

# 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 Board Impressions

For Mark Ryan, financial aid was initially a resource to fund college, but his association with financial aid did not stop there. Little did he know that years later he would be called upon to serve within the financial aid industry. Today, he serves as president on SLGFA's Board of Directors. Ryan is the executive vice president-loan manager for Arvest Bank. To read more about his financial aid involvement, click on the provided link: <http://www.slqfa.org/slqfa/pubs/updates/BoardImpressions/MarkRyan.asp>

### 2. Stafford MPN Stays In Use After Expiration

The current Stafford Master Promissory Note (MPN) is due to expire on September 30, 2005. No official announcement has been received from the U.S. Department of Education as to the development of a new form. Schools and lenders should continue to use the current form until further notice. This is consistent with guidance received concerning previously expired forms. Schools or lenders with questions concerning the expiration date of the Stafford MPN may contact Becky Collins at 501-688-7638 or [bcollins@slfga.org](mailto:bcollins@slfga.org).

### 3. Upcoming Disaster Drills

During 2005, SLGFA conducted several disaster drills to strengthen and enhance its disaster recovery and business continuity planning. The third and final drill for 2005 will be conducted on October 13, 2005. To read further about SLGFA's disaster drill planning, click on following link: <http://www.slqfa.org/slqfa/pubs/updates/DisasterDrills101305.asp>

### 4. DCL Letters: Letters for Child Care Provider Loan Forgiveness Forms, Loan Discharge Forms and Extended FFELP Loan Consolidation Guidance

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) released three Dear Colleague Letters (DCL) in September 2005. DCL GEN-05-11/FP-05-07 approved the availability of the revised Child Care Provider Loan Forgiveness Application for Renewal Benefits and the Child Care Provider Loan Forgiveness Forbearance forms and provides guidance for both forms. DCL GEN-05-12 approves revised School Closure, False Certification of Ability to Benefit, False Certification (Disqualifying Status) and Unauthorized Signature/Unauthorized Payment loan discharge applications. DCL FP-05-09 extends guidance for Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) Loan Consolidation. To read more about these letters, click on the provided link: [http://www.slqfa.org/slqfa/pubs/letters/dear\\_colleague/GEN0511-GEN0512-FP0509.asp](http://www.slqfa.org/slqfa/pubs/letters/dear_colleague/GEN0511-GEN0512-FP0509.asp).

### 5. SLGFA Focus Group Meetings Continue

SLGFA held its fifth Focus Group meeting on September 8, 2005, for lender/servicer members. The next Focus Group meeting is scheduled for November 29, 2005, and is for both school and lender/servicer members. Minutes from the meetings are available on the SLGFA website and can be accessed by clicking on the following links: [Lenders/Servicers](#) or [Schools](#).

### 6. E-Legislation

President Bush signed two higher education Hurricane Katrina relief bills. The House of Representatives passed the Higher Education Act (HEA) extension bill and the *Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students (HEROES) Act* extension bill. Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee leaders introduced on Thursday, September 15, 2005, the *Hurricane Katrina Education Relief Act*, S. 1715, as part of a broad legislative package to aid Hurricane Katrina recovery. To read more about signed and introduced legislation, click on the provided link: <http://www.slqfa.org/slqfa/pubs/updates/E-Legislation/E-Legislation09-30-05.asp>

**7. ED Secretary Spellings Unveils Postsecondary Education Commission**

A 20-member commission to develop a “comprehensive strategy for postsecondary education” to meet the needs of the diverse U.S. population and the country’s future economic and workforce needs was announced Monday, September 19, 2005, by U.S. Department of Education Secretary Margaret Spellings during a speech at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Click on the provided link for a brief summary about this newly formed commission: <http://www.slgfa.org/slgfa/pubs/updates/E-Legislation/PostEdCommission093005.asp>

**8. Mortarboard FYI: Arkansas Colleges Offer Free Online Education For Hurricane Katrina Students**

Sixteen Arkansas higher education institutions and the Sloan Consortium, an international association of colleges and universities committed to quality online education, are offering students displaced by Hurricane Katrina an opportunity to continue their education online at no cost. Click on the following link for more information about the Sloan Semester program:

<http://www.slgfa.org/slgfa/pubs/updates/MortarboardFYI/MFY093005.asp>



**9.** What does a gorgeous, tropical sandy beach have to do with the 2006 SLGFA Conference? It’s just another clue to save Thursday and Friday, March 9-10, on the calendar.

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