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VSAC office closings through January 31, 2008

Monday, November 12	Veteran's Day
November 21* through 23	Thanksgiving
December 24 and 25	Christmas
December 31 and January 1	New Year

*November 21 VSAC will close at 12:00 PM

Mark your calendar

Visit www.vvac.org/EduProCalendar to check out the events available to education professionals. These events are accessible from the Financial Aid Professional page on our Web site. Check back often; new events are added monthly!

October 2–December 5 *Paying for College presentations*

Are your prospective students asking about the financial aid process? VSAC hosts Paying for College presentations at high schools around Vermont from October through early December. The presentation is for high school seniors and their parents, and covers topics such as what financial aid is, how it is applied, and how expected family contributions are determined. Find locations, dates, and times on our Web site (www.vvac.org).

November 13 *EASFAA Fall Training*

Counseling Students and Families: Tackling Financial Issues held at Middlebury College

Vermont Student Assistance Corp.

10 East Allen Street
PO Box 2000
Winooski, VT 05404
(888) 307-8722

www.vvac.org
schoolservices@vsac.org

November 29–December 7 *Financial Aid Training workshops for new and seasoned financial aid professionals and high school counselors*
Sharpen your skills and learn new information! Trainings will be held in four locations around the state: Brattleboro on November 29; Rutland on November 30; Saint Johnsbury on December 5; and Colchester on December 7. The schedule, agenda, and registration will be available online mid-October.

VSAC publications

There will be no mistaking this year's VSAC 2007–2008 standing publications, which feature an entirely new and exciting design. These new designs can be viewed on our publications page at www.vvac.org.

Please make certain to recycle previous inventory for all of the following pieces:

- financial aid brochure
- financial aid workbook
- adult student handbook
- adult outreach brochure
- VSAC resources brochures
- VSAC organizer

Important: Please do ***not*** recycle your loan brochures, as these will not be reprinted and delivered until January.

Need new updated pieces? Please send requests to schoolservices@vsac.org.

VSAC private loan interest update

The variable interest rates for VSAC's private loans changed on October 1, 2007. The new rates are effective through December 31, 2007. Visit www.vvac.org for more information.

Vermont state grants

VSAC continues to process full-time applications received prior to September 30, 2007. Applications received after September 30 will be held until we are able to analyze our fall attrition figures. At this time, we are still planning to fund part-time grant applications received through December 31, 2007, and non-degree grant applications received through January 31, 2008.

The Non-degree program was modified this year to allow students to receive \$150 per semester for indirect costs associated with taking a course in a non-matriculated program. These funds may be used for books, supplies, transportation or other costs incurred by the student.



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Loan consolidation mailing

Consolidation is a hot topic this fall, particularly for Stafford borrowers who graduated last spring with variable rate loans.

For those considering consolidation, now is the time to apply — before the grace period ends and the interest rate on variable-rate loans increases.

VSAC is mailing a user guide called **The Pros and Cons of Loan Consolidation** to these VSAC customers and encouraging them to contact us for more information based on their individual situations.

Scholarship update

The majority of scholarships sent in one installment have disbursed to schools. Scholarships that require verification of enrollment and academic standing prior to funding will disburse on or before November 30 for the fall semester, and on or before March 31 for the spring semester.

Helpful Web sites

www.nchelp.org/issues/loan_code_search.cfm — a useful tool to identify out-of-state lenders and guarantors that students are requesting to use.

Loan processing reminder

Please keep in mind VSAC's **Loans Unable to Approve or Disburse Report** is created weekly and provides a snapshot of the loan status at the time the report is printed. A loan may approve or disburse prior to your office receiving the report. In this case, the most accurate status will be reflected in your School Based Software and VSAC's School Online Services.

As always, feel free to call School Services with updates or questions.

Look for our next issue in the winter!



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