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Smart Solutions

For high school students, summer isn’t necessarily a study break, more an opportunity to broaden knowledge and skills useful in college. TG’s *Adventures In Education* offers college-bound high school students [a list of summer activities](#) that can help prepare them for a higher education. Offer the list in your outreach activities with area high schools and community groups.

TG Report

Juggling times, dates, and projects? TG’s 2010-11 *Academic Planner* can help

The deadlines that serve as signposts in our weekly and daily routines sometimes come too fast to track, especially during peak season. Maintaining a “digital schedule” is one way of staying one step ahead — there are plenty of online applications and smart phone gizmos that alert you as appointments pop up. But sometimes the old-fashioned solution is the best — say, a ring-bound, paper

planner elegantly decorated, providing a hardcopy memory of your annual activities and a flexible tool for organizing your work schedule by day, week, or month.

TG's planner for the coming academic year is actually two planners in one, divided into monthly and weekly sections, with ample room in both areas to record important dates. Even better, the weekly planner section offers 60 pages of weeks that are not date-specific, so that you can inscribe them with the month and date you wish.

The planner also comes with note pages for jotting down information on meetings or events, and an address book for maintaining the addresses and phone numbers of business associates. Each page of the monthly section features an inspirational quote from significant figures such as Michelangelo, Victor Hugo, and Franklin Roosevelt.



To order the TG *Academic Planner*

You can order the *Academic Planner* for your financial aid office by contacting TG's communications team at communications@tgscl.org. Quantities are limited to one per request.

***Adventures In Education* offers tips on recovering from a bad interview**

You've probably witnessed or heard about an interview meltdown, those moments when an interviewee caves in to the stress of the situation and acts less than professionally — having no response when asked a fairly obvious question about work history or qualifications, for example. Mistakes like these aren't irreparable and sometimes can be fixed by an adroit follow-up in the form of a thank-you note with answers included.

TG's *Adventures In Education* (AIE™) offers some examples of interviews gone awry and a few simple ways to correct matters. Arriving late? Call en route, explain why, and offer to reschedule the appointment. Forgot to get a business card from the interviewer? Avoid the embarrassment of acknowledging your mistake to the individual — call human resources and ask for the information. The key in each situation is to turn the mistake into an opportunity for showing both diplomacy and smarts.

Offer these tips to graduating students or alumni on the hunt for a job.

To learn more

Visit AIE to read the complete article on [making the best of a bad interview](#).

TG adjusts hours of operation for customer assistance team

Effective August 16, 2010, the hours of operation for TG's customer assistance call center will change. New hours of operation will be 8 a.m.–6 p.m. Central Time, Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Central Time on Friday.

The customer assistance team answers queries by phone, e-mail, and fax from current and prospective students, borrowers, schools, parents, and the general public on many aspects of the financial aid and college admissions processes. The team remains committed to providing superior service to all its customers, including prompt responses, comprehensive information, and guidance on all areas of student financial aid.

Questions

Contact TG's customer assistance at (800) 845-6267, or send an e-mail message to cust.assist@tgslc.org.

Industry Update

Legislative Report

The Senate FY 2011 appropriations bill is ready for consideration by the full Senate. In education-related funding, the bill includes \$14.9 billion for Title I grants; \$19.5 billion for student financial assistance (including \$17.6 billion for the Federal Pell Grant Program); \$64 million for the LEAP Program; \$300 million for the Early Learning Challenge Fund; \$675 million for Race to the Top; and \$11.9 billion for education for students with disabilities. While maintaining the maximum annual Pell grant of \$5,550 for 2010-2011, the Senate bill does not address the projected \$5.7 billion shortfall for funding the Federal Pell Grant Program.

The House bill includes \$16.3 billion for Title I grants; \$24.9 billion for student financial assistance (including \$23.2 billion for the Pell Grant Program); \$800 million for Race to the Top; \$13 billion for education for students with disabilities; \$400 million for the Investing in Innovation Fund; and \$1.2 billion for community learning centers. The House bill includes funding to address the Pell grant shortfall, as well as funding to keep the scheduled annual maximum grant.

Both bills propose to zero-out appropriations for the Federal Perkins Loan Program and fund the other Title IV programs at the current year's levels. Learn more about the [latest legislative developments online](#).

Policy Resources

Latest IFAP postings

For the convenience of the entire financial aid community, ED assembles Title IV federal student aid guidance, resources, and information on its [Information for Financial Aid Professionals](#) (IFAP) website. Recent postings, listed by topic, include the following, presented alphabetically by category.

Common origination and disbursement

- [2010-07-30](#) — COD processing update

EDEXpress Training

- [2010-07-27](#) — EDEXpress Online Training - Release of Second EDEXpress Online Training for 2010-2011 Module

FAA Access to CPS Online and SAIG Enrollment Website

- [2010-07-30](#) — Service Outage Planned for August 6th through 8th

Federal Register

- [2010-07-27](#) — Promoting Post baccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans (PPOHA) Program - Final Requirements
- [2010-07-27](#) — Promoting Post baccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans (PPOHA) Program - Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year 2010

Federal School Code List

- [2010-08-02](#) — 2010-2011 Federal School Code List of Participating Schools

Federal Student Aid Conference

- [2010-07-29](#) — Conference Information

Federal Student Aid Training

- [2010-08-02](#) — Fundamentals of Title IV administration

Federal Student Aid Information Technology Services

- [2010-08-02](#) — Beta Test Volunteers Needed for New TDClient Versions to Include Linux

Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants

- [2010-07-30](#) — Interim Funding Process and Preliminary Processing Information for 2010-2011 Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants

Teacher Cancellation Low-Income Directory

- [2010-07-26](#) — Information about Teacher Cancellation Low-Income Directory Updates

For more information

For questions about these notices, contact TG customer assistance at (800) 845-6267, or send an e-mail message to cust.assist@tgslc.org.

Ask the Policy Expert

Q.: Is a College Access Loan (CAL Loan), which is available for Texas residents, considered a private education loan for the purpose of a preferred lender arrangement?

A.: Yes, a CAL Loan for Texas residents is considered a private education loan for the purpose of a preferred lender arrangement because the terms and conditions of the loan do not include a loan forgiveness option for public service. See 34 CFR 601.2, definition of a preferred lender arrangement. For state loan programs outside of the state of Texas, schools will need to consider these regulatory definitions when determining whether its state loan(s) would be considered a private education loan for the purpose of a preferred lender arrangement.

Do you have a question?

Feel free to *Ask TG™*. *Ask TG*, TG's online query tool for borrowers, schools, and lenders, offers a database of frequently asked questions about financial aid, student loan processing, and TG's products and services. To submit a question, visit tgslc.custhelp.com.

News Briefs

Fall 2010 peak season promises to be one of the busiest in recent memory. Enrollment is up, especially at 2-year schools. At the same time, the recent recession has put a squeeze on the budgets of many colleges. [The Chronicle of Higher Education offers some advice](#): keep a workout schedule as well as a work schedule. The reasons may be obvious but worth reviewing. Exercise relieves the body of stress hormones, which can have nasty effects on the arteries and contribute to premature aging. Working out clears the mind and strengthens the immune system. Also, some research suggests that hitting the gym actually improves memory and overall brain functioning. The *Chronicle* includes tips on keeping your workout fun as well as effective. Note that to view some articles in the *Chronicle* requires a subscription.



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To ask questions about *Shoptalk*, please contact Communications at (800) 252-9743, ext. 4732, or send an e-mail message to communications@tgslc.org.

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