Federal Update

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https://cvent.me/oOemD

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Federal Update

Rick Renshaw, FSA Training Officer
U.S. Department of Education
NDASFAA Spring Conference 2019
Devils Lake, North Dakota

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Negotiated Rulemaking

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Federal Update

Accreditation Innovation and Other Issues

- On July 31, 2018, the Department announced its intent to establish a negotiated rulemaking committee

- The Committee began work in January to develop proposed regulations on Accreditation Innovation and other related issues

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Accreditation Innovation and Other Issues

- The Accreditation and Innovation Negotiated Rulemaking Committee will address the Secretary's recognition of accrediting agencies and related institutional eligibility issues, including:

  - Requirements for accrediting agencies in their oversight of member institutions and programs

  - Criteria used by the Secretary to recognize accrediting agencies

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Accreditation Innovation and Other Issues

- Simplification of the Department's recognition and review of accrediting agencies
- Clarification of the core oversight responsibilities of each entity in the regulatory triad, including accrediting agencies, States, and the Department to hold institutions accountable
- Clarification of the permissible arrangements between an institution of higher education and another organization to provide a portion of an education program
- The roles and responsibilities of institutions and accrediting agencies in the teach-out process

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Federal Update

Accreditation Innovation and Other Issues

- The Department also announced an intent to establish three subcommittees that would make recommendations to the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee on:

  - Distance Learning and Innovation

  - Eligibility of faith-based entities and activities

  - TEACH Grants

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Accreditation Innovation and Other Issues

- The Distance Learning and Educational Innovation Subcommittee will address:

  - Simplification of State authorization requirements related to programs offered through distance education or correspondence courses, including disclosures about such programs to enrolled and prospective students and other State authorization issues

  - The definition of "regular and substantive interaction," as that term is used in the definitions of "correspondence course" and "distance education"

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Accreditation Innovation and Other Issues

- The definition of the term "credit hour"
- The requirement that an institution demonstrates a reasonable relation between the length of a program and entry-level requirements for the recognized occupation for which the program prepares the student
- Barriers to innovation and student completion, graduation, or employment
- Direct assessment programs and competency-based education

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Accreditation Innovation and Other Issues

- The TEACH Grants Subcommittee will address:
  - The simplification and clarification of TEACH Grant program requirements to:
    - Minimize the inadvertent grant-to-loan conversions
      and
    - Provide opportunities to correct erroneous conversions

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Accreditation Innovation and Other Issues

- The Faith-Based Institutions Subcommittee will address:
  - Requirements for accrediting agencies to honor institutional mission
  - Provisions regarding the eligibility of faith-based entities to participate in the Title IV, HEA programs

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Borrower Defense to Repayment (BDTR)

- On Nov. 1, 2016, the Department published final regulations that were scheduled to take effect on July 1, 2017

- The final regulations:
  - Created a new Federal standard for BDTR
  - Prohibited mandatory arbitration clauses
  - Required loan repayment warnings under some circumstances
  - Provided for automatic closed school discharges
  - Updated false certification discharge regulations

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Federal Update

Borrower Defense to Repayment

- A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) was published July 31, 2018
  - The Department received nearly 32,000 comments in response
- The Department continues work on these regulations

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Borrower Defense to Repayment

- The Department published Federal Register notices to delay the effective date

- In October 2018, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia invalidated the delay and the 2016 Borrower Defense regulations became effective

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Gainful Employment

- A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) was published Aug. 14, 2018
  - The comment period ended on Sept. 13, 2018
  - The Department received nearly 14,000 comments
- A final regulation is under development

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Gainful Employment

- June 18, 2018 GE EA #116: Deadline to comply with requirements of 668.412 (d) and (e) delayed until July 1, 2019. Supersedes GE EA #106. Specifically these regulations require schools to:

  - Include the disclosure template, or a link thereto, in their GE program promotional materials; and,
  - Directly distribute the disclosure template to prospective students

- Consistent with previous announcements, schools must comply with 668.412(a), (b), and (c) to post disclosures on their GE program webpages using the approved disclosure template provided by ED. The deadline for these actions was April 6, 2018.

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Gainful Employment Disclosure

- Resources for 2018 GE Disclosure:

  Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE) website
  Gainful Employment Disclosure Template
  - GE Disclosure Template
  - GE Disclosure Template Quick Start Guide

- Resources for 2019 GE Disclosure:
  - Coming soon!

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Gainful Employment

- GE Reporting for the 2017-2018 award year was due Oct. 1, 2018 in the same format as last year

- For assistance with reporting, contact the NSLDS Customer Support Center at 1-800-999-8219 or nslds@ed.gov

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Statutory Updates

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Minibus Appropriations Bill

- On Sept. 28, 2018 the President signed the Department of Defense and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2019 (H.R. 6157; Public Law No: 115-245) which impacted Federal student aid in several ways:
  - Increased Maximum Pell Grant awards
  - Level funding for FWS/FSEOG awards
  - Deferment for Cancer Treatment
  - FAFSA® Data Usage
  - Temporary Extended Public Service Loan Forgiveness (TEPSLF)
  - Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Outreach

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2019-2020 Maximum Pell Grant awards

- Maximum Scheduled Award: $6,195
  - Increase of $100 for 2019-2020
  - Able to receive up to 150% of scheduled Pell award
- Minimum Award - $650
- Maximum eligible EFC – 5576

Pell Payment and Disbursement Schedules
  - *DCL GEN-19-01 (Jan. 23, 2019)*

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No Change to FWS/FSEOG levels

- Campus-based appropriations have provided (with no changes from the previous award year):
  - $1,130,000,000 for the FWS Program
  - $840,000,000 for the FSEOG Program

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Deferment for Cancer Treatment

- Direct Loan, FFELP, and Perkins Loan borrowers will become eligible for an interest-subsidized deferment for the period of time for which they are receiving treatment for cancer and for the 6-month period following the cessation of such treatment. The term "cancer treatment" is undefined.

- This provision is only available for loans that are disbursed on or after the date of enactment, Sept. 28, 2018, or loans in repayment on the date of enactment

- Loans disbursed prior to Sept. 28, 2018 that have not yet entered repayment are not eligible for this benefit

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Deferment for Cancer Treatment

- Servicers are currently able to offer temporary forbearance for students who may be eligible for this benefit, at the student's request

- The Department provided servicers with appropriate guidance to help ensure consistent application

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FAFSA Data Usage

- The law permits, but does not require, schools to provide FAFSA data to a scholarship granting organization, or *to an organization that assists the applicant in applying for and receiving Federal, State, local or tribal assistance* if:
  - The applicant has provided explicit written consent, and
  - The disclosure is to assist the applicant in applying for and receiving financial assistance at that school
- The organization cannot sell or otherwise share the FAFSA data they receive from schools under this section
- This provision will remain in effect until the HEA is reauthorized

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Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)

- The appropriations law sets aside an additional $2.3 million from the Student Aid Administrational account (same as in FY 2018) for FSA to perform outreach to all Direct Loan borrowers with respect to PSLF, particularly those who are not in qualifying repayment plans for PSLF
- The law also permits FSA to spend these funds on enhancements to PSLF operations
  - PSLF Help Tool - StudentLoans.gov/pslf

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TEPSLF

- The appropriations law provides a supplemental $350 million for the temporary expansion of PSLF for Direct Loan borrowers that was created in FY 2018, bringing the total appropriation to $700 million

- This expansion is available to those who do not otherwise qualify for PSLF solely because some or all of their payments were made on a non-qualifying repayment plan (such as the Extended Repayment Plan)

- To qualify for the temporary expansion, a borrower must demonstrate that the payment they made 12 months prior to applying for the temporary expansion of PSLF and the payment they made immediately prior to applying for the expansion are at least as much as they would have paid under an income-driven repayment plan

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Federal Update

TEPSLF

- ED will reconsider borrower eligibility for Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) using an expanded list of qualifying repayment plans and some payments that don't count toward PSLF may count toward forgiveness under TEPSLF

- Additional qualifying repayment plans include:
  - Graduated Repayment Plan
  - Extended Repayment Plan
  - Consolidation Standard Repayment Plan
  - Consolidation Graduated Repayment Plan

- Refer to May 23, 2018 Electronic Announcement

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Children of Fallen Heroes Scholarship

- On March 23, 2018 the President signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018, (H.R. 1625, Public Law 115-141)

- Amends Sec. 473(b) of HEA and expands special rule for "EFC shall be deemed zero"

- Student must be eligible to receive Pell Grant for the year in which eligibility determination is made beginning with 2018-2019 award year (EFC > 0 and ≤ the maximum EFC for Pell Grant)

- Parent or guardian actively serving as a public safety officer and died in the line of duty while performing as a public safety officer

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Children of Fallen Heroes Scholarship

- School's responsibility
  - Determine and document, working with the student, that the student met eligibility requirements
  - Documentation requirements are not prescribed but may include
    - Determination letter for certain federal benefits under DOJ's Public Safety Officers Benefit Program
    - Written attestation made by a state or local government official with authority over the individual who died in the line of duty
    - See 11/19/2018 EA for more examples
  - Submit eligibility determination to FSA through the COD System in awards 2018-19 and 2019-20
    - *Eligibility determination validation will move to FAA Access beginning in the 2020-2021 award year*

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Federal Update

Children of Fallen Heroes Scholarship

- System Information
  - CPS will not recalculate an eligible student's EFC when the student's eligibility is determined by the school
  - Only the COD Website updated to include new Children of Fallen Heroes (CFH) indicator
    - The CFH Indicator cannot be submitted via batch, and will not be on common record responses
  - If CFH indicator is marked "yes" the COD system will calculate the student's Pell Grant eligibility as if the EFC were zero, regardless of the Pell-eligible EFC
  - If CFH indicator is marked "no" or left blank, COD will process the Pell award according to the EFC of record
  - See NSLDS Newsletter #62 (January 2019) for information about how NSLDS will record information about a student benefitting from the CFH Scholarship Act

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Verification

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Electronic Announcement: January 9, 2019

- Signed copies of paper tax returns may now be accepted in lieu of documents issued by the IRS

  - Schools may still opt to require IRS documentation
  - Signature requirements for tax preparers continue to apply

- IRS verification of non-filing (VNF) is still required for non-filing parents, independent students and spouses, but a signed statement may be provided if the VNF cannot be obtained

  - Applicants are not required to document their attempt to obtain IRS documents, unless the school doubts the attempt was made

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Federal Update

Tax Filing Extenders: Documentation

- A signed statement certifying that the individual:
  - Attempted to obtain non-filing verification from the IRS or other tax authorities and was unable to; *and*
  - Has not filed a Federal income tax return

- A list of the sources of any income, and the amount of income from each
  - If self-employed, the signed statement must also include the AGI and the amount of U.S. income tax paid

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Tax Filing Extenders: Other Documents

- Copy of IRS Form 4868, ''Application for Automatic Extension of Time to File U.S. Individual Income Tax Return"

- Copy of the IRS's approval of an extension beyond the automatic six-month period

- Copy of IRS Form W–2 for each source of employment income received or an equivalent document

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Amended Tax Returns

- Individuals who filed an amended tax return must submit the following documents to the institution:
  - If identified by IRS Request Flag 07, all original income and tax information is considered verified
  - If not identified by IRS Request Flag 07, an IRS Tax Return Transcript, or any other IRS tax transcript(s) that include all of the income and tax information required, *or a signed copy of the original tax return*;

    AND
  - a signed copy of IRS Form 1040X that was filed with the IRS

- If the amendment was not due to filing a 1040X, the applicant must provide IRS documentation of the change

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Identity Theft

- Victims of IRS tax-related identity theft must submit:

  – Statement signed and dated by the tax filer indicating s/he was a victim of IRS tax-related identity theft and the IRS has been made aware;

  AND

  – An IRS Tax Return Database View (TRDBV) transcript

  - Tax filers who cannot obtain a TRDBV transcript may instead submit other official IRS document(s) if they include all income and tax information required to be verified, *or a signed copy of the tax return*

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Non-IRS Tax Filers

- Tax filers who filed an income tax return with a taxing authority in a US territory or commonwealth, or with a foreign central government, may submit:

  – a copy of a transcript of their tax information, if available free of charge

  OR

  – a signed copy of the applicable income tax return that was filed with the taxing authority

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2018-2019 Verification: References

- GEN-17-05: 2018-2019 Verification (5/5/17 Federal Register)
  - No changes to verification tracking groups
- August 16, 2017 Electronic Announcement: 2018-19 Verification Suggested Text
- Updates:
  - Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) is available again (masking process)
  - *Dependent students* who are nontax filers ***do not*** have to provide confirmation of nonfiling status from the IRS or other relevant tax authority
    - Other parties do (parents, independent students, etc.)

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2019-2020 Verification: References

- GEN-18-03 **-** 2019-20 Verification (3/28/18 Federal Register)
  - No changes to verification tracking groups or FAFSA verification items from 2018-2019
  - No changes to the acceptable documentation requirements from 2018-2019
- June 8, 2018 Electronic Announcement - 2019-20 Verification Suggested Text
- July 30, 2018 Electronic Announcement - EDE Technical Reference for the 2019-20 ISIR record layout, including Verification Tracking Flags

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Changes to IRS Tax Transcript

New IRS Tax Transcripts Redacted Data
- Effective 9/23/18, IRS tax transcripts display a reduced number of digits/characters for SSN, EIN, account/phone #, last name, address
- *The revised IRS tax transcript is acceptable for verification purposes*
- At the end of 2018 transcripts will no longer be faxed
- Filers currently can create "customer file numbers" when requesting transcripts via 4506T/T-EZ
  - Available next year for Get Transcripts Online or Online by Mail

41   **See 10/4/18 Elec. Ann.**   Federal **Student** Aid

Changes to IRS Tax Transcript

New IRS Tax Transcripts Redacted Data
- Spring of 2019, IRS plans to remove option for requesting 3rd-party receipt of tax data on 4506-T/T-EZ and only mail transcripts to taxpayer
  - Schools can receive transcripts directly by participating in IRS' Income Verification Express Services [IVES] by registering for e-Services on IRS.gov

42   **See 10/4/18 Elec. Ann.**   Federal **Student** Aid

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Federal Update

Changes to Other IRS Tax Forms

- The recently passed tax reform law changes other IRS tax forms (*e.g. Form 1040)*
- The IRS released drafts of new tax forms in August 2018
- One major change is the elimination of tax forms 1040A and 1040EZ, and the creation of 6 new schedules
- FSA is reviewing these 2018 tax form changes to see how these changes effect 2020-2021 forms and processes

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Perkins Loans

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Perkins Loans

- Perkins Loan Program authority has expired;
  no more loans or disbursements can be awarded
  - Dear Colleague Letter (DCL) GEN-17-10, published on Oct. 6, 2017
  - Dear Colleague Letter (DCL) GEN-16-05, published on Feb. 17, 2016

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Federal Update

Perkins Loans

- Schools may not reimburse themselves for service cancellations

- The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Pub. L. 115-141) appropriated funds for Fiscal Year 2018 for the Campus-Based programs, but did not allocate funds for Federal Perkins Loan service cancellation reimbursements

Please note that the Department is continuing to look into this important issue

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Perkins Portfolio

- Schools NOT required to liquidate Perkins Loan portfolios
- Schools may...
  - Continue to service their own portfolios
  - Contract with a third-party servicer for servicing
  - Choose to service some/assign some Perkins Loans (defaulted loans, older portfolio, low balances)
  - Liquidate (assign all loans to the Department)

EA on Perkins Loan Program Administrative Responsibilities and Reporting Requirements, published on Oct. 4, 2018

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NSLDS Reporting

- National Student Loan Database System (NSLDS®)
  - The ONLY system that contains Perkins loan-level data
  - Data is self-reported by school or third-party servicer
  - School's responsibility to report accurate and timely data §674.16
  - Loans should be properly reported and updated at least monthly
  - Request a reconciliation report (REC005) at least quarterly to ensure school's records are consistent with NSLDS, reconcile any discrepancies, and update NSLDS accordingly

For more information, review EA on
Perkins Loan Administrative Responsibilities and Reporting Requirements
published Oct. 4, 2018

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Federal Update

Distribution of Assets

- Section 466(a) of the HEA requires a capital distribution of the balance of the institution's Perkins Loan Fund (Distribution of Assets)
  - An Institution is required to:
    1. Return to the Department the **Federal** share of the Perkins Loan Fund through the G5 system
    2. Return to the institution the **institutional** share of the Perkins Loan Fund through the institution's own accounting processes

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Distribution of Assets

- Annual collection of Federal share after FISAP filed each year
- Currently, the Department plan to begin collecting the Federal share of an institution's Perkins Fund and the return of the institutional share to the school *has been delayed*
  - Please do NOT return any federal share or take out any institutional share *until* the Department formally notifies the school of this process (through COD)

    Distribution of Assets EA, July 11, 2018, outlined the process

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NSLDS Updates

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Federal Update

New Enrollment Reporting Guide (November 2018)

• See Electronic Announcement November 14, 2018

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Aid Overpayment Compliance Report

• Released in November 2018

• To assist schools in their effort to identify aid overpayments which need to be assigned to ED or updated on NSLDS

ID: OVPCL1   **Type:** Extract

Name: AID OVERPAYMENT COMPLIANCE REPORT

• The report can be requested with the following outputs:
  • Ad-hoc report from the Web Report List Page on NSLDS
  • Scheduled report with a monthly or quarterly distribution via SAIG:
    – Fixed-width (Message Class AOCOFWOP)
    – Comma separated values (CSV) (Message Class AOCOCDOP

AID OVERPAYMENT COMPLIANCE REPORT Profile Update

SAIG MAILBOX:
FREQUENCY: QUARTERLY
SCHOOL BRANCH: ALL
EXTRACT TYPE: FIXED WIDTH

Submit   Cancel

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Aid Overpayment Compliance Notification

• Emails will be distributed quarterly to schools with active aid overpayments that meet the following criteria:
  • Created more than 2 years (730 days) in the past
  • Status of overpayment:
    ○ Satisfactory Arrangement (S)
    ○ Overpayment (Y)

• Email will instruct the recipients to review the OVPCL1 report

• The email will be delivered to:
  • NSLDS Overpayment Contact
  • FAA Designee from eCAR

54   **See NSLDS Newsletter #61**   Federal **Student** Aid | PROUD SPONSOR of the AMERICAN MIND®

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NSLDS – Iraq Afghanistan Service Grant

- Schools can now view Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants (IASG) information for a student on the Grants page, under the Aid tab of the NSLDS Professional Access website

NSLDS – Children of Fallen Heroes

- The Children of Fallen Heroes indicator is displayed in the Pell Grant History table on the Grants Page under the Aid tab of the NSLDS Professional Access website

No Certified Programs Report

- Released in November 2018

- Includes campus-level data for students who have no certified programs

- The report is available as:
  - Ad-hoc (SCHEP1) and Scheduled (SCHEP3)
  - Fixed Width delivered via message class ERAPFWOP

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Graduated Programs Report

- Includes students that have at least one program certified as Graduated (G) within a specified timeframe or cohort

| ID: SCHEP4 | Type: Extract |
| Name: ER GRADUATED PROGRAMS REPORT | |

ER GRADUATED PROGRAMS REPORT Profile Update

EXTRACT TYPE: FIXED WIDTH ⌄
FREQUENCY: QUARTERLY ⌄
SCHOOL BRANCH: ALL ⌄
SAIG MAILBOX:

- The report is available as:
  - Ad-hoc (SCHEP4) and Scheduled (SCHEP6)
  - Fixed Width format is delivered via message class ERGPFWOP

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Changes to Enrollment Update

- Planned for Spring 2019

- New search options will be available on the Enrollment Update page:
  - Credential Level
  - Special Program Indicator (SPI)
  - Published Program Length (PPL)
  - Classification of Institutional Programs (CIP) Code

COMING SOON!

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Supplemental Enrollment Reporting File

- Planned for Spring 2019

- New Supplemental Enrollment Reporting File will allow schools the option to send enrollment data to NSLDS outside of their roster schedule. Schools will be able to provide more timely data updates to NSLDS

  - The new supplemental file will not return an Error/Acknowledgment File
  - Schools will be able to confirm receipt of the Supplemental Enrollment Reporting File on the Enrollment Submittal Tracking page of the NSLDSFAP website

- The new supplemental file does not replace existing enrollment rosters or reporting requirements

COMING SOON!

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Historical Corrections to Enrollment Reporting

- Planned for Spring 2019

- Schools will be able to easily correct campus- and program-level enrollment history for a student

- Historical Corrections will be available via:
  - Online:
    - Users will be able to correct an individual student easily online
  - Spreadsheet Submittal:
    - Users will be able to correct all history for the student
  - Batch (SAIG) Submittal:
    - Users will be able to correct all history for the student

COMING SOON!

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COD Updates

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Release 17.2 Children of Fallen Heroes (December 2018)

- Children of Fallen Heroes (CFH) Scholarship Act
  - Eligibility certified by the financial aid administrator on COD Web by marking the CFH Indicator = "true" for Pell-eligible students that qualify
  - Will allow awarding the maximum Pell Grant Scheduled Award based on Cost of Attendance
  - CFH Indicator "tag" will not be returned in responses, but new *Warning* **Edit 224** will be
    - Message- "Pell award submitted with CFH Indicator = true"

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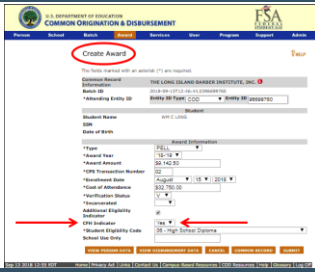
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COD Update – 17.2 Children of Fallen Heroes

The **Create Award** or **Update Award** screens are the most common areas where you will set the CFH indicator on the COD Web.

COD Update – 17.2 Children of Fallen Heroes

The **Award Detail Information** screen displays the Pell record detail, including the higher Scheduled Award reflecting the zero Expected Family Contribution (EFC), and the CFH Indicator.

COD Update –18.0 R2T4 on COD

- R2T4 migrating to COD
  - Core-functionality and calculations will not change
  - Base year for tool will be 2017-18
    - Data (i.e., calculations, PDFs) will be available for ten years from base-year
  - Calculations and previous information will not transfer to COD
  - Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant included in tool calculation

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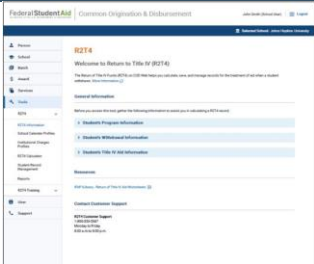
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COD Update –18.0 R2T4 on COD

Available on:
- https://cod.ed.gov
- New sidebar - **"Tools"**
- R2T4 Home Page will be located under **"Tools"** drop-down
- New "Look and Feel" for R2T4 Home Page

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COD Update –18.0 R2T4 on COD

- R2T4 Access
  - COD School-User(s) 1 and 2 will have view-only access to the R2T4 module
  - COD School-User(s) 3 - 6 will have access to create profiles and calculate R2T4 records
  - Main school and additional locations will have access to view R2T4 calculations, institutional, and calendar profiles

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COD Update –18.0 R2T4 on COD

- R2T4 enhanced functionality
  - Ability to "override" the completed days in calculation
    - Especially useful for certain modular or non-term credit-hour situations
  - Ability to copy/modify institutional and calendar profiles within an aid year
  - User can recalculate without creating a new record
  - Reports will be consolidated into one file for export
    - Search by award year(s) and Payment Period or Period of Enrollment start/end dates

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COD Update – Future Enhancements

- Summer 2019 (Release 18.1)
  - Changes to 2020-21 FISAP
    - Part I, Field 5 – reporting on behalf of additional institutions (unique OPEIDs, *not* locations)
      - Must list **amount** allocated to each institution, and **date** distributed
      - Verify that each institution listed is independently eligible for Campus-Based programs
  - Payment Analyst enhancements
  - Additional updates

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Protecting Student Information

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FSA Cybersecurity Compliance

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Federal Update

Cybersecurity Resource: Frequently Asked Questions

- FSA's Cybersecurity Compliance provides a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) resource for schools to assist in safeguarding their systems and data
- The FAQs address issues and concerns that are relevant to all schools in protecting their data and in compliance with cybersecurity requirements
- FAQs can found on the FSA Cybersecurity Compliance home page by selecting Frequently Asked Questions under the Related Links heading located at the bottom right of the page or directly at: https://ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/attachments/CyberFAQ.pdf

Related Links
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Privacy Technical Assistance Center
- FTC Business Center - Privacy and Security
- US Computer Emergency Readiness Team (US-CERT)

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studentprivacy.ed.gov

Contact number - 855-249-3072

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Federal Student Aid Updates and Reminders

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Federal Update

TEACH Grant Reconsideration

1/31/19 – Electronic Announcement

- TEACH Grant recipients whose grants converted to Direct Unsubsidized Loans can request reconsideration if met or are meeting four-year teaching requirement within eight-year service obligation period, but had grants converted to loans because did not comply with annual certification requirement
- Week of Feb. 4, 2019, emails were sent to individuals who were eligible to request TEACH Grant reconsideration
  – Emails sent from noreply@studentloans.gov
- More information at - StudentAid.gov/teach-reconsideration

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Selective Service Match

1/31/19 – Electronic Announcement

- Central Processing System (CPS) resumed its daily match with Selective Service System (SSS) for 2018-19 and 2019-20
- We have begun reprocessing 2018–19 and 2019–20 application and correction records impacted by the SSS match bypass that occurred during the recent government shutdown
- Reprocessed ISIRs will be sent under the IGSG19OP (for 2018–19) and IGSG20OP (for 2019–20) message classes
  – SARs and ISIRs will include SAR comment code 172
  – Reprocessed ISIRs will include a value of "50" for the Reprocessed Reason Code

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2019-2020 College Financing Plan

1/16/19 – Electronic Announcement

- *Shopping Sheet renamed College Financing Plan*
- New College Financing Plan template is part of Beta Testing
  - Schools not required to use but if implemented, please provide comments to shoppingsheet@ed.gov no later than April 1, 2019
- Attached to EA are the HTML specifications, institutional metric data file, the technical guide, FAQs and the Plan template
- 2020-2021 College Financing Plan to include additional data elements and a new responsive design and the ability to customize colors of the College Financing Plan to match those of your institution

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2018-2019 Deadline Dates

12/4/18 – Federal Register
- A listing of deadline dates for the receipt of documents and other information from applicants and institutions participating in certain Federal student aid programs authorized under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), for the 2018–2019 award year
  - Includes deadlines for FAFSA processing, ISIR corrections, verification documentation and Title IV origination and disbursement records

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Campus-Based Deadline Dates

1/24/19 – Federal Register
- A listing of the Campus-Based Program deadline dates for 2018-2019 expenditures and the 2020-2021 request including:
  – Campus-Based Reallocation Form for return of 18/19 funds and request for supplemental FWS funds for 19/20 award year (August 12, 2019)
  – 2020-2021 FISAP (October 1, 2019)
  – 2020–21 FISAP Edit Corrections (December 13, 2019)
  – Request for a waiver of the 2020–21 award year penalty for the underuse of 2018–19 award year funds (Feb. 3, 2020)
  – Request for a waiver of the FWS Community Service Expenditure Requirement for the 2020–21 award year (April 20, 2020)

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Payment Vehicle Account Program Pilot

10/17/18 – Federal Register
- Pilot will consist of implementers, voluntary schools and students intended to guide a student-focused electronic Payment Vehicle Account Program with direct connectivity, through integration with FSA's myStudentAid Super Portal Mobile App
- Vehicle Account Program is designed to:
  - Provide a no-fee Payment Vehicle Account to participating Customers
  - Streamline school processing of credit balances (TIV and other funds)
  - Continuously promote FSA to customers via myStudentAid Mobile App
- Pilot intended to run through December 2020

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Cohort Default Rates

- The Fiscal Year (**FY) 2015** national federal student loan cohort default rate (CDR) decreased to **10.8 percent** from the FY 2014 national rate of 11.5 percent. The FY 2015 CDR represents the lowest national cohort default rate since the three-year rate was first released in 2012

- During the tracking period for the FY 2015 borrower cohort—from Oct. 1, 2014 to Sept. 30, 2017—more than 4.9 million borrowers entered repayment, and 531,653 of them, or 10.8 percent, defaulted on their loans. Those borrowers attended 6,155 postsecondary institutions across the nation

- We anticipate releasing the draft FY2016 CDRs in February 2019
  - Stay tuned to IFAP

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FSA Publications Distribution

- As of Aug. 31, 2018, FSA no longer prints or delivers FSA publications (except for the FAFSA form).

- Publications will still be available electronically
  - https://financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov/tk/resources.jsp
  - https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/resources
  - https://ifap.ed.gov/ifap/
  - https://studentloans.gov/myDirectLoan/index.action

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Federal Student Aid E- Training (FSA E-Training)

https://fsatraining.info/

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FSA E- Training: Quick Takes

- Brief videos,15-20 minutes in length, on a variety of Federal Student Aid topics such as :
  - Conflicting Information
  - Professional Judgement
  - Defining a "year" in Federal Student Aid
  - Establishing Cost Of Attendance
  - Satisfactory Academic Progress
  - More than 20 topics available
- On the FSA E-Training Home page, select "Menu", scroll down to "Webinars and Recordings" and select Quick Takes

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FSA E- Training: Learning Tracks

- Training is available in more detail on a variety of Federal Student Aid topics such as:
  - R2T4
  - Campus Safety and Security
  - Default Prevention
  - Several others
- Designed to take 60-90 minutes each
- On the FSA E-Training Home page, select "Menu", scroll down to "Learning Tracks", and select a topic or select "Search" and "Learning Tracks" after selecting "Menu"

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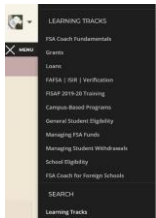
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2019 Federal Student Aid Training Conference

We look forward to seeing you at the FSATC in Reno, NV
Dec. 3 – Dec. 6, 2019 at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center

Watch IFAP for more information
as the date approaches

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Chicago Regional Office Contacts

Chicago and Denver School Participation Team
  – Main Number: 312-730-1511
  – Effie Barnett (IIS) – 312-730-1587
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Email: firstname.lastname@ed.gov

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My Contact Information

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Ask A Fed goes online!

FSA has implemented a new resource to assist Financial Aid Administrators obtain guidance about the FSA programs. Based on the popularity and effectiveness of the Ask A Fed desk at the annual FSA Training Conference, we have instituted a similar process using email. Please send your inquiries about Title IV regulations to AskAFed@ed.gov

The Ask A Fed email box is staffed every business day by a team of FSA Training Officers and they are ready to assist schools with their questions.

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Training Feedback

Please register now for this Federal Training Session by entering this URL address on your phone or mobile device
https://cvent.me/oOemD

To ensure quality training we ask all participants to please fill out an online session evaluation

- You will receive an email in the next few days from FSA_internet_Registration@ed.gov with a Training Evaluation Survey.
- This feedback tool will provide a means to educate and inform areas for improvement and support an effective process for "listening" to our customers
- Additional feedback about training can be directed to my supervisor john.davisson@ed.gov

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QUESTIONS?

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Thank You!

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