

Access Group's monthly newsletter for financial aid administrators

# accessupdate

August 2009



## Register Now for Access Group's 2009 Conference!



Sunday, Monday, Tuesday  
November 15, 16 & 17

JW Marriott Orlando Grande Lakes

Whether you work for a large public university or a small private institution, Access Group invites you to explore the new world of financial aid at our 2009 Graduate and Professional Financial Aid Conference! Scheduled for Orlando, one of America's favorite destinations, there are lots of reasons you won't want to miss this top educational event:

- We know what you need to learn! Our sessions are planned by your colleagues from graduate and professional schools across the country.
- A 21-year record of strong, relevant educational content.
- Nationally acclaimed, world-class general session speakers.
- Discipline-specific sessions that let you share ideas with peers and learn from their experiences.
- Networking with colleagues who understand your passion for – and your challenges in – your profession.
- Special value-added, pre-conference sessions at no additional charge: Financial Aid 101 and Preparing Students Financially for Law School: Train the Trainer for Law Admissions Staff.

**Register Today at** [www.accessgroup.org/conf2009](http://www.accessgroup.org/conf2009)

Plus, we're holding our early bird registration fee at the 2008 rate!

- Early bird: **\$550** (for registrations received by September 15)
- Sunday-only: \$175
- Monday-only: \$250
- Tuesday-only: \$250

The registration fee covers all sessions, program materials and conference meals.

**Learn more** about general and concurrent sessions, pre-and post-conference activities and special events at the conference Web site [www.accessgroup.org/conf2009](http://www.accessgroup.org/conf2009).

**Watch the mail** for your registration booklet with more details and all you need to sign up today.

**Have a question?** E-mail to [conf2009@accessgroup.org](mailto:conf2009@accessgroup.org) or call your account executive at 800-227-2151.

**Read more** about our conference charity, A Gift For Teaching, on page 2.

**We look forward to seeing you in Orlando!**

## Our Conference Charity – A Gift For Teaching

A Gift for Teaching began in 1998 as a way to recycle unwanted or surplus supplies from businesses. Today, the charity has grown into tri-county-wide operation distributing more than \$35,000 worth of school supplies and incentives daily to over 148,000 of Central Florida's highest-need schools and classrooms. A Gift For Teaching (AGFT) relies solely on donations from foundations, corporations and individuals:

- Every dollar donated to AGFT allows teachers to take \$10 worth of supplies back to the classroom.
- Product donations help keep the Free Store shelves stocked with supplies that teachers and students need most.
- In-kind services support AGFT in its day-to-day operations, keeping administrative costs low and allowing 96.1% of all product and monetary revenue to be used for AGFT program expenses.

We invite our always generous conference attendees to contribute to the efforts of A Gift For Teaching. We'll be accepting monetary donations and school supplies at the Registration Desk throughout the conference.

Through A Gift For Teaching, everyone has the opportunity to improve an educational system, recycle goods at the highest level, and positively impact the lives of local students in need. Learn more about A Gift For Teaching at [www.agiftforteaching.org](http://www.agiftforteaching.org).

## Access Group Named “Best in the Business”

For the third time in the past seven years, Access Group has been honored as one of the “Best in the Business” by *The News Journal* of Wilmington, Delaware.

*The News Journal* ranked the top employers in Delaware by size; Access Group finished eighth in the “Large Companies” category and was the top-ranked nonprofit in that category.

Rankings are based on employee responses to a survey conducted by Workplace Dynamics earlier this year. In all, 97 employers took part, representing 12 business sectors and more than seven percent of Delaware's working population.

## eAccess Tip of the Month

### Initiate from a PLUS Pre-Approval

It's fast and easy to initiate a PLUS loan from a PLUS pre-approval record.

Enter the Social Security number of the student in the global Search by SSN field or from Loan Inquiry to recall any PLUS Pre-Approval requests. From “Pre-Approval View,” click “Initiate Loan” (found within the Credit Status box). The loan application will display with the borrower's information pre-populated. Complete the certification fields and submit.

For more information, see the eAccess User Guide. Another good resource is the Help Menu. And your internal account executive is always happy to answer your questions! Your internal account executive can be reached at 800-227-2151.

**Need Access®  
Financial Aid Service  
Exclusively for  
Graduate and  
Professional Schools**



If you're looking for an efficient and paperless way to:

- Collect data and assess need
- Award institutional funds to the students who need them most
- Save time, money and precious resources

**Then Need Access is the solution you've been looking for!**

Questions? Contact your account executive at 800-227-2151.

Want to know more about how schools are using Need Access?  
Go to [AccessGroup.Org/NeedAccess](http://AccessGroup.Org/NeedAccess) and read our Customer Spotlights.

## **Access Group, Inc.**

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### **Toll-free lines:**

#### **School Services**

800-227-2151  
800-449-8204 (fax)

#### **Customer Contact Center**

800-282-1550

### **[AccessGroup.Org](http://AccessGroup.Org)**

### **[NeedAccess.Org](http://NeedAccess.Org)**

#### **Need Access®**

#### **Technical Assistance**

800-227-2151, ext. 6457

Access Group  
Federal Stafford Loans  
Federal PLUS Loans  
Lender Code: 808851

For information about  
Access Group loan programs  
and rates, please visit  
[AccessGroup.Org](http://AccessGroup.Org).

To subscribe to this newsletter, e-mail  
your name and your school's name  
to your internal account executive or  
to [schoolservices@accessgroup.org](mailto:schoolservices@accessgroup.org).

## **Access Group: Ready to Meet Your Needs**

In this peak processing season, Access Group is busy originating loans for your students and is pleased to help you meet all your federal student loan funding needs.

**Have questions or need information?** Please contact your account executive for assistance. We're here to help!

  
**access group**  
The nonprofit graduate loan specialist