

1960s ACCESS FOR ALL

College Access

Forty years ago, providing college access was a relatively easy proposition since it simply meant providing loans to a rather homogeneous group of students who primarily attended traditional four-year colleges. Over time, the college landscape has grown increasingly complex. CSLF now offers services to both traditional and non-traditional students, the parents of dependent students, and even the parents of young children as they prepare for the eventual costs of college. CSLF works closely with all types of schools, from large four-year universities to small trade schools. Although CSLF's primary business is loans, it has also expanded its scholarship programs to supplement the funds offered by others.

CSLF is ever mindful of at-risk populations, be that first-generation college students with limited financial resources or small schools with volatile default rates. While some companies have begun to ignore these populations and focus only on the more profitable market segments, CSLF continues to go out of its way to extend its services, free of charge, to ensure success for everyone.

The year was 1965. Love and freedom were in the air, but colleges and universities were experiencing a time of revolution. Post-war baby boomers caused a surge in college attendance and, in keeping with the Civil Rights movement, "access for all" was the recurring theme.

The Connecticut Student Loan Foundation's humble roots can be traced to 1965, when, at the same time, passage of the Higher Education Act (HEA) was underway. In an effort to promote college access and choice, Lyndon B. Johnson and the United States Congress passed the Act to create several financial aid programs, including the

Guaranteed Student Loan (GSL) program. The original goal of the GSL program was to supplement grants so that students and families could afford a college education.

That same year, the State of Connecticut introduced a non-profit agency called the Foundation for Financial Assistance to Higher Education, to guarantee loans for Connecticut students with the purpose of accessing a higher education. Later renamed the Connecticut Student Loan Foundation (CSLF), the company still maintains its original mission of promoting college access and choice for all students.

"We have entered an age in which education is not just a luxury permitting some men an advantage over others. It has become a necessity without which a person is defenseless in this complex, industrialized society... We have truly entered the century of the educated man."

—President Lyndon B. Johnson



1965

Connecticut General Assembly creates the Foundation for Financial Assistance to Higher Education (later renamed Connecticut Student Loan Foundation). Congress and President Lyndon B. Johnson pass the Higher Education Act of 1965 establishing federal financial aid including the Guaranteed Student Loan (GSL) Program.

1967

CSLF joins the Guaranteed Student Loan program.



1968

CSLF stands first in the nation by helping one in eight persons in the 18 to 23 year age range pay for college. The first reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA) is passed.

1969

CSLF expands from its one-room office to a 5,000 square foot space on Asylum Street in Hartford to accommodate expanding staff and loan volume.



With Executive Director, Vincent Maiocco, at the helm, the Connecticut Student Loan Foundation set up shop in a one-room office at the State Capitol Building in Hartford. By the end of their first year, Mr. Maiocco and a small staff had successfully assisted 10,500 Connecticut students in financing their education using thirty-seven different lenders. In 1967, CSLF joined



the federal GSL program and, by the following year, CSLF stood first in the nation for helping a staggering one in eight persons in the 18 to 23 year age range pay for college. Within a few years, CSLF had already outgrown its one-room office and relocated to a new 5,000 square foot office space on Asylum Street in Hartford.



CSLF as a Guarantor

As a guarantor, CSLF administers loans through the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP). This assures borrowers that they will have access to loan funds and protects lenders against loan defaults. Since inception, CSLF has guaranteed over \$5 billion in federal loans.

Federal regulations specify that guarantors may collect a guaranty fee (insurance premium) from borrowers of up to 1% of the total loan amount. By remaining fiscally responsible and enhancing its default prevention efforts, CSLF has been able to waive the guaranty fee since June 1999. This has put more than \$13 million in the hands of student and parent borrowers, easing the burden of financing a college education.

