



OCTOBER 2009

NATIONAL DIRECT STUDENT LOAN COALITION

Dear Supporter,

The National Direct Student Loan Coalition Executive Council made its quarterly visit to Washington, DC in September and it could not have been at a more important time. The Council members spent one day on Capitol Hill visiting staff for Senators that have questions about the Direct Loan Program and the impact of a complete transition to Direct Lending will have on the schools in their states still participating in FFEL. The message that the Council members conveyed in their Hill visits stressed three important points:

- Coalition members have helped mentor hundreds of schools that successfully transitioned to the Direct Loan program in the last year and these schools did not have to incur extra costs or hire extra staff for the implementation of the new loan program
- Of the almost 500 schools that transitioned to the Direct Loan program during 2008-09, there were no issues with the federal COD system that processes Direct Loans
- With the programs and training sessions developed recently by the Department of Education, it will be possible for the remainder of approximately 2900 schools to transition successfully to direct lending by July 2010

Council members provided Senate Staff with a **copy of a letter** from the NDSLC to Members of Congress and the Direct Loan Fact Sheet. With the pending legislation in Congress on the President's budget proposal to transfer billions of dollars (as scored by the CBO) from lenders to students, I encourage you to use this letter to encourage your Senators to support the President's budget and to diffuse the fear from your colleagues about the transition to Direct Lending.

The Coalition continues to offer free mentoring services to schools that are transitioning from FFEL to Direct Lending. It has been so gratifying for me professionally to have had the opportunity to mentor dozens of schools this past year. As more schools transition into Direct Lending this year, the Coalition will need more volunteers to be mentors. If you would be willing to serve as a mentor and be added to on our **Mentor List**, please contact me at hoover@denison.edu or 740-587-6629.

Sincerely,

Nancy Hoover

Chair, National Direct Student Loan Coalition

Director of Financial Aid

Denison University

Granville, Ohio

740-587-6629

The mission of the National Direct Student Loan Coalition is to promote the success of the Federal Direct Student Loan Program in serving the interests of students, families, taxpayers and institutions.

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Renew Your NDSLCL Membership!

The National Direct Student Loan Coalition is currently in the midst of our annual membership drive. With more and more schools switching to Direct Lending, the Coalition anticipates a very busy and productive year.

[Click here to download our membership form.](#)

It is through your commitment that we are able to remain a strong voice for the Direct Lending Community in Washington, DC. Your 2008-09 membership to the Coalition expired on July 1, 2009 - We are counting on you to renew for the 2009-2010 membership year!

[To renew your membership by credit card online, please click here.](#)

House Passes SAFRA

The National Direct Student Loan Coalition endorsed the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act (H.R. 3321). To read the Coalition's letter to Congress, **[click here.](#)**

Department of Education Activities for DL

FSA CONFERENCE – December 1-4, 2009

The Department of Education has informed the NDSLCL that there will be a significant focus on Direct Loans at this year's conference. Click on the following link to the FSA Conference site where you can view a list of session topics.

<http://fsaconferences.ed.gov/program09.html>

DIRECT LOAN TRAINING WEBINARS

Beginning in the first week of October, the Department of Education will be presenting training webinars on all facets of Direct Loans. These webinars will be held every 2 weeks and they will also be presented at the FSA Conference. More details about the times and the material for these training webinars will be forthcoming from the Department.

Training topics and registration information are available at:

<http://ifap.ed.gov/dpclatters/attachments/092809ANN0930DLWebinarTrainingScdLinks.pdf>

In the News

- Student loans: Feds should cut out the middleman (September 21, 2009)
- Serving Students, Not Lenders (September 16, 2009)
- Truth About Lending (September 16, 2009)