

In this issue:

TG updates	1
Reminder: Register for <i>FAFSA Made Easy</i> videoconference	1
Search <i>Shoptalk Online</i> for previous issues, specific topics.....	2
Federal updates	3
Closed school corner	3
Legislative update	3
This, that, and the other	4

Tip^{of} the Week

Join TG for a day of free training. Preview the agenda, find the city nearest you, and register today in [Texas](#) or [nationally](#).

TG updates

Reminder: Register for *FAFSA Made Easy* videoconference

Don't forget to register your school as a host site for TG's free videoconference *The FAFSA Made Easy* on Thursday, February 3, 2005 from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. CST. This will be the 10th annual broadcast of the videoconference that provides parents and students with instructions and tips for completing the FAFSA accurately and in a timely manner.

While the FAFSA is the single most important document needed for families and students to receive federal student financial aid and other types of aid, recent statistics from the American Council on Education show that 50 percent of all undergraduate students in the 1999-2000 school year did not fill one out. *The FAFSA Made Easy* helps financial aid applicants by alleviating the mystery and anxiety of applying for financial aid.

Hosting the videoconference will provide your school with the opportunity to help your students and their families complete this important document.

To host the broadcast, all you need to provide is a room with a television, and a VCR or satellite reception.

TG also produces a companion FAFSA show in Spanish. TG will distribute the Spanish version of the program, *La FAFSA Simplificada*, to coincide with the broadcast of the English program.

In addition, TG will provide your institution with financial aid awareness materials, including posters, flyers, fact sheets, and a checklist of items needed to complete the FAFSA.

As a bonus, TG is giving away several \$500 scholarships to high school seniors who view the program at host sites. The returned student evaluation forms included in the financial aid awareness materials will serve as the scholarship entry forms.

To register as a host site, please complete the registration form available at <http://www.adventuresineducation.org/Events/Videoconference2005/>. For more information, please contact Richard Sapp at (800) 252-9743, ext. 2865 or by e-mail at richard.sapp@tgslc.org.

Search *Shoptalk Online* for previous issues, specific topics

As a subscriber, you know that *Shoptalk Online* provides useful and timely information each week about what's happening in the financial aid industry. Did you also know that you can access previous issues of *Shoptalk Online* and perform quick searches to retrieve the information you need when you need it?

Previous issues

Previous issues of *Shoptalk Online* are available on the *Shoptalk Online* main page at www.tgslc.org/shoptalk/index.cfm. Just click on the issue you want to access and it pops up in its entirety. These archives go back to July 1998.

Topical searches

The *Shoptalk Online* main page also offers a search feature. To use it, simply type a word or phrase in the text box at the top of the page and click "Search" or press "Enter." (Note: this feature is case-sensitive.) To narrow your search, you can designate the years within which you would like to search. Since most topics covered in *Shoptalk Online* are time-sensitive, the years 2005, 2004, and 2003 are automatically selected to accommodate the needs of most users. However, if you don't want to include all of those years, you can "turn off" a year by clicking in its corresponding check box.

The searches you perform will yield a list of articles. The list is in reverse chronological order to give you the most recent information first. Each item in the list begins with a link to the corresponding *Shoptalk Online* issue. The link is followed by a couple of lines of text from the article to help you determine whether you've found one that meets your needs. If the word or phrase you used in your search occurs exactly as it was entered in the text box in these couple of lines of text, it will be shown in bold type to make scanning easier.

Questions and comments

For questions and comments about the search feature, send an e-mail message to webmaster@tgscl.org.

Federal updates

Closed school corner

Following is a list of newly reported school closures and error corrections from the Postsecondary Educational Participants System (PEPS) and from the December 2004 Closed School Monthly Report supplied by the Department of Education:

Newly reported closures

OPE School ID	School Name and Address	Unofficial Closure Date	ED's Official Closure Date
02336900	Alpha Beauty School 10 Liberty Ln. Greenville, SC 29607-2314	N/A	6/30/1999
02336903	Alpha Beauty School 2619 S. Main St Anderson, SC 29624-3241	N/A	6/30/1999
02336904	Alpha Beauty School Innsbruck Mall Asheville, NC 28805-1200	N/A	6/30/1999
00967400	Moler Beauty College 2940 Canal St. New Orleans, LA 70119-6304	N/A	12/2/2004
02191801	Moler Beauty College 3968 Old Gentilly Rd. New Orleans, LA 70126-4919	N/A	12/2/2004
02348300	Piedmont College of Hair Design 491 Union St. Spartanburg, SC 29304-6050	N/A	10/30/2000

Legislative update

The January 11, 2005 issue of TG's *Legislative Report* includes updates on the Bush administration's FY 2006 budget submission for discretionary spending and entitlement programs, bills proposed so far in the 79th Texas Legislature regarding student financial aid, and an outline of Texas Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst's priorities

for the 79th legislative session. Keep up with the latest developments by reading the full report on *TG Online* at www.tgslc.org/lege_report/index.cfm.

This, that, and the other

Want to help the families and students you serve avoid scholarship scams? A list of red flags is provided in this week's edition of *AIEmail*, an e-newsletter from TG that offers hints and tips geared to students and their parents.

Some of the warning signs explained include free seminars, ego stroking, pay-to-play provisions, notification by phone, time pressure, lack of phone number, Better Business Bureau or federal agency endorsement claims, and requests for sensitive personal financial information.

Access this week's *AIEmail* online at www.AIE.org/aiemail/issues/20050117.html. If you think this kind of information would be helpful to those you serve, spread the word that families and students can subscribe online at www.AIE.org/aiemail/subscribe.cfm.



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To ask questions about *Shoptalk Online*, please contact Communications at (800) 252-9743, ext. 4732 or communications@tgslc.org.

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