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Smart Solutions

Key milestones in the process of applying for college occur in September, including registering for college admissions tests and evaluating particular colleges. During college outreach events, direct high school students to [Adventures In Education's complete list of activities](#) to help prepare them for college.

TG Report

TG to launch new Financial Literacy Program

Teaching financial literacy has never been more important than in today's world of fiscal challenge at every level, from significant national deficits to high consumer debt, including credit card debt. For colleges and universities — many of which are taking a lead in educating their students in money management basics — this new reality poses an opportunity and a challenge. The opportunity comes in the form of federal initiatives that support financial literacy education. The challenge comes in getting 21st-century learners — young students who have grown up in the age of digital media — to learn money management skills and not ignore the subject of financial responsibility.

This October, TG will release a revised and expanded Financial Literacy Program, comprised of a set of ten 15-minute presentations with accompanying activities, workbook, and speaking script. These presentations or modules will cover a range of topics such as solving debt problems, building a spending plan, setting financial goals, and understanding employee benefits.

Interactive, engaging content

The program marks a new chapter in TG's longstanding responsibility as a guarantor helping students learn key skills for financial success. In addition to providing this training directly to students, TG will also offer train-the-trainer sessions and webinars for teachers and other professionals who want to use the new materials.

"We're excited about the new program," said Sharon Cabeen, TG's director of financial literacy operations. "We've developed a set of modules that will capture the student's attention and make them think about important skills like budgeting and managing credit."

Cabeen noted that the sessions are meant to be short and conceptually vivid in order to better engage students. "The modules are fast-paced, covering two to three main learning objects each," she said.

As part of that approach, each module has frequent presenter-audience interaction (about every 90 seconds), animated graphics, lots of entertaining examples, and a high visuals-to-text ratio. The modules can be mixed and matched in different combinations, and also have associated games or activities (each of which takes an additional 15-20 minutes to play). Session participants will receive workbooks which contain glossaries, FAQs, suggested resources for further study, and blank note-taking spaces for filling in key concepts.

TG will also provide an evaluation tool with each module so that schools can track how well students learn the concepts.

To learn more

Visit TG's corporate website, *TG Online*, to browse a list of [TG Financial Literacy Program modules](#) and to request a train-the-trainer session.

Enhanced Integrated Default AssistantSM to be released next Sunday

On September 26, TG will roll out an expanded version of the Integrated Default AssistantSM (IDASM), a Web-based tool for importing delinquency data from multiple sources, communicating with borrowers who have delinquent loans, and producing helpful default management reports.

Here's a preview of application changes.

- **Importing data and creating reports:** IDA's revised Import feature helps schools to create a more complete picture of a given cohort of borrowers. Schools will be able to import records of delinquent loans made under the Federal Direct Loan Program (FDLP), guaranteed by TG, or FFELP loans put to the Department. Schools can also generate reports to track delinquent loans and to evaluate FDLP servicer performance.
- **Communicating with borrowers:** Users can now use IDA to produce borrower letters and e-mails in Spanish and English. IDA also offers a way to identify borrowers by such characteristics as delinquency level and enrollment status, and then create custom letters for these borrowers.
- **Managing borrower data:** Schools will be able to update contact information for borrowers and document the most recent actions taken on a borrower's account, such as calls made and letters or e-mails sent.
- **Accessing IDA through new school portal:** IDA will be available through myTGSM, TG's new Web-based portal for schools. Current IDA users will have myTG password information e-mailed to them by Sunday, September 26.

Transitioning current IDA users to new system

TG will manage the transfer of all data from the previous version of IDA. A password to access the new version of IDA will be e-mailed to users on September 26. Existing school users will be able to access the revised application at myTG.tgslc.org/school beginning Monday, September 27.

School users will log in using their current user IDs and passwords e-mailed on September 26. IDA will then prompt users to change their passwords and create questions for retrieving passwords. (If a user forgets his or her password, the system will prompt the individual with one of these questions and return the password via e-mail in the case of a correct answer.) Schools can continue to access IDA through TG's loan management tool, AdvanTG WebTM; however, users will be required to log in twice, once to AdvanTG Web and then again to IDA.

Current IDA users should have received an e-mail message on Monday, September 20, from their TG account executive providing details on enhancements, transition activities, and training. If your school currently uses IDA and has not received this information, please contact your TG account executive, or send a message to relationship.management@tgslc.org.

For questions about using IDA

If you have questions about using the enhanced IDA, please contact TG's product support group at (800) 332-1455, or send an e-mail message to

product.support@tgslc.org. TG offers IDA at no cost to Texas schools and schools outside of Texas that have borrowers with TG-guaranteed loans. A school's TG account executive can provide more details.

Fall 2010 edition of *Enrollment Management Journal* now available



The latest edition of TG's *Enrollment Management Journal* focuses on research into an array of strategic enrollment topics, including dual credit programs and college completion rates, online campaigns for college access, and managing enrollment in times of state budget cuts, among other things.

The journal is divided by subject area and includes "Scholarship and Research," which considers research; "From the Field," which offers a summary of campus programs; and "Legislative Update," which highlights some of the latest federal changes affecting campuses. Here's a look inside this edition of the journal.

Scholarship and research

This section of the fall 2010 journal spotlights a diverse set of reports, such as a qualitative study of support programs designed to help students of color at three higher education institutions; several articles related to college access and choice, including one on the effectiveness of an Internet college access campaign; a qualitative study on what factors a Midwestern university considers to better recruit students; and the preparation dual credit programs provide for postsecondary study.

From the field

The journal offers case studies in particular aspects of strategic enrollment and retention. For this edition, "From the field" features an article that looks at how California institutions continue to provide access with decreasing resources. The article provides a detailed analysis of how California State University–Sacramento is dealing with its enrollment challenges.

Legislative update

This edition's "Legislative Update" continues its look at how well schools are managing the transition from the FFELP to the FDLP.

About the journal

As a co-publisher of the *Enrollment Management Journal*, TG seeks to advance knowledge about successful student enrollment, retention, and graduation strategies, and to make new and relevant data available to practitioners,

researchers, and policymakers. The journal is produced in collaboration with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. [Subscribe to the journal online.](#)

The *Enrollment Management Journal* is an initiative of the [Council for the Management of Educational Finance](#).

New board member appointed to TG's Board of Directors

Steven Tays of San Antonio has been appointed by Gov. Rick Perry to serve on TG's Board of Directors as the board's student representative. His term will expire January 31, 2011.

"We look forward to working with Steven, and believe his work as the student representative on TG's Board of Directors will help enhance the educational opportunities for all families and students," said Sue McMillin, TG's President and CEO.

Tays is currently a second-year law student at St. Mary's University School of Law. He is a member of the State Bar of Texas-Law Student Division, Texas Aggie Bar Association, San Antonio Young Lawyers Association, and the Federalist Society. He serves as president of the Texas FFA Past State Officers Organization, vice president of the Lafayette Place Homeowner's Association, and is a member of the San Antonio A&M Club. He is also an alumnus of the Texas A&M FarmHouse Fraternity, and a volunteer for the St. Mary's University Center for Legal and Social Justice. Tays earned his bachelor's degree in Agriculture Leadership and Development from Texas A&M University.

A sixth-generation Texan, Tays was raised in New Braunfels, where his family has resided since 1845. He replaces Steven "Wroe" Jackson of Austin.

Policy Resources

Latest IFAP postings

For the convenience of the 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.

Campus-based aid

- [2010-09-16](#) — Updated guidance on Federal Perkins Loan Portfolio Liquidation and Perkins Loan Assignment

Common origination and disbursement

- [2010-09-16](#) — COD Processing Update

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

- [2010-09-16](#) — DRAFT 2011-2012 FAFSA

Federal Register

- [2010-09-16](#) — 2011-2012 Federal Student Aid Application
- [2010-09-14](#) — Notice Inviting Applications for the Participation in the Quality Assurance (QA) Program
- [2010-09-14](#) — Lender's Request for Payment of Interest and Special Allowance--LaRS
- [2010-09-14](#) — Federal Direct Consolidation Loan Program Application Documents (KA)

Loan Servicing information

- [2010-09-14](#) — First Year's Customer Service Performance Results and Second Year's Allocations

National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS)

- [2010-09-20](#) — Delinquent Borrower Report Extract Record Layouts for Schools
- [2010-09-20](#) — New NSLDS Report Functionality for Schools
- [2010-09-20](#) — Exit Counseling Completion Results Report File Layouts for Schools

Quality Assurance Program

- [2010-09-20](#) — 2009-2010 Quality Assurance Program Data Analysis Report

Training and webinars

- [2010-09-15](#) — Private Education Loan Disclosure Requirements (recorded)
- [2010-09-15](#) — Completing the FISAP (recorded)

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

A recent College Board study notes that the U.S. ranks 12th among industrialized nations for adults ages 25-34 with a higher education. In response to this “higher education deficit,” President Obama recently called for an additional eight million college graduates by 2020. The *Chronicle of Higher Education* offers an interactive map of the U.S. showing where each state falls in terms of the percentage of adults with a college degree. The map offers the national percentage of adults with a degree as a comparison figure.



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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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