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## FEDERAL UPDATES

### Revised AmeriCorps Regulations Issued

The Corporation for National and Community Service issued final rules concerning AmeriCorps grant regulations on July 9, 2002.

Some of the changes include:

- Expanding the use of the education award to allow AmeriCorps members to use their education award to pay current educational expenses,
- Aligning the definition of an institution of higher education with the definition used in the Higher Education Act of 1965, and
- Adding definitions for educational expenses and period of enrollment.

The amendments are effective August 8, 2002.

#### More Information

The *Federal Register* containing the final rules is available at [www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs/aces/aces140.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/aces140.html) (use search term “AmeriCorps”).

## TG UPDATES

### **An Opportunity to Lead: TG Seeks Candidates for LSA**

It's time once again for the financial aid community in Texas to submit candidates to serve on TG's Lender and School Advisory (LSA) committees. LSA committee members provide direction and input to help TG and its industry partners continue to meet the needs of the students and families of Texas.

On September 30, 2002, six positions will become available on each committee. TG is actively seeking suggestions for candidates to fill these open positions.

#### **Identifying Possible Candidates**

Each year, the LSA committees include diverse community representatives, including representatives from various types and sizes of institutions and from various regions of the state. When suggesting a candidate, please consider the following:

- A committee member should be a director, associate director, assistant director, or other qualified individual who works in a responsible position related to loan processing.
- A representative serves on the committee for as long as he or she represents the appropriate institution of his or her committee (lender or school) or until his or her two-year term expires.
- LSA meetings are normally scheduled once per quarter.

Once TG receives suggestions from the community, Milt Wright, TG's President and CEO, will develop a list of recommendations for approval by TG's Board of Directors in September 2002.

#### **How to Suggest Candidates**

Please forward your candidate suggestions to either Kim Alexander, Vice President of Customer Focus, at [kim.alexander@tgscl.org](mailto:kim.alexander@tgscl.org) or Vickie Tanner, Assistant Vice President of Customer Services, at [vickie.tanner@tgscl.org](mailto:vickie.tanner@tgscl.org). TG will accept suggestions for candidates through Thursday, August 15, 2002.

#### **Questions**

If you would like additional information about the LSA committees, visit [www.tgscl.org](http://www.tgscl.org) and select "For Schools" and "Lender/School Advisory Committees" or contact Sheila Casey at (800) 252-9743, ext. 4576 or at [sheila.casey@tgscl.org](mailto:sheila.casey@tgscl.org).

### **Issue-Focused Publication Makes a Splash**

Do these sound familiar?

- When you take a deposit to your personal bank, you automatically write their lender code on the deposit slip.
- When someone says "packaging," you think numbers, not gift wrap.
- When you make phone calls from home, you dial 9 to get an outside line.

These are just three of the "10 ways you know you've been working too hard," a list of items included as a sidebar in a recent issue of *TG Connection*. The article accompanying the list was titled "De-stress for success," built around ideas to help you schedule time to organize, focus on the mind/body connection, and avoid the fast-food lifestyle.

The publication's design has recently been updated and the content in each issue focuses on timely topics. The most recent issue, entitled *Splashy Strategies: 10 things you can do this summer to prepare for fall and beyond*, was recently mailed to subscribers; the upcoming issue will focus on distance education and related topics.

To receive copies of this free publication and to make certain that you and/or your colleagues are on the subscriber list for future issues, contact TG Communications at (800) 252-9743, ext. 2878, or send an e-mail message to [communications@tgslc.org](mailto:communications@tgslc.org).

## TRENDS AND ISSUES

### Federal Government Launches Bilingual Educational Web Site

The White House recently announced the availability of a new bilingual web site geared toward Hispanic families to assist them in informing and preparing their children for postsecondary education. The site is available in English and Spanish under different addresses:

- [www.YesICan.gov](http://www.YesICan.gov) (English)
- [www.YoSiPuedo.gov](http://www.YoSiPuedo.gov) (Spanish)

The site offers information that parents should know at each stage of education so that they can encourage their children to progress to, and through, college. These stages include:

- Early childhood
- Elementary
- Secondary
- Postsecondary

The site also provides a "Kid's Zone" section where kids can meet Pablo the Eagle, a database of publications that parents can order to assist their children with schoolwork, and a link to the "No Child Left Behind" web site.

### TG's Bilingual Web Resource

In 1995, TG developed its nationally-recognized public service web site, entitled *Adventures In Education* (AIE), located at [www.AdventuresInEducation.org](http://www.AdventuresInEducation.org). AIE offers information about educational planning, financial aid, and career preparation for middle school, high school, and college students and their families. It also provides resources for high school counselors. In 2000, TG converted AIE into Spanish to make it available to a broader population. Users can simply select "En Español" to view the site in Spanish.

### More Information

For more information on the history behind the development of the new web site from the federal government, which was created by the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans, access the White House press release announcing the site at [www.ed.gov/PressReleases/07-2002/07152002.html](http://www.ed.gov/PressReleases/07-2002/07152002.html).

For more information about TG's *Adventures In Education*, contact Michelle Enriquez at (800) 252-9743, ext. 4588, or send an e-mail message to [michelle.enriquez@tgslc.org](mailto:michelle.enriquez@tgslc.org).

# TG SOLUTIONS AND TOOLS

## TG Offers Free Default Aversion Assistance Tool to Schools

As we approach National Default Prevention Day on August 1, we're reminded how important it is to share information as we work together to battle default. To facilitate information sharing, TG invites schools to subscribe to a free default aversion tool that notifies schools or their agents when lenders or servicers file a default aversion assistance request (DAAR) for a current or former student.

### Formats and Useful Options

The report is available in two versions. In paper format, the tool is called the Notice of Default Prevention Activity report. In electronic format, it is called the Electronic School Report (ESR).

Schools can choose to have the report sent to them in either format automatically each week. They can then use the report to enhance their ability to carry out their default management programs by supporting borrowers as they manage their debt, recover from loan delinquency, and avoid the consequences of default.

The ESR is distributed through TG's Report Request/Distribution System (RRD) or through the Specialized Report function of AdvanTG Web™. The ESR not only provides information, it also allows easy management of the data. For example, schools can use the information to generate and customize letters to borrowers.

### Report Content

The free report shares data derived directly from DAAR updates that TG receives from lenders and servicers. From their reports, the schools find out about borrowers who are at least 60 days delinquent and receive subsequent notification if the borrower remains delinquent at day 159 and again at day 210.

In addition to identifying delinquent borrowers, the report identifies borrowers in three categories:

- Those who cannot be located;
- Those who have had their delinquencies cured by deferment, forbearance, or payment; and
- Those who are in a claim-pending status with TG.

### Questions

To begin taking advantage of the information available through this free tool, either in paper or electronic format, contact your TG Customer Services Consultant or your National Account Representative at (800) 252-9743 or at [customer.services@tgslc.org](mailto:customer.services@tgslc.org). For technical assistance with RRD, contact TG Product Support at (800) 332-1455 or by e-mail at [product.support@tgslc.org](mailto:product.support@tgslc.org).

For questions about default management training, contact Joe Braxton at (800) 252-9743, ext. 4696, or Clarissa Baize at ext. 4765. You can also contact Joe and Clarissa by fax at (512) 219-4630 or by e-mail at [joe.braxton@tgslc.org](mailto:joe.braxton@tgslc.org) and [clarissa.baize@tgslc.org](mailto:clarissa.baize@tgslc.org).

For information about TG's participation in National Default Prevention Day, see the article titled "TG to Participate in National Default Prevention Day" in *Shoptalk Online* Edition 160 at [www.tgslc.org/tgslc/shoptalk/2002/st160/st16001.htm#dpvrday](http://www.tgslc.org/tgslc/shoptalk/2002/st160/st16001.htm#dpvrday).

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### July 17 *Legislative Report*

The July 17 *Legislative Report* includes an alert about action in the House of Representatives on HR 4866, Fed Up legislation, an update from the Congressional Budget Office on the FY 2002 budget deficit, information on the projected cost for the new Office of Homeland Security, and a recent development relating to the supplemental appropriations bill. Read all the articles online at [www.tgslc.org/tgslc/publications/lege\\_report/2002/lr\\_020717.htm](http://www.tgslc.org/tgslc/publications/lege_report/2002/lr_020717.htm).

## THIS, THAT, AND THE OTHER

It is common knowledge that the Higher Education Act (HEA) was signed into law in 1965. But what many people may not know is that President Lyndon Baines Johnson (LBJ) actually signed the HEA on the campus of Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos.

Why did LBJ choose this site for this historic event? Because Southwest Texas State University was LBJ's alma mater. He graduated from the school in 1930, when it was known as the Southwest Texas State Teachers College. The desk upon which LBJ signed the HEA is still displayed at the school's Alumni House, which also happens to be the house where LBJ lived while he was a student.

For more information, visit the Southwest Texas State University home page at [www.dos.swt.edu/swtexas/swtrivia.html](http://www.dos.swt.edu/swtexas/swtrivia.html) and [www.dos.swt.edu/swtexas/alumni.html](http://www.dos.swt.edu/swtexas/alumni.html).

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To ask questions about the articles in *Shoptalk Online*, subscribe or order additional copies, please contact Communications at (800) 252-9743, ext. 2878 or [communications@tgslc.org](mailto:communications@tgslc.org).

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