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TG updates

TG Conference coming soon, overflow rooms still available

“FFELP: Live in Concert!” is less than a month away—have you registered and arranged your travel for the 2003 TG Conference yet? Conference registration is free for school financial aid professionals this year, and rooms are filling up fast. But we still have room for you!

The conference, which will be held in Austin April 23-25, 2003, offers you an opportunity to gain expertise, trade ideas and stories with old and new friends, and be recognized for your accomplishments. At the end of each day, you can check out some of the sights and sounds in the Live Music Capital of the World.

Due to enthusiastic response, our conference hotel, the Austin Marriott at the Capitol, sold out last week. Details on overflow accommodations are now available on our conference page at <http://www.tgslc.org/tgconference/index.cfm>. Look to this page for comprehensive information on what is shaping up to be one of TG’s most popular conferences ever.

JobGusher® ready to help your students find summer work

The clock is ticking but students seeking summer employment still have an opportunity to find a job. Although there are available positions, sometimes students need help knowing where to go to find them. JobGusher.com™ has come to their rescue!

JobGusher.com (www.JobGusher.com) will be hosting an Online Summer Job Fair, March 31 through April 13, 2003. The job fair will bring together employers and students seeking full-time, part-time, and internship opportunities.

During the Online Summer Job Fair, job seekers can decide which positions to apply for on the spot and then apply electronically through the site. For employers, participation in the job fair improves exposure and access to job seekers without the high costs usually associated with traditional job fairs.

How to participate

Students can take simple steps to prepare for the online job fair. These steps will make their participation more productive.

Ask your students to take time before the event to do the following:

- **Plan Ahead.** Job seekers should think about where they would like to work and what compensation range will meet their needs.
- **Prepare Documents.** Job seekers should have their resumes complete. Making sure their resume reflects the type of position they're seeking is important.

There is no cost for job seekers to participate in the Online Job Fair. To join in, they simply need to visit www.JobGusher.com between March 31 and April 13, 2003.

Employers wishing to participate must be registered JobGusher employers. For more information on exhibiting, contact sales@jobgusher.com.

More information

For more information on JobGusher, visit www.JobGusher.com or contact JobGusher at 1-866-JOB-GUSH (562-4874). JobGusher is a service of Education Assistance Services, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of TG.

Trends and issues

MYF chat for borrowers to discuss strategies for managing debt

Borrowers may need assistance with managing their debt if they become unemployed, return to school, overuse their credit cards, or are experiencing economic hardship.

Mapping Your Future (MYF), a public service Web site providing college, career, and financial aid information and services, will offer a chat on debt management strategies on Tuesday, April 8, 2003. MYF, located at www.mapping-your-future.org, has designed the chat to help anyone who is interested in managing their debt through tough economic times.

This live event, scheduled for 2 to 3 p.m. CDT, provides a unique opportunity to receive information and advice about debt management. Personal finance and financial aid experts from all over the country will answer questions during the chat event, which is one in a series of chats offered by *Mapping Your Future*.

Chat topics

During this chat event on debt management strategies, participants will learn more about:

- Managing personal finance
- Reducing debt levels
- Seeking assistance from creditors
- Obtaining credit reports
- Determining the best options for debt reduction
- Applying for financial aid to attend school or college
- Finding other resources of information

How to Join

Anyone with Internet access can join in the chat event by visiting www.mapping-your-future.org. On the evening of the chat, visitors will go to www.mapping-your-future.org and select the chat session. Simple instructions will show them how to join the chat.

Legislative updates

The March 19, 2003, issue of the *Legislative Report* provides an update on FY 2004 Budget Resolutions recently adopted by Budget Committees in the U.S. House and Senate. The report also summarizes bills filed for consideration by the 78th Texas Legislature that concern financial aid, tuition, and fees. Read the full report at www.tgslc.org/lege_report/index.cfm.

This, that, and the other...

The April 15 federal income tax deadline is rapidly approaching, and last-minute filers everywhere are scrambling to complete their returns. Those who paid on student loans or who paid tuition and fees to colleges during 2002 may be entitled to some tax benefits. To assist these borrowers and parents, TG has posted an overview of three popular tax benefits for higher education expenses: the student loan interest deduction, the new tuition and fees deduction, and the Hope and Lifetime Learning tax credits. The overview is available on *TG Online* at www.tgslc.org/resources/tax.cfm.



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