

## OGSLP Online News

January 31, 2003

OGSLP Online News is sponsored and operated by the Oklahoma Guaranteed Student Loan Program, a division of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. This electronic newsletter provides information to schools and lenders participating in the Federal Family Education Loan Program.

(405) 234-4329 or (800) 247-0420.

[Gary Garoffolo Joins OGSLP](#): OGSLP is pleased to announce that financial aid veteran, Gary Garoffolo, has joined OGSLP's management team as an Associate Director. Gary will head the new division, "Policy Implementation, Training and Communications."

[Meteor Goes Live](#): OGSLP is excited to be able to offer clients the opportunity to view our data on the Meteor Network. As a Meteor Data Provider, OGSLP offers schools the benefit of access to student loan data through the use of NetWizard. A collaborative, industry initiative, Meteor is a web-based software and service designed to aggregate and display student loan data in a single view for financial aid professionals.

[ED Addresses Home-School Title IV Eligibility Issue](#): This has been a hot topic of conversation in many financial aid offices around the country for many months. The Department of Education (ED) addresses the eligibility concerns of home-schooled students in GEN-02-11. An institution can admit most home-schooled students as regular students without jeopardizing its eligibility to participate in the Title IV, HEA student financial assistance programs.

[Just A Reminder](#): The November 2002 Final Regulations must be implemented by July 1, 2003, with the exception of a modification to the GEAR UP regulations found in Section 694. It is important to note that some of the regulations allow for an earlier implementation; however, there are requirements attached to early implementation of these regs.

[Common Manual Update](#): The December 2002, version of the Integrated Common Manual (ICM) is now available. This release contains the most recent policy changes approved by the Common Manual Governing Board. Attached is a link to our website, where you may download the manual. Simply click on "OnLine Integrated Common Manual" to initiate the download process.

*Online News is provided as a service to our colleagues by OGSLP. Please send comments or questions to the Policy Implementation, Training, and Communications Division at [pct@ogslp.org](mailto:pct@ogslp.org).*

## **Gary Garoffolo Joins OGSLP**

OGSLP is pleased to announce that financial aid veteran, Gary Garoffolo, has joined OGSLP's management team as an Associate Director. Gary will head the new division, "Policy Implementation, Training and Communications."

Gary brings 25 years of varied financial aid experience to this position including 17 years as Assistant Director for Programs at Oklahoma State University where he supervised the counseling staff, information services and federal work-study offices. Since leaving OSU, Gary has worked for Bearingpoint (formerly KPMG Consulting) as a Senior Consultant in the Higher Education Practice. Most recently he served as a Senior Associate Consultant for Financial Aid Services, Inc. working with colleges and universities in the areas of office reorganization, cash management, systems review, staff training and policy development.

We believe Gary will be a major asset to OGSLP as we implement this new division. Please join us in welcoming him to his new position!

## Meteor Goes Live

OGSLP is excited to be able to offer clients the opportunity to view our data on the Meteor Network. As a Meteor Data Provider, OGSLP offers schools the benefit of access to student loan data through the use of NetWizard. A collaborative, industry initiative, Meteor is a web-based software and service designed to aggregate and display student loan data in a single view for financial aid professionals. Current Meteor production of total FFELP volume is 58.8% and rising to 63.7% when current participants complete testing. Additionally, Meteor will report 65.9% of total FFELP volume when the rest of the participating organizations go live.

In future phases, it is anticipated that students will have access to their loan records on the Meteor Network.

"Meteor should save financial aid administrators time and effort. Schools are now able to retrieve a significant amount of borrowers' data via the Meteor information network," said Larry LeVern, OGSLP Assistant Director.

For more information about Meteor, you may contact OGSLP's Client Relations Department at [clientrelations@ogslp.org](mailto:clientrelations@ogslp.org) or you may visit [www.nchelp.org/Meteor.htm](http://www.nchelp.org/Meteor.htm).

## **ED Addresses Home-School Title IV Eligibility Issue**

This has been a hot topic of conversation in many financial aid offices around the country for many months. The Department of Education (ED) addresses the eligibility concerns of home-schooled students in [GEN-02-11](#) . An institution can admit most home-schooled students as regular students without jeopardizing its eligibility to participate in the Title IV, HEA student financial assistance programs. ED considers that a home-schooled student is beyond the age of compulsory school attendance if the state in which the institution is located does not consider the student truant once he or she has completed a home-school program.

In Oklahoma, by statute, home-schooling is considered an "education by other means" and thereby exempted from the compulsory school attendance requirements. If you have questions regarding the Dear Colleague Letter, you may contact OGSLP's Policy Implementation, Training and Communications Division by email [pct@ogslp.org](mailto:pct@ogslp.org) or by phone (405) 234-4354.


## **Just a Reminder**

The November 2002 Final Regulations must be implemented by July 1, 2003, with the exception of a modification to the GEAR UP regulations found in Section 694. It is important to note that some of the regulations allow for an earlier implementation; however, there are requirements attached to early implementation of these regs.

To assist with the implementation of these regulatory changes, the National Council of Higher Education Loan Program's (NCHELP) Membership Education and Training committee (MET) has created a PowerPoint training module that reflects the final November Regulations that apply to guarantee agencies, lenders and schools. We have attached the PowerPoint for your reference. The presentation is segmented so that you can review as a whole or just the section that applies to you as a lender or financial aid administrator. All early implementation requirements are reflected in the slides.

If you have questions or concerns, you may contact the OGSLP Policy Implementation, Training and Communications Division.

## Common Manual Update

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As a practice, OGSLP will continue to advise clients each time the ICM is updated with new, approved language. Updates typically occur on a monthly basis. You will find that saving the file to your desktop is the way to go especially if you are using the search features.

### ***Policy Modification***

The Common Manual Governing Board recently approved changes that modified policies contained in the July 2002 version of the Common Manual. These changes are identified in OGSLP's Common Manual Update (CM-71).