training tools

Whether you're new to the financial aid professional role or want to "refresh", go to [New Financial Aid Professionals](#). For training on a specific financial aid system or in a specialized area of financial aid administration, review courses in [Training for Specific Functions](#). If you are looking for training right from your own office via your own computer, TFAP can provide [materials that you can download](#). And if you want to train at one of TFAP's regional offices, look for directions and helpful information on [Regional Training](#)

- Online Training Module—Default Prevention and Management [Read more >>>](#)
- EDEXpress Online Training Release 2.0 for 2014–2015 [Read more >>>](#)
- Training Workshops—Fundamentals of Federal Student Aid Administration (through September 2015) [Read more >>>](#)
- Online Training Module—Institutional Eligibility [Read more >>>](#)

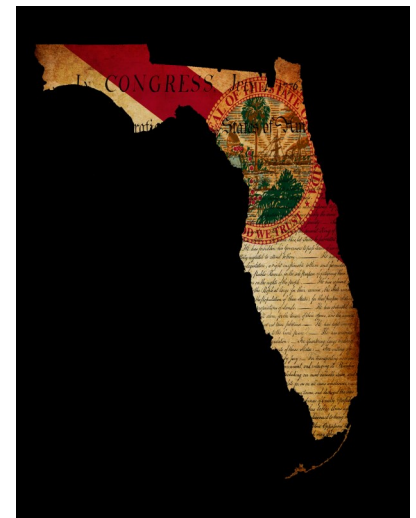
2015 FASFAA Annual Conference May 19 - 22, 2015, at the Renaissance World Golf Village Resort in St. Augustine, Florida

David L. Medina, Sponsorship Coordinator, has addressed the [FASFAA Exhibitor/Sponsorship Opportunities for 2014-2015](#):

"FASFAA is pleased to offer you, our colleagues in the business sector, the opportunity to support our training efforts as financial aid professionals. While we will continue to offer individual training activities for sponsors to advertise and exhibit, we have also produced some discounted packages that will allow you to take advantage of some very significant cost savings.

FASFAA's theme this year is "Reshaping Tomorrow's Leaders, Today." We must prepare the financial aid leaders of today to overcome the challenges associated with financial aid regulations and students of tomorrow. During turbulent times, it takes dynamic leadership and effectual mentoring to ensure that the financial aid profession remains strong and well informed. With this task ahead, we must reshape the financial aid administrator of today in an effort to guarantee an advanced level of leadership and professional competence in the future."

The Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) representatives, in addition to providing informative presentations, will be there to assist with the conference and answer your questions. For more information on how you can take advantage of upcoming training efforts with significant cost savings, visit the [FASFAA website](#).



OF INTEREST

FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES AND TOOLS

In this fast-paced financial aid world, having easy access to resources and tools is a must.

[IFAP](#) (Information for Financial Aid Professionals) website provides tools for schools, publications, processing resources and much more.

[Navigating Your Financial Future](#) (NyFF) provides resources including newsletters, brochures and training information

[FSA](#) (Federal Student Aid) website provides information on federally funded financial assistance for ed-

ucation or training after high school. It provides access to publications and resources for professionals and students.

Be sure to visit FSA's recently launched [Financial Aid Toolkit](#), which consolidates FSA resources into an online database. It is geared toward high school counselors and college access professionals but financial aid administrators will find their resources useful in student outreach efforts.

Some of FSA's featured items include

- [2015-16 Do You Need Money for College?](#)
- [Federal Student Loans: Be a Responsible Borrower](#)



FASFAA

Visit the FASFAA website <http://www.fasfaa.org/> for information on:

- FASFAA 2014-2015 Membership Applications are now open. **New Members:** Please [click here](#) if you have never been a member of FASFAA. **Former/Current members:** Please renew by [clicking here](#).
- Have you considered [volunteering for FASFAA](#) in 2014-15?
- Get your updated conference [agenda & presentations](#).
- If your membership information changed, [login](#) and update it!
- Subscribe today to the [FASFAA Listserv](#).
- Review [FASFAA ByLaws](#) as of November 14, 2011.
- Meet your new [NAVIENT Relationship Managers](#).

COLLEGE

State University System of Florida

Promoting Excellence in Teaching, Research, and Public Service

Twelve universities make up the State University System of Florida. These institutions receive funding from the state in addition to student tuition, which is significantly reduced for Florida residents.

The Board of Governors oversees the operation and management of the Florida public university system's twelve institutions. The Board is comprised of seventeen members, fourteen of whom are appointed by the Florida Governor and confirmed by the Florida Senate for a term of seven years. The remaining members include the Chair of the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates, the Commissioner of Education, and the Chair of the Florida Student Association.

The Florida legislature has designated three of the state universities, Florida State University, the University of Florida and the University of South Florida, as flagship universities, recognizing the amount and quality of research conducted there and allowing them to charge higher tuition.

As of 2013, over 337,000 students were enrolled in Florida's state universities — in total 276,214 undergraduates and 61,716 graduate and professional students. Together with the [Florida College System](#), which includes Florida's 28 [community colleges](#) and [state colleges](#), it is part of Florida's system of public [higher education](#).



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER

RECONCILIATION REMINDER

If you have not completed or submitted your reconciliations, they are due to the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) within 60 days after the last day of drop/add with the exception of

- Mary McLeod Bethune (MMB) Scholarship Program
- due April 1 or 60 days after a student's enrollment is terminated.
- Florida Work Experience Program (FWEP) and First Generation Matching Grant (FGMG) Program - due June 1.

ACADEMIC TOP SCHOLARS have been notified and will be on your Master Eligibility List for additional funding over and above their Florida Academic Scholars award funds.

OSFA'S OUTREACH TEAM CONTACT INFORMATION

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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, prompt 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

Tallahassee, FL

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

E-mail: OSFA@fldoe.org

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

Locally: 1-850-410-5200

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