

# SLGFA E-Updates

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**E-UPDATES** is an electronic newsletter sponsored and operated by the Student Loan Guarantee Foundation of Arkansas (SLGFA) to provide program information to schools and lenders participating in the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP).

## IN THIS ISSUE:

### 1. SLGFA Adds BDMIS Enhancements

The Borrower Debt Management Information Service (BDMIS), which helps borrowers keep track of their student-loan indebtedness, implemented two enhancements effective October 24, 2005. SLGFA's BDMIS provides school clients the flexibility to define the time period during which they want to receive their students' indebtedness statements. To read more about BDMIS and its enhancements, click on the provided link: [http://www.slgfa.org/slgfa/pubs/updates/BDMIS\\_Enhancements1005.asp](http://www.slgfa.org/slgfa/pubs/updates/BDMIS_Enhancements1005.asp).

### 2. ED Blue Book Accessible On SLGFA Web Site

The Department of Education (ED) posted on Thursday, October 20, 2005, the *Blue Book: Accounting, Recording Keeping, and Reporting By Postsecondary Educational Institutions Participating in the Federal Student Aid Programs* on the [Information for Financial Aid Professionals \(IFAP\) Web site](#). SLGFA has compiled all the sections and chapters of the Blue Book into one easy-to-use volume and posted it on our Web site at the following link: [SLGFA: Blue Book](#).

The complete Blue Book is a PDF document and each section/chapter in the book is bookmarked for ease of selection. Click on the "Bookmarks" tab in Adobe Acrobat and then select the section or chapter. Chapter Five of the Federal Student Aid Handbook has been incorporated into the Blue Book under Appendix G. Click on Appendix G under the "Bookmarks" tab and Chapter Five can be viewed as a subsection of Appendix G. *The Blue Book* addresses the regulations and procedures schools must follow in requesting, maintaining, disbursing, and otherwise managing Title IV program funds.

### 3. College Board Reports Tell Tale Of Tuition Increases

After three years of nearly double-digit tuition hikes, students in the nation's public universities got a bit of a break this year with a lesser increase, according to the College Board's report, "[Trends in College Pricing 2005.](#)" The 2005-06 report shows that tuition costs at four-year public institutions averaged \$5,491 a year, a 7.1 percent increase over last year. To read more about what the College Board reports, click on the following link: <http://www.slgfa.org/slgfa/pubs/updates/CBRTuitionIncreases102405.asp>.

### 4. Mortarboard FYI

Does American financial aid have a history? When and where did it all begin? *Inside Higher Ed* interviewed author Rupert Wilkinson on his new book, *Aiding Students, Buying Students: Financial Aid in America*, noting that "the book is more of a history than a policy guide--taking readers through the development of student aid at public and private colleges and from private and government sources. [Project On Student Debt](#) is a new Web site dedicated to increasing public awareness about the critical role student loans play in making college possible and identifying cost effective solutions to reduce student debt. A [National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education](#) report takes measuring higher education learning to the next level. Click on the provided link to become better informed: <http://www.slgfa.org/slgfa/pubs/updates/MortarboardFYI/MFY102805.asp>.

## 5. E-Legislation

House Education and the Workforce Committee leaders introduced two bills on October 7, 2005. George Miller (D-CA) introduced **H.R. 4016, *the Gulf Coast College Revitalization Act***, which provides \$4.6 billion to help Gulf Coast colleges rebound from damages caused by recent hurricanes. Committee Chairman John Boehner (R-OH) introduced **H.R. 4018, *Setting Priorities in Spending Act of 2005***, which would eliminate 14 education programs “that have proven inefficient, duplicative or simply unnecessary.” The Secretary of Education’s Commission on the Future of Higher Education held its first meeting on Monday, October 17, 2005. An *Inside Higher Ed* article reports the complex issues the commission faces. To read more about the two introduced bills and the results from the commission’s first meeting, click on the following link: <http://www.slgfa.org/slgfa/pubs/updates/E-Legislation/E-Legislation10-28-05.asp>.

## 6. Don’t Get Caught In A Pinch In March 2006



Don’t get caught in a pinch. Be sure to mark your March 2006 calendar with these dates, Thursday and Friday, March 9 and 10, for SLGFA’s 2006 annual conference at the Hilton Hotel Little Rock Metro Center, 925 University Avenue, off of Interstate 630, in Little Rock. Watch for reservation information in the next *E-Updates* issue. Map, deserted island, compass and crab: Guessed the theme yet? Keep reading *E-Updates*. All will be revealed soon.

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