

NEWS TO KNOW

AUGUST 2006

New OSFA Reporting Features

- ❑ Anticipated Disbursement Report
- ❑ Defaulted Borrowers Report (for mailout purposes)
- ❑ Delinquent Borrowers Report (for mailout purposes)
- ❑ Disbursement Detail Report
- ❑ Disbursement Summary Report
- ❑ Guarantee Details Report
- ❑ Guarantee Rejects Pending Review Report
- ❑ Guarantee Summary by Lender Report
- ❑ Repayment Defaulted Borrower Report
- ❑ Volume by Program Report

This list contains the new reporting features available on www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org. If you would like to see a demonstration on how these reports can benefit your institution, please contact your Regional Outreach Representative today!

State Programs Calendar

August 2006

- ❑ Bright Futures private award amounts memorandum sent to eligible private institutions
- ❑ Program allocations requested for eligible PSI's
- ❑ PSI's participating in the Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship Program will notify OSFA of matching contributions

For information on deadlines for the remainder of the year, please visit our [website](#).

State Program FAQ's

For more information on the new or updated State Grants and Scholarship Programs, review our FAQ pages on our [website](#).

EFC Formula Worksheets and Tables

The 2006-2007 EFC Formula Worksheets and Tables are now available in [Portable Document Format \(PDF\)](#). The PDF file requires 4.0 or greater of the free Adobe Acrobat Reader Software, [available here](#).

FAQ's on ACG and National SMART Grant Programs

As explained in [Dear Colleague Letter GEN-06-04](#), the Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (the HERA), Pub. L. 109-171, created the Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG) Program and the National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant (National SMART Grant) effective July 1, 2006. ACG and National SMART Grant awards are available for eligible students beginning with the 2006-2007 Award Year. To assist schools as they begin to identify students who are eligible to receive ACG and National SMART Grant awards, FSA has posted some of these [Frequently Asked Questions](#). (The button appears in the upper left hand margin of the page.)

Additionally, participation in a rigorous secondary school program of study may qualify a postsecondary student to receive an ACG, if otherwise eligible. The Secretary recognizes at least one rigorous secondary school program of study for each state annually. To view the recognized rigorous secondary school programs of study for Florida for the 2006-07 award year, click [here](#).

Florida Trend's NEXT

Florida Trend's NEXT: Your Future After High School in Florida is the indispensable annual magazine for today's Florida teens about tomorrow's career and educational opportunities. It is the only magazine that connects with Florida teens in their own schools -- from those just starting to consider future options to those on the brink of making pivotal life choices. You'll reach high school students in public and private high schools across Florida. For more information about advertising, sponsorship or to receive a rate card for Florida Trend's NEXT magazine, please contact Faune Walker at (727) 892-2625 or FWalker@FloridaTrend.com.

HERA Webinar

AACRAO and the Department of Education are pleased to invite you to an update and "question and answer" session on the new Higher Education Reconciliation Act (HERA).

- Date: Wednesday, August 2, 2006, Time: 2:30 - 3:30 pm Eastern
Registration Cost: Provided free as a service to the higher education community
Registration is required

HERA Online Training

The Department of Education is also offering live Internet sessions on the implementation of HERA. The topics are: Module 1 - ACG/SMART Grants; Module 2 - Student Eligibility, Institutional Eligibility, Need Analysis and Return of Title IV Funds; and Module 3 - Loan Provisions. Multiple dates are available between now and mid-August.

- Registration Cost: Provided free as a service to the higher education community.
- **Registration** is required.

Mapping Your Future Chat Events

August 15, 2006

Managing your student loans, including repayment options, consolidation, and cancellation

October 17, 2006, January 9, 2007, April 10, 2007, July 17, 2007

General financial aid, student loan, and money management questions

*Chats are scheduled for 7-8 PM, EST. For more information, please visit **[MYF Chat Events!](#)***

MYF – Constitution Day Tips

Educational institutions that receive federal funding are required to hold an educational program about the United States Constitution on September 17 of each year, commemorating the September 17, 1787 signing of the Constitution. When September 17 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, Constitution Day shall be held during the preceding or following week. For more information on how to hold this educational program, please visit the MYF Constitution and Citizenship [website](#).

Dates to Remember

NCHELP Fall Legislative Conference

September 21-22
Washington, DC

FASFAA Fall 2006 Conference

September 27-29
Bonita Springs, FL

FASFAA Region I Workshop

October 19th
Pensacola, Florida

EAC Conference

October 30th – November 2nd
Orlando Florida

NCHELP Training Conference

November 12th – 15th
Dallas, Texas

Need more information? Check out their websites!

Mission Statement

The Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA), serves as a guarantor for the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP), and the administrator of Florida's scholarship and grant programs. 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.

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 help fund scholarship and grant programs, financial aid workshops and publications, and to provide better services for our participants. 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.

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Finally

Confidence in the institution's ability to determine our integrity, character, and truthfulness is of the utmost importance to OSFA. The Office of Student Financial Assistance wants to know and deliver what you seek in a partner. You have the right to choose. Together, we have the power to make a difference. Trust the Office of Student Financial Assistance to help you help your students. They are our future.