

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. Don't Miss Out On This SLGFA Conference Treasure

Ahoy Mates! A great treasure awaits those who register for the SLGFA 2006 Conference on Thursday and Friday, March 9-10, 2006. The 2006 conference will be a treasured event for those who will be attending. There is still time to register online for the conference and to make online hotel reservations. Come join the adventure! Click on the following link for more information about the conference:

<http://www.slgfa.org/slgfa/conference/2006/index.asp>.

2. Two New ED Hurricane Announcements Address Spring 2005 Eligibility

The Department of Education (ED) released Hurricane Katrina *Electronic Announcement #10* and Hurricane Rita *Electronic Announcement #7* on Thursday, December 1, 2005. The announcements address two issues related to the continued eligibility of students impacted by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to receive federal student aid for the remainder of the 2005-2006 academic year. The first issue relates to the eligibility of a student who, because of the hurricanes, transferred to another institution, but was not admitted as a regular student. The second addresses the issue of annual and aggregate federal grant and loan limits for those students who were displaced by the hurricanes. Attached below each announcement is a PDF document listing affected Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas institutions and contact information. Links for each announcement are located on [SLGFA's Hurricanes Katrina and Rita Resource web page](#).

3. ED Updates Sources of Assistance for Schools

The Department of Education (ED) announced it has posted the November 2005 version of the "Sources of Assistance for Schools," a comprehensive, single-source listing of Federal Student Aid (FSA) contact references. The listing includes phone numbers, e-mail addresses, Web site addresses, and other contact information. For more information and to download the listing, click on the provided link:

<http://ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/1125SourceofAssistanceNov05.html>.

4. E-Legislation

When Congress reconvenes in December, a conference on the House and Senate versions of the spending reconciliation bill will be on the agenda. The House reconciliation bill cuts spending on student loans by \$14.3 billion while the Senate bill cuts \$8.8 billion from student loan programs. The House Budget Committee Democratic staff prepared an analysis of key differences and similarities between the two bills from the Democrats' perspective. A provided PDF document outlines the comparisons between the House and Senate bills. To read more about federal legislative student loan cuts, click on the following link:

<http://www.slgfa.org/slgfa/pubs/updates/E-Legislation/E-Legislation12-09-05.asp>.

5. Mortarboard FYI

The American Council on Education (ACE) launched a new Web site that will help adults obtain academic credit for formal courses taken outside college and university degree programs. Here in the United States, lenders and guarantee agencies work with borrowers to settle defaulted student loans, but in Great Britain, defaulted student loan borrowers get blacklisted. Click on the provided link to read more about ACE's CREDIT Web site and to read an article by the British Times Online about graduates who default on student loans being blacklisted: <http://www.slgfa.org/slgfa/pubs/updates/MortarboardFYI/MFY120905.asp>.

6. SLGFA Christmas and New Year's Holiday Schedule

SLGFA offices will be closed on Friday, December 23 and Monday, December 26, 2005, in observance of the Christmas holiday, and on Monday, January 2, 2006 for the New Year's holiday. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, January 3, 2006. Look for the next *E-Updates* edition on Friday, January 13, 2006. SLGFA wishes all a safe and happy holidays.



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