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## “Stay, Stop or Drop”

According to the [information](#) recently released by EAB (formerly Education Advisory Board), students who lose financial aid are more likely to leave college. EAB’s findings include:

- ⇒ *Students who lose an average of between \$1,500 and \$2,000 of financial aid dollars are three percentage points more likely to leave college when compared to their peers.*
- ⇒ *Students who lose an average of \$4,000 of financial aid dollars are more than four percentage points more likely to leave college when compared to their peers.*
- ⇒ *Students who lose over \$10,000 financial aid dollars are nineteen percentage points more likely to leave college when compared to their peers.*

Students often lose financial aid due to making uneducated decisions regarding their enrollment. The key is to reach these students before decisions are made. OSFA’s “Stay, Stop or Drop” information campaign addresses key issues that students need to consider prior to making decisions that will impact their pursuit of higher education. Download or [order](#) these free resources today!

# Federal Student Aid (FSA) Updates

## College Completion Toolkit

The U.S. Department of Education recently released a [toolkit](#) that highlights key practices from a variety of schools that are currently increasing college completion rates. Institutional resources and stories are included to assist institutions in promoting degree completion.

## NEW Loan Counseling Pilot Program

Congratulations to the College of Central Florida and Tallahassee Community College on their selection to participate in the U.S. Department of Education's "experiment to identify promising loan counseling practices that can help students make the decisions that are right for them and help figure out ways that colleges can counsel students to reduce unnecessary borrowing." To learn more about this initiative, you can review the bulletin online [here](#).



## FSA Coach—Intermediate Training Course

This training course has been updated for 2016-17 and is geared toward more experienced financial aid administrators. It includes a more in-depth look at award packaging, Return to Title IV (R2T4), subsidized student loan interest benefits, monitoring Pell Grant Lifetime Eligibility Used (LEU), resolving Enrollment History flags, and administering federal student aid in nonstandard terms. For more information, you can review the course online [here](#) (user account and password required).

## FSA Training Conference Resources

The *FSA Training Conference for Financial Aid Professionals* is one of the largest training programs in the United States. To access available resources from the conference held November 29th through December 2nd, 2016, in Atlanta, Georgia, please visit the conference [website](#).



A variety of financial aid and financial literacy resources are available for FREE online at: [www.navigatingyourfuture.org](http://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?



## Meet your organization's college access objectives with Mapping Your Future

Increasing the number of students that complete a postsecondary education is a worthy goal. To maintain or increase enrollment is a goal shared at the federal and state levels and postsecondary institutions.

Mapping Your Future provides resources and services to help support efforts to reach college access and success goals. These services can be customized for a particular state or organization.

- **Resources for students and families**, including career selection, early awareness, college planning, and money management tools. These resources encourage students to look at all sources of free funding before considering a student loan. The goal is to help students and families to prepare by providing current, accurate, and complete information about options to pay for a higher education and to help guide them through the process of determining their best options. Mapping Your Future can also provide webinars, content, and other services customized for a specific state or institution.
- **Information and education for the hot topics of higher education and financial literacy.** Many are trying to determine if a higher education is worth the expense and debt. The questions they are asking include:
  - Is higher education worth it?
  - How am I going to pay for it?
  - If I choose to seek higher education and need to borrow money, how can I manage the debt and maintain a good quality of life?

Mapping Your Future provides many online services to assist students and families as they consider these questions.

Higher education institutions and industry organizations want to inform parents and families about higher education and financial aid, which is the mission of many of our organizations.

As you include communications and outreach as a part of your planning, be sure to include Mapping Your Future to help accomplish your strategic goals.

For more information on including these resources in your strategic planning, contact Cathy Mueller at [cathy@mappingyourfuture.org](mailto:cathy@mappingyourfuture.org) or 940-497-0741.

# IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS



## 2016-17 FASFAA Training

Florida Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (FASFAA)

⇒ FASFAA @ 50 Annual Conference May 30-June 2 (Orlando)

For more information, visit [www.fasfaa.org](http://www.fasfaa.org).

## 2016-17 SASFAA Training

Southern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (SASFAA)

⇒ SASFAA Annual Conference February 12-15 (Biloxi)

For more information, visit [www.sasfaa.org](http://www.sasfaa.org).

## 2016-17 NASFAA Training

National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA)

⇒ NASFAA Annual Conference June 26-29 (San Diego)

For more information, visit [www.nasfaa.org](http://www.nasfaa.org).

## Navigating Your Financial Future (NyFF) Website



The NyFF [website](#) will be undergoing major changes in the next 4-6 weeks. Stay tuned for a whole new look and feel! Plus, the OSFA Outreach Team will also be adding a variety of new resources to help the students and families you serve as they pursue higher education.

## OSFA Outreach Team—NyFF Current Events

The OSFA Outreach Team recently updated the NyFF website to include a list of the events they will be attending. If you are interested in these events in your area, please visit our [website](#). The event list is updated weekly and sorted by county and date.

For additional information, please contact the OSFA Outreach Representative hosting the event.



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**February**

⇒ *The Florida Reinstatement/Restoration Application* for state funding is now available for next academic year.

**February/March**

- ⇒ Term 2 refunds/reconciliation due to OSFA within 60 days after the last day of drop/add.
- ⇒ Program compliance audits due from participating private institutions.
- ⇒ Program funds sent to eligible PSIs for Term 3.



## 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](mailto:OSFA@fldoe.org)**

**Federal Loans: 1-800-366-3475**

**Locally: 1-850-410-5200**

**Email: [OSFAStudentLoans@fldoe.org](mailto:OSFAStudentLoans@fldoe.org)**

**Visit our website:**

**[www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org)**

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