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Smart Solutions

With the fall semester about to start, offer your new and continuing students a refresher on the basics of managing money with the help of TG’s *Adventures In Education* (AIE™). AIE’s “[Managing Your Money](#)” page provides calculator tools for estimating college costs, interactive pages on the principles of credit, budgeting information, and much more.

TG Report

TG to host Student Success Videoconference Symposia for 4-year private, independent colleges and universities

According to a College Board report, the U.S. significantly lags other industrialized nations in terms of college graduation rates. *The College Completion Agenda 2010 Progress Report* states that the U.S. ranks 12th internationally in the proportion of adults ages 25-34 with postsecondary credentials. President Obama cited the

statistic in an address on higher education he made yesterday at the University of Texas at Austin, warning that the lag could hinder future U.S. economic growth.

College completion rates have long been a focus of research and resources among higher education institutions. Many such colleges, including 4-year private schools, promote the importance of persistence through on-campus programs and services. TG spotlights several of these programs with upcoming symposia offered free as videoconferences.

The “2010 TG Student Success Videoconference Symposia for 4-Year Private, Independent Colleges and Universities” will examine case studies of two institutions which have developed retention services for their students.

The first symposium, offered Thursday, August 26, from 1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m. Central Time, features Mike Scott, director of scholarships and student financial aid at Texas Christian University (TCU). The second symposium will be held Tuesday, September 28, during the same time.

There is no cost to participate, but participation is limited to the first 15 campuses that register. Professionals in admissions, financial assistance, instruction, academic affairs, advising, persistence and retention, and student affairs are encouraged to attend.

About the speaker

Scott coordinates TCU’s retention efforts and has served on advisory boards for a variety of companies and educational organizations, including Chase, the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the College Board, and the Council for the Management of Educational Finance. He is a regular presenter for a variety of educational organizations, including the European Council of International Schools, the Association of Foreign Student Advisors, the College Board, and the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.

To register

Join TG for its videoconference symposia [by registering online](#).

Designing a financial literacy program? TG offers help with upcoming financial literacy symposium

The Jump\$tart Coalition has been surveying high school seniors on their grasp of money management concepts and skills since 1997. Students on their last survey conducted in 2008 earned a mean score of less than 50 percent, the equivalent of a failing grade. To better prepare students to manage their finances and any loans they may borrow, many colleges and universities are investing in financial literacy programs that teach students the fundamentals of budgeting, credit, and other finance-related topics.

TG provides help in devising and enhancing a campus-based financial literacy program with an upcoming free, one-day financial literacy symposium to be held at the TG Campus in Round Rock, Texas, on Tuesday, September 14.

The symposium will feature interactive sessions and an opportunity to hear from student services professionals working in the financial literacy field. For the September symposium, Erin Fleming from the Office of Student Services at the University of Texas at Austin will present a case study focusing on successful practices employed by the school's financial aid team.

Symposium topics

The symposium, which will run from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Central Time, will offer these sessions:

- **A financial literacy case study** — Learn about real-world examples of programs that demonstrate results for families and students.
- **Roundtable discussion** — Discuss the case study, ask questions, and share insights with peers.
- **Program debrief** — Consider some best practices in financial literacy and address common concerns about implementing a financial literacy program.
- **Building a community** — Learn about TG's Positive+Balance CommunitySM, a social networking site created to promote dialogue on financial literacy among financial aid professionals.
- **TG resources** — Explore TG's financial literacy offerings and share your suggestions on future resources.

More about the symposia

[Find out more](#) about the symposium and review a detailed agenda.

To register

Join TG for its [Texas financial literacy symposium](#).

To learn more

For questions about the 2010 TG Financial Literacy Symposia, please contact TG's school segment manager Margie Harvey at (800) 252-9743, or send an e-mail message to margery.harvey@tgscl.org.

Register for TG’s symposium on enrollment management and retention for community colleges

On August 12, TG will host a Student Success Symposium for Community Colleges at the Hilton DFW Lakes Executive Conference Center in Grapevine, Texas.

The symposium will outline how to promote college completion among community college students. It will also offer ideas for implementing comprehensive enrollment management and default management on campus.

Here’s a summary look at the day’s agenda for this free event.

- **Sector insider: How proprietary schools are achieving success in their world of accountability** — This portion of the symposium considers a TG-commissioned study on for-profit schools and their success in keeping students enrolled through graduation.
- **Logic, modeling, and evaluation: Using data to inform institutional practices** — In clear language, presenters will outline key concepts and helpful tools to review, design, and/or implement a plan for evaluating college retention practices.
- **El Paso Community College: Creating a culture of engagement and persistence** — Presenters from El Paso Community College will discuss how the schools employed innovative strategies to improve student success and achieve results.
- **The Truth About Defaults** — Many default management resources are available to schools, but it can be difficult to locate information and identify the best approach. This session will explore common misperceptions about defaults from three perspectives: research, policy, and default aversion.

To register

Join TG at this free event by registering through [TG Online](#).

Policy Resources

Coming soon—the *Integrated Common Manual* will contain hyperlinks to the Federal Direct Loan Program rules

The *Common Manual* leadership has initiated plans to add new hyperlinks from the *Integrated Common Manual* (ICM) to sections of the Higher Education Act (HEA) and federal regulations that pertain to the Federal Direct Loan Program (FDLP). This enhancement will further the *Manual's* reputation as a one-stop resource on FFELP and, now, FDLP rules, and facilitate the process of resolving loan-related issues.

Because the FDLP and FFELP rules are so similar, adding FDLP citations to the ICM broadens the usefulness of an already highly respected tool for schools.

The ICM is a user-friendly online FFELP student loan policy reference that can serve as a primary resource for locating comprehensive information on a specific topic. Its extensive citations and hyperlinks tie the policies in the ICM to the applicable citation in the HEA, federal regulations, *Federal Student Aid Handbook*, and other Department of Education publications.

Examples of new feature

Below are two examples of how the ICM will integrate the new FDLP hyperlinks. When FFELP and FDLP rules are materially the same, as in the first example, a note stating, "For FDLP rules:" and the applicable hyperlinks will be added to the listing. When FFELP and FDLP rules differ, as in the second example, a note stating "Note: Different rules apply to loans made in the FDLP." and the applicable hyperlinks will be added.

First example:

The estimated amount of other federal student aid—including, but not limited to, Federal Pell grant, Academic Competitiveness grant, National SMART grant, TEACH grant, and campus-based aid. The gross amount (including fees) of any subsidized Stafford, unsubsidized Stafford, or PLUS loan is also included, except as noted below. [HEA §480(j); §682.200(b)(1)(viii). For FDLP rules: §685.102(b) definition of estimated financial assistance (1)(viii)]

Second example:

Note: Different rules apply to loans made in the FDLP. For more information, see the 09-10 FSA Handbook, Volume 4, Chapter 2, pp. 4-33 to 4-34 and pp. 4-39 to 4-40, and the 2008 Direct Loan School Guide, Chapter 3, p. 3-32, and Chapter 5, pp. 5-55 to 5-57.

Existing helpful features

As indicated previously, the ICM provides you with several features that make research a breeze. However, while the ICM uses basic organizational structure to make research fast and easy, the features that take it to the next level are the hyperlinks to specific citations in other documents. Why clutter your desk or desktop with various sources of information when the ICM may be all you need?

To learn more

For more information about the ICM, visit [TG Online](#).

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

- [2010-08-06](#) — COD processing update
- [2010-08-09](#) — COD Ready to Accept New National SMART Grant Eligible Majors for 2010-2011 Award Year

EDE Technical Reference

- [2010-08-03](#) — 2011-2012 EDE Technical Reference

Gainful employment

- [2010-08-06](#) — Conference Call on Gainful Employment NPRM, and Data Release

Federal Register

- [2010-08-05](#) — Annual Performance Report and Certification of Financial Need for the Jacob K. Javits Fellowship Program

Federal Student Aid Handbook

- [2010-08-03](#) — Release of Volume 1 – Student Eligibility; 2010-2011 *Federal Student Aid Handbook*

Two Pell's in One Award Year

- [2010-08-03](#) — Implementation of two Federal Pell Grants in one award year

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.

News Briefs

Is car traffic overwhelming your campus? How about a unique bike-sharing program that lets students check out bikes and return them to other spots on campus via a radio-tracking device? Looking to improve your online student-information system? The South Orange County Community College District just developed a home-grown system which offers a more customized experience to students, one that allows them to select courses, learn about instructors, create a

daily and weekly schedule, and get e-mails on course availability. Does your school conduct a substantial amount of grant-funded research? Wayne State University has produced a grant “dashboard” that streamlines the process for administering research grants and generates statistics on grant processing. These are just a few of the winners of this year’s “Campus Technology Innovators Awards,” which is held annually by *Campus Technology* magazine. Learn more about [how schools are using technology](#) in novel ways to enhance campus life.



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