



State of Florida
Department of Children and Families

Charlie Crist
Governor

Robert A. Butterworth
Secretary

DATE: July 18, 2007

TO: Regional Directors, Circuit Administrators, Community Based-Care CEOs,
Sheriffs Offices

THROUGH: George Sheldon, Assistant Secretary for Operations *[Signature]*
David Fairbanks, Assistant Secretary for Programs *[Signature]*

FROM: *Patricia Badland*
Patricia Badland, Director of Office of Family Safety

SUBJECT: Discontinuation of the Student Loan Reimbursement Program

We regret to announce that the Department is discontinuing the student loan reimbursement program for child welfare staff. There is no legislative authority providing for operation of the program and therefore, funding is no longer available for this purpose.

We recognize that the student loan program has been a valuable incentive in your efforts to develop a stable workforce. Secretary Butterworth was discouraged to learn of the program's discontinuance at the conclusion of the legislative session. He intends to explore this issue further and determine if there are options to provide for this program or similar staff retention programs in the future.

Thank you for sharing this information with staff and ensuring that hiring materials used in your local offices do not include references to this staff retention program.

If you need additional information, please contact Valerie Franklin, Family Safety Program Office, Valerie_Franklin@dcf.state.fl.us or 850-922-8927.

cc: John Copelan, General Counsel

1317 Winewood Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0700

Mission: Protect the Vulnerable, Promote Strong and Economically Self-Sufficient Families, and Advance Personal and Family Recovery and Resiliency