

Federal Update



Federal Update

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U.S. Department of Education
NCASFAA Spring Conference

Federal Student Aid
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

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April 8-10, 2019

Negotiated Rulemaking

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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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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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Accreditation Innovation and Other Issues

- Main Committee Session Dates:
 - Jan. 14–16, 2019
 - Feb. 19–22, 2019
 - March 25–28, 2019
 - April 1-3, 2019 (added)
- Sessions took place in Washington, DC. Specific locations announced in Federal Register notices and on our website
- Department brought specific proposals to first round of negotiations

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Accreditation Innovation and Other Issues

- Subcommittee Session Dates:
 - Jan. 17 – 18, 2019
 - Feb. 12 – 13, 2019
 - March 11 – 12, 2019
- Subcommittee sessions were livestreamed to provide public access

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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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Borrower Defense to Repayment

- The Department formed a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee to negotiate the following issues:
 - Federal Standard for BDTR
 - BDTR Process
 - Limited Aspects of Financial Responsibility and Administrative Capability
 - Pre-dispute Arbitration Agreements, Class Action Waivers, and Internal Dispute Processes
 - Closed School Discharges
 - False Certification Discharges
 - Guaranty Agency Collection Fees
 - Subsidized Usage Period Recalculation

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Borrower Defense to Repayment

- Financial Responsibility Subcommittee
 - Formed to consider issues relating to recent changes to the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) standards

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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 negotiated rulemaking committee was formed to consider the Gainful Employment rules
- The committee met:
 - Dec. 4-7, 2017,
 - Feb. 5-8, 2018, and
 - March 12-15, 2018
- Negotiations concluded without consensus being reached


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Federal Update


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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Federal Update

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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Federal Update

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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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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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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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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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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Tax Filing Extenders: VNF 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

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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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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

40 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

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

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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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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Assignment of Loans

Data Quality is Important:

- For loans being assigned to the Department, the assignment form and the institution's loan data **must** match what is reported on NSLDS
- Mismatches cause new loans to be created in NSLDS and then incorrect reporting or no reporting to occur on the assigned loan

Please note: 1/11/19 EA – revised Perkins assignment form with new expiration date of 12/31/21

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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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**New Enrollment Reporting Guide
(November 2018)**

- See Electronic Announcement November 14, 2018

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Federal Update

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
- 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)

ID: OVPL1 **Type:** Extract
Name: AID OVERPAYMENT COMPLIANCE REPORT


AID OVERPAYMENT COMPLIANCE REPORT Profile Update

SAIG MAILBOX:
 FREQUENCY: QUARTERLY
 SCHEDULE DISTRIB: ALL (M-F)
 EXTRACT TYPE: FIXED WIDTH

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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 OVPL1 report
- The email will be delivered to:
 - NSLDS Overpayment Contact
 - FAA Designee from eCAR



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See NSLDS Newsletter #61

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

Student in on your school's Transfer Monitoring List.

Pell Grant History

Lifetime Eligibility Used: 200.000%

#	Award Year	Scheduled Amount	Award Amount	Disbursed Amount	% Sched. Award Used by Award Yr.	Latest Disb.	Posted by COB
30	2017 - 2018	\$5,920	\$1,200	\$5,520	19.76%	06/27/2018	06/27/2018
		06/27/2018	06/27/2018	06/27/2018			
		1st Time	Admission to Institution	Admission to Institution		06/27/2018	06/27/2018
31	2018 - 2019	\$5,920	\$1,200	\$5,920	20.00%	06/27/2018	06/27/2018
		06/27/2018	06/27/2018	06/27/2018			
		1st Time - Yes	Admission to Institution	Admission to Institution		06/27/2018	06/27/2018

Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant History

Lifetime Eligibility Used: 0.000%

#	Award Year	Scheduled Amount	Award Amount	Disbursed Amount	% Sched. Award Used by Award Yr.	Latest Disb.	Posted by COB
32	2018 - 2019	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	06/27/2018	06/27/2018
		06/27/2018	06/27/2018	06/27/2018			
		1st Time - Yes	Admission to Institution	Admission to Institution		06/27/2018	06/27/2018

PRIVACY ACT OF 1974 (AS AMENDED)

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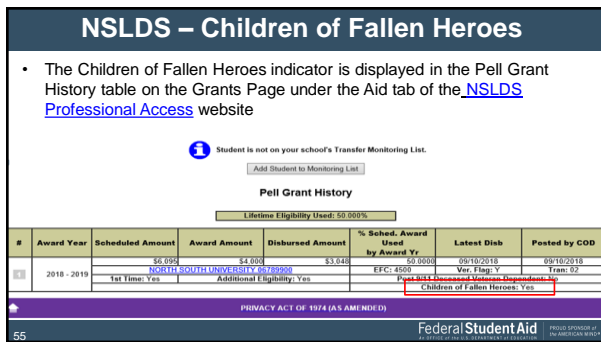
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NSLDS – Children of Fallen Heroes

- 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



Student is not on your school's Transfer Monitoring List.
Add Student to Monitoring List

Pell Grant History
Lifetime Eligibility Used: 50.000%

#	Award Year	Scheduled Amount	Award Amount	Disbursed Amount	% Sched. Award Used by Award Yr	Latest Disab	Posted by COD
1	2018 - 2019	\$6,094	\$4,000	\$3,048	50.000%	09/10/2018	09/10/2018
		NSLDS SOUTH LINDSEY CASPER			EFC: 5000	Ver. Flag: Y	Term: 02
		1st Time Yes	Additional Eligibility: Yes			Post-8011 Increased Lifetime Dependence: Y	
						Children of Fallen Heroes: Yes	

PRIVACY ACT OF 1974 (AS AMENDED)

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Changes to Enrollment Update

- Updated March 2019 (NSLDS Newsletter #63)
- 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

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Supplemental Enrollment Reporting File

- Updated March 2019 (NSLDS Newsletter #63)
- 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


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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



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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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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.

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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.

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COD Update – Release 18.0

- COD System implementation early April, 2019
 - New Award Year Set-up for 2019-20
 - No new schema
 - CFH Indicator added to 2018-19 Pell POP, 2019-20 Pell MRR, Pell Reconciliation, and Pell Grant Year-to-Date files
 - StudentLoans.gov Process Demonstrations
 - *Return of Title IV (R2T4) migrating to COD*
 - Fiscal Operations Report and Application to Participate (FISAP) Validation Edits

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COD Update –18.0 R2T4 on COD

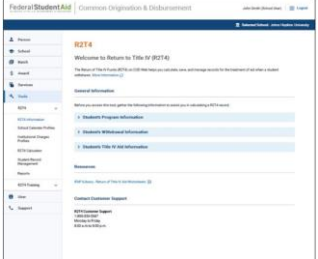
- R2T4 migrating to COD
 - Core-functionality and calculations will not change
 - Base year for tool will be 2017-18
 - Data (i.e., calculations, PDFs) will be available for ten years from base-year
 - Calculations and previous information will not transfer to COD
 - Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant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

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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 – Posted Resources

- 2019-20 COD Technical Reference (EA), November 19, 2018
- 17.2 Implementation (EA), November 20, 2018
- Children of Fallen Heroes Scholarship Act (EA), November 19, 2018
- R2T4 Transition to COD (EA), December 20, 2018, February 28, 2019 and March 1, 2019

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Protecting Student Information

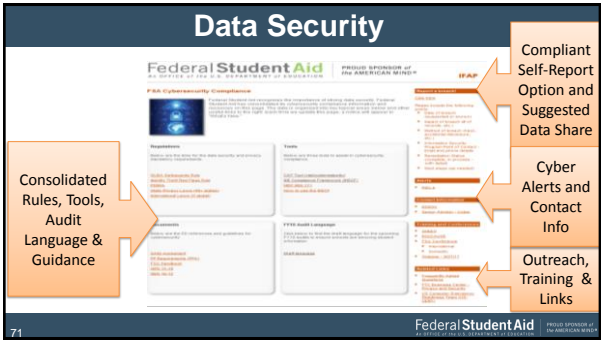


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Federal Student Aid Updates and Reminders

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myFAFSA Future Enhancements

March 22, 2019 – Electronic Announcement

- Customize messaging based on user role – student, parent or preparer
- Users no longer instructed to provide a touch signature (manual signature using a finger on the screen) and will now have the opportunity to provide active agreement to the terms and conditions on the Agreement of Terms view
- The Social Security Number (SSN) field on the Student Identifiers view will now be masked for heightened security

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Future FSA ID Enhancements

March 20, 2019 – Electronic Announcement

- FSA ID users will be able to log in with a *verified mobile phone number* as an alternative to a username or verified email address
 - User must register mobile phone number on [FSA ID website](#)
- Password change only required after a security event
- Special characters in password will be optional
- Warn users when account will be locked out (indicate remaining log-in attempts)
- Reminder to use email address will have continued access to

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2019–20 FWS Program Community Service Waiver Requests

March 18, 2019 – Electronic Announcement

- Explains FWS community service waiver process in COD and provides special circumstance examples
- Deadline for waiver submission is Monday, April 22, 2019
- Questions about the FWS community service expenditure requirements or the procedures for requesting a waiver, should be directed to COD School Relations Center -
 - 800-848-0978; CODSupport@ed.gov

2016 Borrower Defense to Repayment Regs

March 15, 2019 – Electronic Announcement

- Federal standard for BDTR applications will be applied for borrower defense to repayment claims asserted to loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2017
- Institutions need to notify the Secretary within specified timeframes about certain issues such as specific debts, lawsuits, 90/10 violations, stock exchange actions, accreditation probation or show-cause or loan agreement violations that occur on or after July 1, 2017
- Provided language and steps to resolve prohibited class action bans and predispute arbitration agreements
- Repayment rate warnings and financial protection disclosures guidance coming in the future

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Federal Update

Proration of Payment Period Charges

March 5, 2019 – Electronic Announcement

- Provides guidance and a series of Q & As around when and how to prorate costs associated with books, supplies and equipment when a school charges these costs upfront for periods greater than a payment period
- Guidance includes:
 - Discussion around when a student has a real and reasonable opportunity to purchase books elsewhere (including online options)
 - Institutional vs. non-institutional charges
 - Specific proration procedures
 - R2T4 considerations

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FY 2016 Draft Cohort Default Rates

February 25, 2019 – Electronic Announcement

- FY16 draft CDRs sent to schools via SAIG 2/25/19
- Time period for appealing the FY 2016 draft cohort default rates under 34 C.F.R Part 668, Subpart N begins on *Tuesday, March 5, 2019* for all schools
 - Deadline - *Thursday, April 18, 2019*
- Questions: contact the Operations Performance Division at fsa.schools.default.management@ed.gov or 202-377-4259

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SAVE Third Step Verification Update

2/14/19 – Electronic Announcement

- A new field was added to *FAA Access to CPS Online* in Corrections, “Resend Record to Matches”
 - FAAs can use this field to resend a student’s record to matching agencies and generate a new ISIR
 - If the student’s eligibility is not confirmed, *a new DHS verification number is provided* to resubmit the third step verification request through SAVE
- New process replaces the “Requesting a new DHS Verification Number” section of SAVE Instructions for School Users 2.0 document

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Federal Update

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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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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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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Federal Update

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

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 Update

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

<https://fsatraining.info/>

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FSA E-Training: Fundamentals of Federal Student Aid Administration

- FSA Coach Fundamentals, found in "Fundamentals Training Series on the FSA E-training Site (it replaces "Introduction to Federal Student Aid Online")
 - FSA Coach Fundamentals must be successfully completed online on the FSA E-Training website to register for and attend the in-person workshop
 - FSA Coach Fundamentals can also be used as a standalone training tool for new FA staff
- In-person workshop
 - 5 day workshop offered at most of FSA's Regional Training Facilities
 - Available dates found on FSA E-Training after completing "FSA Coach Fundamentals"
 - Click on "Fundamentals Training Series"
 - [Dear Colleague ANN-18-09](#)

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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

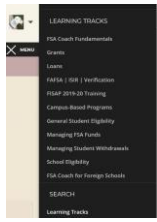
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Federal Update

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"




Federal Student Aid
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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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Training Feedback

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

- All registrants for this session will receive an email with a link to an electronic evaluation that we ask you to complete
- This feedback tool will provide a means to educate and inform areas for improvement and support an effective process for "listening" to our customers
- To register please go to - <https://cvent.me/ZR843>

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Federal Update

Additional Contact Information

CODSupport@ed.gov; 800-848-0978

- Questions related to the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System, the Campus-Based programs, or Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant, Pell Grant, TEACH Grant, and Direct Loan processing

nslds@ed.gov; 800-999-8219

- Questions related to NSLDS functions such as student eligibility, overpayments, loan history, and enrollment reporting

CPSSAIG@ed.gov; 800-330-5947


- Questions related to the Central Processing System (CPS), the Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG), FAA Access to CPS Online, and assistance with software products such as EDconnect and EDExpress

edcaps.user@ed.gov; 888-336-8930

- Questions related to G5, the Department of Education's electronic system for grants management and payments

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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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