

News to Know

Florida Department of Education Office of Student Financial Assistance August 2008

Welcome!

- The Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) is pleased to announce the additions of Jan Smith (Default Prevention Manager) to OSFA's Outreach Team, and Peter Cohen (Financial Literacy Trainer) to OSFA's Training and Development Section. Jan can be reached by phone at (850) 245-1822 or by e-mail at Jan.Smith@fldoe.org. Pete can be reached by phone at (850) 410-6811 or by e-mail at Pete.Cohen@fldoe.org.
- Please join us in welcoming both of them aboard!

State Scholarship and Grant Programs: August 2008 Calendar

- August
 - State scholarship and grant financial aid programs begin funding in the fall and end in the spring. Students who only attend one term will receive a prorated amount of the annual award funding.
 - Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program initial eighth semester evaluations and award notifications are sent.
 - August 31 –The Initial Student Florida Financial Aid Application closes. By this date, all school districts have completed graduation (including summer session) for the prior academic year.
 - Do you want to know what other activities and important deadlines are on the calendar and important deadlines? Visit our [Web site!](#)

Florida Student Scholarship and Grant Programs FAQs

- Do you have questions regarding the Florida Student Scholarship and Grant Programs? Visit our FAQs [Web site](#) today!

2007-08 Online Grade and Hours Corrections (NEW)

- The Office of Student Financial Assistance, State Scholarship and Grant Programs has added the capability for postsecondary institutions to make corrections to previously reported 2007-08 student grades and hours for Bright Futures ineligible students only. Institutions may now visit their 2007-08 Grade and Hours Report online and may make corrections to 2007-08 grade and hours through April 30, 2009.
- To make corrections to a Bright Futures ineligible student's 2007-08 grade and hours, visit the State Scholarship and Grant Programs [Web site](#) and
 - Select Postsecondary Institutions from the blue menu bar.
 - Select Submit Grade and Hours Report.
 - After logging in, you may search for students from the 2007-08 Grade and Hours Report to make corrections.
- Should you have any questions about reporting procedures, please contact Sylvia Arenas, Bright Futures Specialist, toll-free at 1-888-827-2004 or via E-mail at Sylvia.Arenas@fldoe.org.

OSFA Training

- With over 30 years of combined training, presentation, and facilitation experience, OSFA's Training and Development section provides training on a variety of financial aid and professional development topics. Individual classes or entire curriculums can be customized to fit the needs of your organization or staff. We provide both online and on-site training to suit your needs and schedule. To learn more about OSFA Training, visit our [Web site](#) today!

Available Now! Navigating Your Financial Future Entrance and Exit Counseling

- Stafford, Grad PLUS, and Combined Entrance and Exit Counseling are all available through our Web site:
 - <https://www.osfaffelp.org/studentcounseling/>.
- If you are interested in signing up for the Online Entrance and Exit Counseling for your institution, contact your OSFA [Outreach Representative](#) for assistance.

The New Higher Education Act and Financial Literacy Education

- The House and Senate approved legislation to reauthorize the Higher Education Act, which clears the bill for President Bush to sign into law. Programs that will require financial literacy education include:
 - Institutions that receive money under the Strengthening Institutions Federal Aid Program
 - Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities, and Native Alaskan and Native Hawaiian serving institutions receiving federal aid
 - Historically Black colleges and universities
 - Institutions receiving TRIO funds, including Talent Search, Student Support Services, and Upward Bound programs
 - Institutions receiving GEAR-UP funds
 - For additional information on how OSFA can help you increase financial literacy education on your campus, please contact your local [Outreach Representative](#) or [Default Prevention Representative](#).
- Be prepared! Contact us today!

Available Now: CCRAA-Compliant Version of Return of Title IV Funds (R2T4) on the Web

- CCRAA-compliant R2T4 on the Web is now available online. Additional non-CCRAA-specific updates to R2T4 on the Web will be made on September 28, 2008.
- The site is accessible through the FAA Main Menu of the FAA Access to CPS Online [Web site](#) and from the View menu in the EDEXpress for Windows software.
- For additional information, please review the [Electronic Announcement](#) available in the IFAP Library.

Financial Literacy Resources

- NYFF Presenter Manual is an online resource to help inform students on issues like:
 - Entrance and Exit Counseling
 - Financial Literacy
 - School and Life Management
 - Debt Management
 - Career Planning
 - Managing Your Credit
 - Managing Your Budget
 - Repayment of Student Loan Debt
- Do you want to learn more? Visit our Web site!

Federal Student Loans: Are You Up-To-Date?

- The student loan industry has been on a roller coaster ride with the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (CCRAA) regulatory changes, the Department's [final rules](#) (published last November), and the Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loans Act of 2008 ([H.R. 5715](#)) changes, effective July 1, 2008. Click on the table of contents link for a quick reference tool to help you ensure that all of your loan practices are up-to-date.
 - [Table of Contents](#)
 - Preferred Lender Lists
 - Prohibited Inducements
 - Increased Annual and Aggregate Stafford Loan Limits
 - Loan Counseling for Graduate or Professional Student PLUS Loan Borrowers
 - Maximum Length of Loan Period
 - Mandatory Assignment of Defaulted Perkins Loans
 - Reasonable Collection Costs on Defaulted Perkins Loans
 - Grace Period and Deferment For Parent PLUS Borrowers
 - Special Provision for Parents Delinquent on Mortgage Payments
 - Loan Discharge for False Certification as a Result of Identity Theft
 - Frequency of Capitalization
 - Total and Permanent Disability on Stafford, PLUS Loans, and Perkins Loans
 - NSLDS Reporting
 - Certification of Electronic Signatures on MPNs Assigned to the Department
 - Simplification of the Deferment Process for Military Personnel
 - Accurate and complete photocopy of a Death Certificate
 - LLR Provisions
 - Department as a Secondary Market
 - Additional Resources

Dates to Remember

- August 15, 2008
 - Comments on the Secretary's proposal to amend the Federal Perkins Loan (Perkins Loan) Program, Federal Family Education Loan (FFELP) Program, and William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program regulations must be received on or before August 15th. These proposed regulations are needed to implement provisions of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA), as amended by the College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 (CCRAA). You may visit the [Federal Register](#) or more information and comment submitting options.

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 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.

OSFA Team Contact Information

Name	Title	Number	E-mail
Lori Auxier	Director of Market Development	850-212-2997	Lori.Auxier@fldoe.org
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NYFF Default Prevention Team Contact Information

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And 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

News to Know Archives

- 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](#).