



NATIONAL DIRECT STUDENT LOAN COALITION

Washington, D.C.

November 26, 2008

Dear President-Elect Obama,

Congratulations! Throughout your campaign, your focus on pragmatic solutions to the problems vexing our country, and a strong appreciation for government's vested interest in the higher education of its citizens has provided inspiration and hope for a nation.

The National Direct Student Loan Coalition has long worked to ensure the continued success of the Federal Direct Student Loan Program which has proven simpler, more effective, and less expensive to taxpayers than the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) which provides students loans through bank and guaranty agency middlemen.

The mission of the National Direct Student Loan Coalition (NDSLCL) is to promote the success of the Federal Direct Student Loan Program in serving the interests of students, families, taxpayers, and institutions. The Coalition is comprised of schools dedicated to continuous improvement and strengthening of the Direct Loan program. Its grass-roots members are financial aid professionals working at participating institutions.

As higher education administrators in the area of student financial aid, and specifically student loan delivery, we offer our services to you and your transition team as you select appointees for positions in the U.S. Department of Education and clarify your administration's positions on all aspects of higher education financing.

Attached is a compilation of our priorities for you and your transition team's consideration as you make decisions for the direction of your education department.

Please do not hesitate to contact me, or any member of our Executive Board, to discuss these priorities or if we may be of any assistance whatsoever.

Best wishes,

Roberta Johnson
Chair, National Direct Student Loan Coalition
Director of Financial Aid, Iowa State University