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2017-18 Financial Aid Shopping Sheet

The Financial Aid Shopping Sheet is a consumer tool that participating institutions utilize to inform students of their financial aid award package.

This standardized form is designed to simplify the information that prospective students receive about costs and financial aid so that they can easily compare institutions and make informed decisions about where to attend school.

In September 2016, the U.S. Department of Education (Department) announced that more than 3,000 postsecondary institutions have reported their commitment to utilize the Shopping Sheet. While participation is voluntary, the Department is reporting that only 182 institutions' within the state of Florida are currently participating in this initiative.

To learn more about the Shopping Sheet and to determine if it would be the right choice for your school, students and families, please visit the Financial Aid Shopping Sheet [website](#).

Federal Student Aid Resources



Federal Student Aid (FSA) Coach

FSA Coach offers 38 interactive lessons and includes more than 45 hours of instructions geared towards both new and experienced financial aid staff. The FSA Coach reviews all of the pertinent information necessary to successfully administer federal student aid.

The interactive lessons can be completed individually, or as a full course, depending on the user's needs. Each lesson also includes hyperlinks to other FSA resources, review questions and quizzes that help users assess their knowledge level.

The updated FSA Coach course is available on the [Federal Student Aid E-Training](#) website.

Gainful Employment (GE): Submitting Draft GE Debt-to-Earnings (D/E) Challenges

The recorded version of the GE (D/E) Challenge webinar is now available [online](#). This webinar reviews the process institutions must complete via the National Student Loan Data System Professional Access website to challenge data the Department used to calculate their GE D/E rates.

2016 FSA Training Conference

The *FSA Training Conference for Financial Aid Professionals* is the largest training program in the United States. To learn more about the conference slated to be held November 20th through December 2nd in Atlanta, GA, please visit the conference [website](#).

A variety of financial aid and financial literacy resources are available for FREE online at www.navigatingyourfuture.org.

Topics include:

- *Career Planning*
- *Financial Aid Overview*
- *Financial Literacy*
- *Managing Your Budget*
- *Managing Your Credit*
- *Mapping Your Future: FAFSA*
- *Money Management ID Theft*
- *Repayment of Your Student Loan Debt:*
 - * *Chapter 1*
 - * *Chapter 2*
 - * *Chapter 3*
- *Searching for Scholarships*
- *Show Me the Money! Financial Planning for College*
- *Stay, Stop, or Drop?*

NyFF
NAVIGATING YOUR
FINANCIAL FUTURE

Office of Inspector General FY 2017 Annual Plan



On November 17th, the U.S. Department of Education (Department) Office of Inspector General (OIG) released its [FY 2017 Annual Plan](#). The Annual Plan reviews the major initiatives and priorities OIG plans to concentrate on during the upcoming calendar year. OIG's Strategic Plan Goals include:

- 1) Improve the Department's ability to effectively and efficiently implement its programs;
- 2) Strengthen the Department's efforts to improve the delivery of student financial assistance;
- 3) Protect the integrity of the Department's programs and operations;
- 4) Contribute to improvements in Department business operations; and
- 5) Strive for a diverse and skilled workforce that is provided with the means and assistance necessary to achieve the OIG's mission.

Under each goal, OIG has outlined both priority and continuing work. Priority work includes, but is not limited to: oversight of the Federal TRIO Programs and Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR-UP); recognition and oversight of accrediting agencies, FSA Ombudsman handling of borrower complaints and more.

Continuing work includes, but is not limited to: *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)* verification selection process; oversight of student loan servicers; calculating and reporting graduation rates; fraud awareness presentations and more.

In addition to the goals outlined above, OIG also identified the following areas that provide significant management challenges for the Department:

- 1) Improper Payments;
- 2) Information Technology Security;
- 3) Oversight and Monitoring;
- 4) Data Quality and Reporting; and
- 5) Information Technology System Development and Implementation

While the Annual Plan outlines the activities OIG plans to complete during FY 2017, it is important to remember that OIG may be required to complete unanticipated work that may take precedence over priority or continuing work. For more information, the plan may be reviewed online at the U.S. Department of Education Office of Inspector General [FY 2017 Annual Plan](#).

Taking another look – A new Mapping Your Future logo to represent new services, resources



By: Catherine Mueller

Twenty years is a long time to keep something the same.

We've changed a lot of things at Mapping Your Future in the last 20 years – primarily to keep up with the changing needs of the students, schools, families and other organizations that we serve. The one thing we haven't changed – until now – is our logo.

If you've visited the Mapping Your Future website recently, you may have noticed our new logo. Our original logo – something my 17-year old daughter might call "vintage" has been a treasured part of our history here at Mapping Your Future. However, our new logo better represents Mapping Your Future as it is today rather than what it was 20 years ago.

Mapping Your Future continues to focus on providing college, career, financial aid and financial literacy services for the past 20 years. Although we stay focused on those topics, the information and services we provide under our mission has changed drastically through the years.

In the past couple of years we've expanded our services, adding new default prevention and document transfer options for schools and students. More recently, we've added Financial Solutions, a new service to provide financial wellness programs to employers and credit unions. We are also now powered by Money Management International, Inc., the largest national credit counseling agency. It is with their expertise in financial literacy and financial wellness, as well as their person-to-person expertise, that we have broadened our services.

The new logo, with its bridge in the design, represents what Mapping Your Future is all about – retaining the strengths of our history while changing to best serve the needs of our schools, students, families, organizations – and now companies and credit unions.

As an organization focused on helping others plan for their success, Mapping Your Future recognizes that change is necessary to move forward. Because the services we provide aren't the same as what we did 20 years ago, we needed a new logo to represent that change.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS



2016-17 FASFAA Training

Florida Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (FASFAA)

- ⇒ Region I Spring Workshop (TBD)
- ⇒ Region II Spring Workshop (TBD)
- ⇒ Region III Spring Workshop (TBD)
- ⇒ Region IV Spring Workshop (TBD)
- ⇒ Region V Spring Workshop (TBD)
- ⇒ FASFAA @ 50 Annual Conference May 30-June 2 (Orlando)

For more information, visit www.fasfaa.org.

2016-17 SASFAA Training

Southern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (SASFAA) Annual Conference February 12-15 (Biloxi)

For more information, visit www.sasfaa.org.

2016-17 NASFAA Training

National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) Annual Conference June 26-29 (San Diego)

For more information, visit www.nasfaa.org.

National Training for Counselors and Mentors (NT4CM)

The OSFA Training and Outreach Teams recently conducted NT4CM webinars to provide participants with up-to-date information regarding federal student aid, state student aid, scholarship searches and financial aid fraud. For those that were unable to attend the live webinars, recorded versions will be made available in early 2017. In the interim, please visit the NT4CM [website](#) to review the materials and resources available. In addition to the core training materials, additional training is now available for:

- ⇒ Middle School Counselors
- ⇒ Middle School Parents
- ⇒ Counseling Undocumented Students
- ⇒ Financial Literacy



OSFA INFO

January

- ⇒ Term 1 semester and quarter refunds of Bright Futures dropped/withdrawn course funds are due within 30 days of the institution's last day of each term
- ⇒ Term 2 Disbursement Eligibility Reports are due 30 days after the last day of drop/add

Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA)

- ⇒ Thank you to all of our postsecondary partners working diligently with Florida's high school seniors to complete the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) and the FFAA. As a reminder, the FFAA opened **October 1** to align with the FAFSA release date!



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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

Customer Service: 1-888-827-2004

Email: OSFA@fldoe.org

Federal Loans: 1-800-366-3475

Locally: 1-850-410-5200

Email: OSFAStudentLoans@fldoe.org

Visit our website at

www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org

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