

SLGFA E-Updates

February 24, 2006

Volume 8 No. 4

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. Smartly There Ye Buccaneers! Times a Runnin' Out for Conference Registration

Don't get caught swabbin' decks, matey! The SLGFA 2006 Annual Conference is almost a fortnight (two weeks) away. Come *Get "Hooked" on SLGFA*, on Thursday and Friday, March 9-10, 2006, at the Hilton Hotel Little Rock Metro Center in Little Rock, Arkansas. **Come board the SLGFA jollyboat looking like a pirate. All are welcome to attend the conference and the evening event dressed like pirates or wearing pirate paraphernalia.** Point your compass towards SLGFA's Web site to read the [tentative agenda](#) and see what great financial aid sessions and speakers have been scheduled for the conference. Great grub and lots of grog are promised for the evening event. [REGISTER NOW!](#) For more information about the conference, click on the following link: <http://www.slgfa.org/slgfa/conference/2006/index.asp>.

2. TV Financial Aid Awareness Programs a Hit

Financial aid awareness took to the airwaves on February 7 and 13, 2006, and the two programs were a hit. Arkansas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (AASFAA) members sponsored the financial aid awareness programs. To read more about the success for these two televised financial aid awareness programs, click on the provided link:

<http://www.slgfa.org/slgfa/pubs/updates/TVFAProgams2006.asp>.

3. ED Releases RT4 Waiver Requirements for Hurricane Affected Schools

The Department of Education (ED) Secretary released *Electronic Announcement #9* and *Electronic Announcement #12* on Thursday, February 23, 2006. Each announcement addresses the waiver requirement for Return of Title IV funds for hurricane-affected institutions. ED determined that hurricane-impacted institutions that are in possession of Title IV funds that were awarded to students enrolled for an academic period that was disrupted will, generally, not be required to return those funds for students who withdrew or who never began attendance. For the purposes of this relief, a hurricane-impacted institution is an institution with a main campus that ceased on-campus operations for more than thirty days as a result of Hurricane Katrina or Rita, as determined by the ED Secretary. ED has identified the hurricane-impacted institutions that are covered by this waiver and will be working with each of them to implement the necessary procedures to implement this waiver. Click on the following link for more information about *Electronic Announcement #9* and *Electronic Announcement #12*: [SLGFA Hurricanes Katrina and Rita Resource Page](#).

4. ED Reverses NSLDS "Unallocated" Amounts Requirement

A February 9, 2006, NSLDS newsletter reported the Department of Education (ED) reversed a previous policy that required financial aid administrators (FAAs) to determine if "unallocated" amounts reported on a student's financial aid history on NSLDS affect a student's eligibility for subsequent Stafford loans. For more information about the "unallocated" amounts requirement reversal, click on the following link:

http://www.slgfa.org/slgfa/pubs/updates/NSLDS_UnallocatedAmounts022406.asp.

5. Mortarboard FYI: ADHE Launches Scholarship Web site

The Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) has implemented a public relations campaign blitz for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship program. The new statewide public information campaign is designed to educate students and their families about the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship. A web site has been developed specifically for the state scholarship program. To read more about the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship, click on the provided link:

<http://www.slgfa.org/slgfa/pubs/updates/MortarboardFYI/MFY022406.asp>.

6. E-Legislation: McKeon elected Education and Workforce Committee Chair

After a vote by the Republican Members of the House, based on a recommendation from the House GOP Steering Committee, Representative Howard "Buck" McKeon (R-CA) was named chairman of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce on Wednesday, February 15, 2006. To read the complete story, click on the following link: <http://www.slgfa.org/slgfa/pubs/updates/E-Legislation/E-Legislation02-24-06.asp>.

Disclaimers: <http://www.slgfa.org/slgfa/e-updates/f-print.asp>.

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