

# News To Know



## Florida Department of Education

April 2009

### OSFA Ranked in “Top Ten” in FY 2008 Volume Increases

Based on data provided by the [U.S. Department of Education](#), the Office of Student Financial Assistance ranked in the top ten guarantors for percentage increase in loan volume commitments in FY 08.

OSFA would like to take this time to thank all of its institutional and lender partners for helping OSFA reach this goal. This achievement

will greatly contribute to funding additional grants and scholarships for Florida students. OSFA aspires to continue providing up-to-date comprehensive financial aid information, community outreach services, exemplary customer service, and products and services for institutions.

### February 2009 Integrated Common Manual Available

The *Common Manual* announces the availability of the February 2009 *Integrated Common Manual* in an effort to provide the most up-to-date policy information available.

Some changes that have been made include:

- Social Security Numbers on Individual Checks and Master Check Transmittals
- Elimination of the Child Care Provider Loan Forgiveness Program
- Revisions in Permitted and Prohibited Activities
- Student Consumer Information
- Extenuating Circumstances in Adverse Credit Determinations
- In-School and Post-Enrollment Deferrals for PLUS Loans
- Loan Forgiveness Program for Service in Areas of National Need

Read the summary of changes for more details. You may [view](#) and print the *Integrated Common Manual*, including the [summary of changes](#) approved February 19, 2009, by the Common Manual Governing Board.

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The OSFA mission is to facilitate higher education access and services by providing exemplary customer attention, comprehensive financial aid information, and convenient and efficient products.

## Default Prevention Workshops in Full Force

The Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) is committed to educating its college students. Between July 2008 and March 2009, OSFA conducted 582 default prevention workshops with 10,880 students in attendance, of which 1,357 requested and received individual counseling.

OSFA offers Financial Aid, Financial Literacy, Default Prevention, Managing Your Credit, Managing Your Budget, Career Planning, and School and Life Management

workshops. Default Prevention Representatives discuss tough financial issues that may face your college students. OSFA provides comprehensive, high-quality products and is dedicated to serving students and families with student loan budgeting and financial management programs.

Visit our Web site to find a [workshop](#) in your area, or contact your [Outreach Representative](#) for details on how to schedule an event in your region.

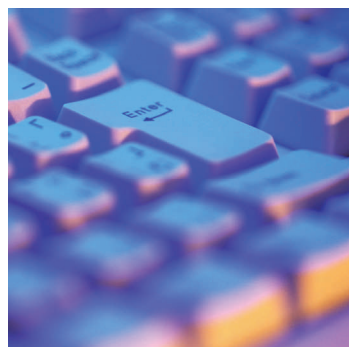


## OSFA Offers the Loan Originator

Do you need to locate a lender that offers student loans? OSFA can help! The [Loan Originator](#) is a list of lenders that participate in the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP).

Lenders listed in the Loan Originator have participation

agreements with OSFA, and have requested that their names be published to originate student loans. Previous publications are available in the [Loan Originator Archives](#). (Must be viewed with Adobe Acrobat Reader.)



## State Scholarship & Grant Programs Calendar

### ***2008-09 Institutional Reporting Responsibilities***

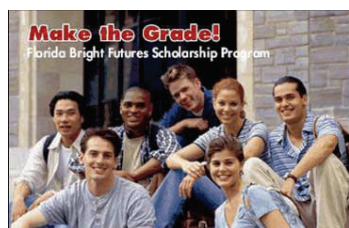
- Continue to submit your Disbursement Eligibility Reports for all programs for the remaining academic year terms.
- Continue reconciliation activities within your institution's 60-day timeframe.

### ***2009-10 Institutional Verifications and Application Information Institutional Certification Deadlines***

- Continue to review and update

professional degree and course certifications by term for the Critical Teacher Shortage Student Loan Forgiveness and Tuition Reimbursement Programs.

- Go to our [Web site](#).
- Select "State Grants, Scholarships & Applications."
- Select "Postsecondary Institutions."
- Under "Initial/Renewal Reporting Certification Reports," select "Teacher."



Visit our State  
 Programs  
[Calendar!](#)

## Important Announcements

### **Deadline Dates**

*Federal Register*, Vol. 74, No. 50, March 17, 2009.

The U.S. Department of Education announced the 2009-10 award year deadline dates for the submission of requests and documents from postsecondary institutions for campus-based programs: Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Work-Study, and Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant Programs (FSEOG). [Click here](#) for deadline dates.

### **FSA COACH Update**

*Dear Colleague Letter (DCL) ID: ANN-09-05* announces the redesign of the Federal Student Aid program, "FSA COACH," a self-paced, Web-based tutorial. FSA

COACH is for both domestic and foreign schools, and has been fully updated for the 2008-2009 Award Year. Courses are available on the Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Web site at [www.ifap.ed.gov/ifap/fsacoach.jsp](http://www.ifap.ed.gov/ifap/fsacoach.jsp).

### **Stance on Stimulus**

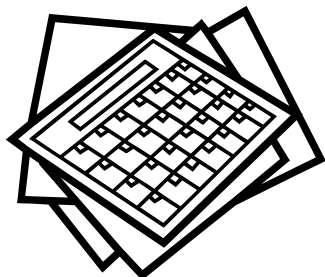
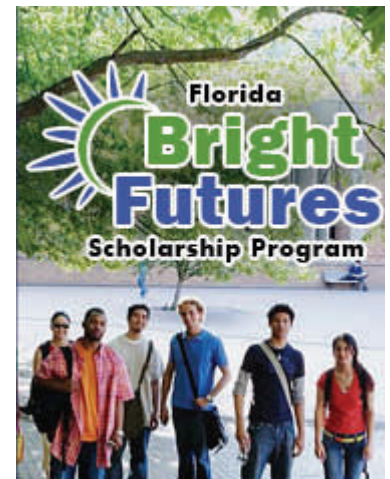
The U.S. Department of Education has determined that stimulus payments received last summer are excluded from the EFC calculation. Therefore, FAFSA applicants should not report last summer's stimulus payment as income or unreported income on their 2009-10 FAFSA. [Click here](#) for more information.



## Florida Legislative Session

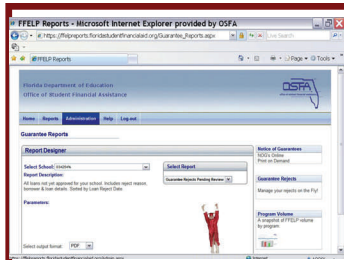
The Office of Student Financial Assistance is tracking 57 (of 2,100 bills) that may affect state scholarship and grant programs, or postsecondary institutions. You may continue to monitor the progress of these bills by clicking on the Online Sunshine logo.

Search for these bills by using the memorandum distributed to postsecondary institutions by Carl Vinson on March 13<sup>th</sup> and March 20<sup>th</sup>.



**April Dates to Remember**  
15<sup>th</sup> - OSFA's TSH6AA was discontinued. For more details, please e-mail [Reitha Scott](#) or [Marguerite Matthews](#).

# Online FFELP Reports



Screen shot of  
FFELP Reports



The Office of Student Financial Assistance provides comprehensive reports to assist schools and lenders in managing their Cohort Default Rate, and monitoring their OSFA loan volume.

[Default Prevention/Aversion Reports](#) – Capture information about borrowers who have withdrawn or graduated from school, or are delinquent on the repayment of their student loans. These reports can be used for contacting borrowers to assist in the prevention of default.

[Defaulted Borrower Reports](#) – Provide borrower demographics and information about their defaulted loans. These reports can be used for letter campaigns.

[Cohort Default Rate Reports](#) – May be used for calculating estimated cohort default rates. Borrowers in the numerator and denominator have been broken into smaller subsets for additional research and resolution.

[Lender Reports](#) – Include summary information associated with the loan guarantee process. They provide a snapshot of FFELP volume by school and by loan program type.

[Entrance & Exit Counseling Reports](#) – Provide a list of students who have completed their required entrance or exit exam.

[NyFF Workshop Reports](#) – Include a list of students who have participated in NyFF online counseling and training modules. Contact your regional [OSFA Representative](#) for details.

## FASFAA Spring 2009 Conference

The Florida Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (FASFAA) Spring 2009 Conference theme is "Hitting a Home Run for Students." The conference will be held May 25<sup>th</sup> - May 29<sup>th</sup> at the Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa in Jacksonville, Florida.

The FASFAA Conference will cover many financial aid topics. New Financial Aid Officers will have an opportunity to learn how to understand financial language in the "Rookie's Training Camp" workshop. Financial Aid Administrators will learn valuable and practical regulatory information in "Policy Potpourri" and how the move to the three-year cohort calculation will affect their institutions in "Understanding the Impact of the Three-Year Cohort." [Click here](#) to view the tentative agenda and register today!

Don't forget to participate in this year's service project! Community Connections of Jacksonville has been serving the needs of homeless and low-income women, children, and families in Northeast Florida for almost one hundred years.



## The OSFA Philosophy

As a public agency, OSFA has the ability to offer its partners and customers something few guarantors can: the ability to shape OSFA programs and services based on their specific concerns. Earnings generated from OSFA's loan programs are used to provide financial aid workshops, publications, and better services for our participants, and to help fund scholarship and grant programs. When schools and students choose to use the OSFA guarantee for student loans, they are actually helping countless other needy and deserving students by investing in education programs. So, if a participant has a problem or suggestion, OSFA management listens and does whatever it takes to implement a solution that meets their needs. Public dollars deserve that kind of accountability in education finance.



The News to Know is now available on the [Policy, Regulations, and Guidance Page](#) of our Web site. Previous editions may be viewed on our [Archives Page](#).

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Visit our [Web site!](#)

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