

November 2009 News to Know

OSFA Offers NATIONAL TRAINING FOR COUNSELORS AND MENTORS (NT4CM) WORKSHOPS

The Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) is proud to offer National Training for Counselors and Mentors (NT4CM), Funding Education Beyond High School, workshops throughout the state of Florida.

NT4CM workshops are designed for guidance counselors and mentors who assist students and their families in preparing financially for college. Participants learn how to access free workshop resources, such as fact sheets, brochures, and PowerPoint presentations.

All workshop sessions are free and include up-to-date information for students and their families regarding federal and state student financial aid programs, college early awareness/planning, the FAFSA4caster, financial literacy resources, and conducting financial aid nights.

NT4CM workshops will be offered November through February at strategic locations throughout Florida.

Visit the OSFA [Training Web site](#) for more information and registration details. Should you have questions, please e-mail [OSFA](#).

NT4CM Workshop/Webinar Schedule

November – Tallahassee, Pensacola, and Chipley

December – Fort Pierce, West Palm Beach, and Miami

January – Ocala, Tampa, and Orlando

February – Webinars (Details TBA)

If you are not able to attend one of the instructor-led workshops, November through January, you may be able to attend one of our February NT4CM Webinars. Participants may choose to attend the February Webinars, hosted by OSFA's Outreach representatives, in a group setting (at specified locations) or individually, from their homes or offices. Please note that off-site participation requires access to a personal computer and telephone. Check the [Web site](#) details.

Navigating Your Financial Future

Become a Navigating Your Financial Future (NyFF) Partner today! Contact your Outreach Representative to create your User Name and Password for access to our exclusive “Partner” log-in.

Through our “Partner” log-in:

- You can order NyFF supplies by completing our [Online Order Form](#):
 - Brochures - Financial Aid, Career Planning, Repayment of Your Student Loan, School and Life Management, Managing Your Credit, Managing Your Budget, Private Student Loan Awareness, and The National Association for Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA's) Cash for College.
 - Bookmarks - Loan Counseling (Entrance/Exit or NyFF Online Counseling)
 - Posters - Financial Aid, Career Planning, Repayment of Your Student Loan, School and Life Management, Managing Your Credit, and Managing Your Budget.
 - Student Loan Checklist - Entrance/Exit Counseling.
- You can also download a variety of NyFF workshop materials through our [Documentation Admin](#) section:
 - PowerPoint Presentations - Financial Aid, Career Planning, Repayment of Your Student Loan, School and Life Management, Managing Your Credit, Managing Your Budget, Entrance Counseling, Exit Counseling, Financial Literacy, and High School Night.
 - Presenter Guides - Financial Aid, Career Planning, Repayment of Your Student Loan, School and Life Management, Managing Your Credit, Managing Your Budget, Entrance Counseling, Exit Counseling, and Financial Literacy.
 - Brochures - Financial Aid, Career Planning, Repayment of Your Student Loan, School and Life Management, Managing Your Credit, and Managing Your Budget.
 - Workshop Flyers - Financial Aid, Career Planning, Repayment of Your Student Loan, School and Life Management, Managing Your Credit, Managing Your Budget, and Financial Literacy.
- You can download a sample Default Management Plan to review with your OSFA Outreach Representative and customize the plan to fit your institutional needs.

State Scholarship & Grant Programs

State Student Financial Aid Database Enhancements:

Student Information Financial Aid Recipient History - This new [link](#) provides participating postsecondary institutions with direct access to a student's financial aid history - a convenient feature! Select **Postsecondary Institutions** and then **Student Information Financial Aid Recipient History**.

Each state program's fact sheet, accessed from the **Programs Offered** tab of the State Program's home page (web address above), now includes direct links to the Florida Statutes and State Board of Education Rules that pertain to the selected program.

We're Moving

OSFA, presently located at 1940 North Monroe Street, will be relocating to the Turlington building at 325 West Gaines Street, between October and December. During this time period, we will continue to assist you with the same high level of service. Thank you for your patience during this transition.

Coming Soon

The *2010-11 Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA)* opens December 1, 2009. Students may apply [online](#) by selecting the link **Apply Here**.

Important Announcements

Become a Volunteer - "College Goal Sunday"

Through College Goal Sunday, we can help limited-income and first generation college students fulfill their dreams of having access to a college education by providing on-site expert assistance with completing the FAFSA. To aid in its success, College Goal Sunday needs qualified financial aid administrators to volunteer. Volunteers are also needed to staff registration tables, supervise seating, answer financial aid questions, and organize the day's events. Please [volunteer](#) to help students and their families complete the *Free Application for Student Financial Aid (FASFA)*. For additional questions regarding this event, you may contact

Braulio Colón, Assistant Director of ENLACE, at (813) 974-3897.

NCHELP Issues Survey on FFELP Services

The National Council of Higher Education Loan Program (NCHELP) conducted a recent survey, from its voting members, seeking information on their involvement in college access, financial literacy, and default preventions programs. The data yielded some impressive results. In the last year, NCHELP's voting members (90 percent reporting) provided:

- Hands-on financial literacy, college awareness, and financial aid training to more than 1.4 million students and parents.
- More than 14 million brochures and other publications on diverse early outreach and financial aid topics. Many publications were in multiple languages.
- Training for more than 26,000 school guidance counselors who then assisted thousands of students in pursuing their postsecondary goals.
- Assistance for more than 6 million students, parents, school, and lender representatives via telephone and e-mail.
- Training for 62,000 financial aid administrators (and made over 5,400 campus visits) to assist with the processing of loan funds.

In addition to strong outreach and training efforts, Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program organizations have developed customized default prevention programs to help borrowers who are having trouble repaying their student loans. Thanks to these efforts, in fiscal year 2008 more than \$60 billion in delinquent FFEL Program loans were successfully returned to repayment status.

Note: NCHELP's voting members consist of state guaranty agencies and non-profit organizations that employ nearly 600 professionals who are devoted to increasing college enrollment and graduation numbers and improving financial literacy in their states.

Florida Colleges Benefit From Nursing Scholarships

The Foundation for Florida's Community Colleges distributed \$273,882 in September for nursing and allied health scholarships. More than one million dollars have been awarded since 2006. The Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida Endowed Scholarship for Nursing and Allied Health works to increase the number and diversity of individuals

entering the nursing and health fields. The scholarships were awarded to Florida's 28 state colleges and matched with support from local communities. Scholarship recipients were selected by the community colleges where they were enrolled.

Visit [The Foundation for Florida's Community Colleges](#) or the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida Endowed Scholarship for Nursing and Allied Health for more information.

December 2009

FSA Conference

Nashville, TN

December 1-4