



WELCOME

The Louisiana Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (LASFAA) website is a place for the LASFAA membership to stay in touch with each other and share the latest information about financial aid, legislative news and more.

LASFAA is an association with over 500 members consisting of educational institutions, lenders and organizations dedicated to serving students, parents, and agencies with the dissemination of information related to student financial aid. LASFAA is an association with over 500 members consisting of educational institutions, lenders and organizations dedicated to serving students, parents, and agencies with the dissemination of information related to student financial aid.

To our students and families, it is our pleasure to help you achieve your educational goals through financial aid programs. Bookmark our website and use it as a reference for your financial aid matters. Feel free to contact any Executive Board member if the association can be of additional assistance.

Membership Questions:
Contact
MemberRelations@lasfaa.org.

IN-LINE WITH LASFAA

Winter 2019

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Executive Board 2019

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MESSAGE

From the President

“In the end, it’s not the years in your life that count. It’s the life in your years.”

Abraham Lincoln

As fall fades to winter and 2019 comes to a close, you can’t help but stop and review the ups and downs of the year. As financial aid professionals, we made it through another year together. We have celebrated births, graduations, new friends and new jobs. We have mourned the loss of loved ones and we have reflected on the changes that have occurred over the year. While the winds of change blow and bring us cooler weather they also bring us an opportunity to be thankful for what we have and for what the future has in store for us.

I have enjoyed every moment of being your 2019 LASFAA President. Representing the financial aid professionals of Louisiana has been a privilege I will not soon forget and an honor that I will always hold dear. Your trust and belief in me is something that I will always appreciate. Your support of our Spring and Fall conferences made them both an overwhelming success and provided an opportunity to for education and fellowship. Through your generosity, LASFAA was able to donate \$1,200 to McLindon Family Foundation.

I am happy to announce that I will be once again representing financial aid professionals as the Southwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (SWASFAA) President Elect. I am honored and humbled to continue to serve the financial aid community and excited by the possibilities that lie ahead. I have seen what we have been able to accomplish together and am truly encouraged by the opportunities that 2020 will bring.

I am pleased to announce your 2020 LASFAA President is Dr. Alan Jackson. Please take a moment to welcome your new President. I know that we all wish him the best of luck as he takes LASFAA into a new year and a new decade that will be full of education and opportunities.





A word from your 2020 LASFAA President

Dr. Alan Jackson, Jr.

I am elated to serve as your 2020 LASFAA President. As one year come to a close and a new year is upon us, bringing with it new opportunities, new challenges and—I can confidently predict—a new list of accomplishments for our association, respective universities and for the students who make us proud. I am thrilled to be working with this country best financial aid administrators and I look forward to yet another year of learning, training and community service. “Good better best; Never Let It Rest; Until Your Good Is Better and Your Better is Best!”

Dr. Alan Jackson, Jr currently serves as the Assistant Director of Financial Aid & Scholarship at Southern University Shreveport (SUSLA). Dr. Jackson has worked in the financial aid profession since 2008. Prior to returning to SUSLA. He served as the Financial Aid Director of Wiley College in Marshall, Texas as well as the Executive Financial Aid Director of Arkansas Baptist College in Little Rock, Arkansas. Dr. Jackson remained active within the Louisiana Associations of Student Financial Aid Administrators. He has provided numerous training sessions at conferences on a variety of financial aid topics and has been a member, chair, or co-chair of many committees. Dr. Jackson is a licensed realtor with Keller Williams Realty. He has sold over 30 million dollars in real estate since becoming licensed in 2015. He received the 2016 Rookie of the Year Award as well as the 2017 Top Producer Award. Alan is currently ranked number 1 at Keller Williams Red River office. He is also ranked 43 out of 738 agents in Northwest Louisiana. Alan is the owner of JMAX Credit Repair, LLC. JMAX has helped hundreds of clients improve their credit scores. Alan is a father of two boys and he prides himself on being able to mentor hundreds of male youth throughout his career. He believes the best example he can be for his boys is to lead by example. In addition to being an established entrepreneur and business owner; Dr. Jackson holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology as well as a Master of Arts degree in Adult Education from Northwestern State University. He also holds a Doctor of Education degree in Higher Education Administration from Nova Southeastern University.

Alexandria woman sentenced for financial aid fraud

By Mona Hardwick |

Posted: Thu 5:02 PM, Sep 26, 2019

SHREVEPORT, La. (DOJ) - An Alexandria woman has been sentenced to ten months in federal prison followed by three years of supervised release for financial aid fraud, in connection with a scheme where she filled out and submitted false student aid applications for more than \$95,000.

Adaysha Tanner, 36, has also been ordered to pay \$106,744 in restitution to the U.S. Department of Education. She pleaded guilty on May 14.

[According to a release from the Department of Justice](#), Tanner filled out financial aid applications in spring of 2013 until spring of 2015 through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and Federal Direct Loans for four students, representing that they would be attending Bossier Parish Community College (BPCC), and listed her physical address and email address as the contact information.

Authorities said Tanner would actually take over the individual's BPCC student accounts, attend classes, and do minimal coursework in order to keep financial aid flowing. In one instance, authorities claim Tanner enrolled a student in 18 classes over four semesters, of which she withdrew from seven. In total, authorities said Tanner

enrolled four students in classes, many of which were identical to classes that Tanner was taking at BPCC. For the majority of these classes, they were eventually withdrawn or given a failing grade.

On each occasion, after BPCC applied grants and loans to the costs of tuition and other fees, Bank Mobile sent a bank card to Tanner's address with the remaining funds. She took the cards and spent the money for her own personal expenses.

As a result of the fraudulent scheme, the U.S. Department of Education disbursed a total of \$106,744 in Federal Direct Stafford Loans and Federal Pell grants to BPCC during the time of the fraud.



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What's New With NASFAA

NASFAA Mention: FAFSA Says How Much You Can Pay for College. It's Often Wrong.

"Like millions of other parents, Julie Phipps filled out the federal form last November that determined her college-bound daughter was eligible for financial aid. She also learned how much the federal government figured her family could contribute to the bill: \$14,000," [The New York Times reports](#).

"That figure, known as the expected family contribution, was generated immediately after she completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA. But with every dollar from their solidly middle-class income already accounted for, Ms. Phipps, 53, said she and her husband, Andy, were stunned at what they were expected to pay.

That was just the start.

The real shock came later, when they learned that the expected contribution was only about half of what their daughter's chosen school expected the family to pay.

'If we were paying our expected family contribution, we would be thrilled,' said Ms. Phipps, of South Portland, Maine. 'But we are paying twice our expected family contribution, so it means absolutely 100 percent nothing.' Now that the latest FAFSA is out — it became [available on Oct. 1](#) — millions of families are plugging in their numbers. The form is the first step to unlocking any potential federal financial aid, including grants, loans and work-study jobs, as well as aid from states and some colleges.

But it also generates their expected family contribution, or E.F.C. — a number that can easily be misleading. It's often higher than many households can afford, and yet in many cases, like the Phipps family's, it's still not enough.

'For a long time, there has been this growing chasm between the need-analysis formula and accurately reflecting a student and their family's ability to pay for college,' said Justin Draeger, president of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, which has members at nearly 3,000 schools." *NASFAA's "Notable Headlines" section highlights media coverage of financial aid to help members stay up to date with the latest news. Articles included under the notable headlines section are not written by NASFAA, but rather by external sources. Inclusion in Today's News does not imply endorsement of the material or guarantee the accuracy of information presented.*

Sallie Mae® seeks nominations for \$25,000 scholarships*

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Nomination period starts 8/23 and closes at 5 p.m. ET on 9/26

Do you know a high school junior or senior who works hard, makes a difference in their community, and who may come up short when it comes to paying for college? Let's make college happen for a student you know!

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*Only the first 1,000 nominations will be considered. No purchase necessary. Void where prohibited. Valid 8/23/19 at 12:00 p.m. ET to 9/26/19 at 5:00 p.m. ET. See official contest rules at scholarship.salliemae.com/bridgingthedream.

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Financial Aid Services to Utilize Inceptia's Verification Gateway Platform to Provide Verification Services to Clients

Lincoln, Neb. (November 11, 2019) – Inceptia, a leader in uncomplicating financial aid for students and schools, today announced Financial Aid Services (FAS), an Atlanta-based management consulting firm that helps colleges and universities optimize their financial aid and student business operations, will utilize Inceptia's Verification Gateway platform to provide verification services to its clients.

"Integrity, experience and technical knowhow are top priorities as we look for partners to help us support our clients. Inceptia brings all of them, along with an unyielding commitment to helping schools and students succeed. We look forward to a great partnership!" said David Gray, FAS President.

Effective immediately, for the 2020/2021 academic year, FAS will transfer its verification processing to the Verification Gateway platform. The transition will provide FAS school clients a fully automated, seamless process with the flexibility to add personal interaction, if needed, guiding students and parents through verification via a highly secure, mobile-friendly web portal.

Randy Heesacker, president and CEO, NSLP, said, "With over 25 years serving higher education, FAS is a highly respected company with whom many schools entrust their vital financial aid operations. We are extremely pleased that FAS has selected Inceptia's Verification Gateway platform as the FAS verification solution and look forward to working together."

ABOUT INCEPTIA

Inceptia, a division of National Student Loan Program (NSLP), is a nonprofit organization committed to offering effective and uncomplicated solutions in verification, financial aid management, financial education, and repayment wellness. Our mission is to support schools as they launch brilliant futures for students, armed with the knowledge to become financially responsible citizens. Since 1986, we have helped more than two million students at 5,500 schools reach their higher education dreams. Each year we help nearly 340,000 students learn how to pay for college, navigate financial aid, borrow wisely, and resolve their student loan repayment challenges. Our solutions are designed to support student success by helping financial aid administrators maximize resources, so they can spend more time focusing on students. Learn more at Inceptia.org.

ABOUT FINANCIAL AID SERVICES

FAS, headquartered in Atlanta, GA, has provided consulting, staffing, assessments, and processing services to assist colleges in improving operational efficiency, student satisfaction and regulatory compliance in the area of financial aid for nearly 29 years. The staff of over 60 employees and associates average 26 years of experience in financial aid administration.

Cancel Student Loan Debt Says Former DeVos Deputy

Zack Friedman Senior Contributor
[Personal Finance](#)

He used to work for U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos. Now, he wants to cancel your student loan debt.

Here's what you need to know.

Student Loan Debt Forgiveness

A. Wayne Johnson was a senior Education Department official who was hired to help manage the Office of Federal Student Aid, which oversees about \$1.5 trillion of federal student loan debt. Two years later, Johnson said the federal government should not lend student loans, and believes that *most federal student loan debt will not be repaid*.

Johnson, who is now a candidate for the U.S. Senate in Georgia, has proposed a new student loan forgiveness plan:

- Forgive up to \$50,000 of federal student loans for any borrower
- Provide a tax credit for up to \$50,000 for people who already repaid student loan debt.
- Provide a \$50,000 government voucher, which would not require repayment, for new student loan borrowers to cover four years of tuition at college or graduate school.
- Institute a 1% tax on corporate earnings to fund the proposal

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Phone: **619-952-4793**

Email: Partner@AscentProgram.com

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Johnson believes that \$925 billion of student loan debt can be forgiven under his student loan forgiveness plan, which he says would cancel student loan debt entirely for about 37 million borrowers. Johnson's does not offer student loan forgiveness for private student loans. However, Johnson is open to the idea of income share agreements (ISAs), which enables students to pay an investor a fixed percentage of their income in exchange for the investor funding their education.

DeVos recently appeared on *Special Report* with Brett Baier on *Fox News*, and shared her opinions on the notion of cancelling student loan debt, which has been proposed by several Democratic presidential candidates, including Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT) and Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA).

“[Their proposals are crazy](#),” DeVos said. “Who do they think is actually going to pay for these? It's going to be two of the three Americans that aren't going to college paying for the one out of three that do.”

Bernie Sanders: Cancel All Student Loan Debt

Sanders has offered the most ambitious plan yet to address the nation's student loan debt. Simply put, Sanders' plan would cancel all \$1.6 trillion of federal and private student loan debt. There is no eligibility criteria; everyone qualifies. Sanders will fund his student loan forgiveness plan through a new tax on financial transactions, which he expects could raise more than \$2 trillion over the next 10 years.

Elizabeth Warren: Cancel 95% Of Student Loan Debt

Johnson's plan would cancel more student loan debt than Warren's. Warren's plan would cancel student loan debt for more than 95% of borrowers, and would entirely cancel student loan debt for more than 75% of Americans with student loan debt. Warren's plan would cancel \$50,000 in student loan debt for every person with household income under \$100,000.

Her plan also provides substantial debt cancellation for every person with household income between \$100,000 and \$250,000. Importantly, Warren's plan offers no student loan debt cancellation to borrowers with a household income above \$250,000, which she says is the top 5% of earners. Warren's plan would be funded with a 2% Ultra-Millionaire Tax.

According to the [latest student loan debt statistics](#), there are more than 44 million borrowers who owe \$1.6 trillion in student loan debt. According to personal finance site Make Lemonade, student loan debt is now the second highest form of consumer debt, second only to mortgages.

Your Next Action Steps

Start by understanding your best options for [student loan refinancing](#), [student loan consolidation](#), [income-driven repayment plans](#) and [student loan forgiveness](#).



Holiday Word Scramble



Unscramble the letters to spell the holiday words in the Word Bank!

Word Bank

CANDLES

HANUKKAH

PRESENTS

CELEBRATE

KWANZAA

RIBBON

CHRISTMAS

ORNAMENT

TRADITIONS

1. ZAWAANK _____

2. EPSTNSRE _____

3. OBIBNR _____

4. DINTOSTARI _____

5. SDAENCL _____

6. CSMISAHRT _____

7. KANUAKHH _____

8. MORNTENA _____

9. BRECA TELE _____

Answers: 1. KWANZAA, 2. PRESENTS, 3. RIBBON, 4. TRADITIONS, 5. CANDLES, 6. CHRISTMAS, 7. HANUKKAH, 8. ORNAMENT, 9. CELEBRATE

*Interested in volunteering for LASFAA?
Contact a committee chair below...*

Amenities	Sharron Pollard
Cost of Attendance	Amy Marix
Diversity Awareness/Professional Development	Jasheika Dennis
Fall 2019 Conference Program	Christie Smith
Fall 2019 Conference Site	Joni Leggio/Ann Carmichael
Finance Committee	Kristi Waters
Financial Aid Awareness	Sharmain Lazard
Legislative Advocacy/Association Governance	Deborah Paul
Long Range Planning	Taina Savoit
Member Relations	Brad Meyers
Exhibitor Liaison	Joni Leggio
Nominations & Awards/Archives	Katraya Williams
Publications	Amanda Brady
Site Selection	Shannon Cross
SWASFAA Update	Shannon Guillory
Technology/Automation	Rebecca Amy
Training	Latora Green/Brittani Williams

DON'T FORGET:

2019 FSA Training Conference
Dec. 3-6, 2019 Reno, NV



– *Eric Grass*

Have you seen the new LASFAA website?

<https://www.lasfaa.org/>

Have you signed up for E-Lists yet?

We are no longer using the list-serv for communications.

Go to LASFAA.ORG

After you log in, go to My Features (under my Profile),

-click on E-lists.

You can subscribe for email delivery of LASFAA notifications!