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4 4 Federal Update

Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriations

- Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education (FUTURE) Act
 - Reauthorizes mandatory funding programs for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions under Title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA)
 - Provides secure disclosure of tax-return data from the Internal Revenue Service to the Department of Education to carry out student financial aid programs
 - Increases the level of mandatory appropriations for Pell Grants
- Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020
 - Increases maximum Pell Grant for 2020-2021 by \$150

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Pell Payment Schedule FY20 Pell Payment Schedule

• Estimated to be published in a Dear Colleague Letter in January 2020, no later than February 1, 2020

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Children of Fallen Heroes Scholarship Act

- Beginning in the 2020-21 award year:
 - FAA Access to CPS Online will be used to report eligibility to CPS
 - Flag will be carried on ISIR and comment set on SAR
 - COD will receive indicator to allow for proper awarding and disbursing of funds

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Deferment for Cancer Treatment

- On <u>August 22, 2019</u>, the Department published an Electronic Announcement regarding approval of the new Cancer Treatment Deferment Request Form
- The EA includes information on the statutory requirements for the deferment as well as instructions for the form and corresponding process
- For the borrower to receive a deferment, a Doctor of Medicine or Osteopathy who is legally authorized to practice medicine must certify that the borrower is or was receiving cancer treatment in the physician's care, and the dates of that treatment

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Federal Update

Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)

- PSLF was created in 2007 and, among other requirements, specified that borrowers must make 120 qualifying payments on a Direct Loan under an income-driven repayment plan
- The Department is working to alleviate confusion and provide a better, more modern customer experience
 - PSLF Help Tool was developed in 2018 Studentaid.gov/PSLF
 - · Additional enhancements are expected this year

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TEPSLF

- ED will reconsider borrower eligibility for Public Service Loan Forgiveness 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 <u>May 23, 2018 Electronic Announcement</u>

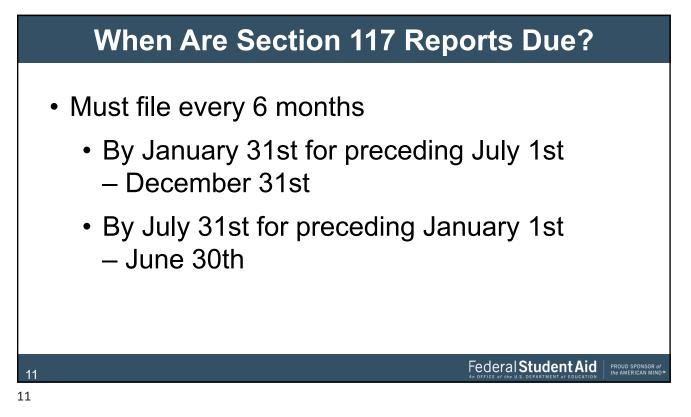
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Wh	at Is HEA Section 117?
Institutions of h disclosure repo	nigher education (IHE) must file a ort if the IHE:
2. Receives a	controlled by a foreign source, gift from a foreign source (> \$250,000), or a contract with a foreign source (> \$250,000).
. ,	eans alone or in combination with all other ontracts with that foreign source within a
10	Federal Student Aid Proud sponsor of the American Mind*
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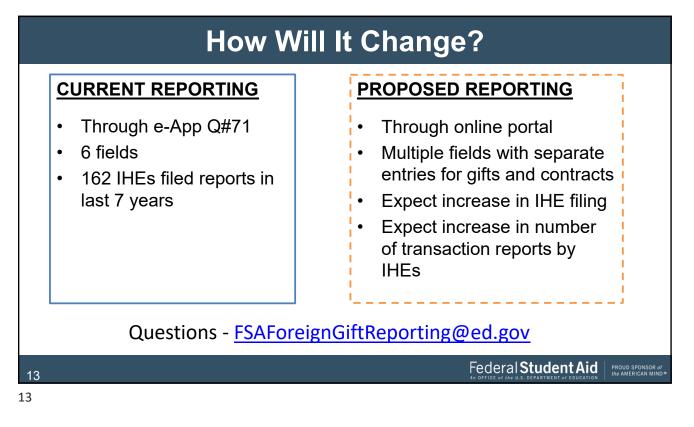


How will the Reporting Process Change?

- Use the current system for the January 31, 2020 reporting
 - Electronic application or E-App at <u>https://eligcert.ed.gov/</u>
 - Enter information in Section K, Question 71; any restrictions or conditions pertaining to gifts or contracts can be entered in Question 69
 - Complete the signature page in Section L and submit report
- For the next reporting cycle, use the new system to submit the new information (as approved by OMB)
 - FSA will provide a link to the new system once it is live through an electronic announcement

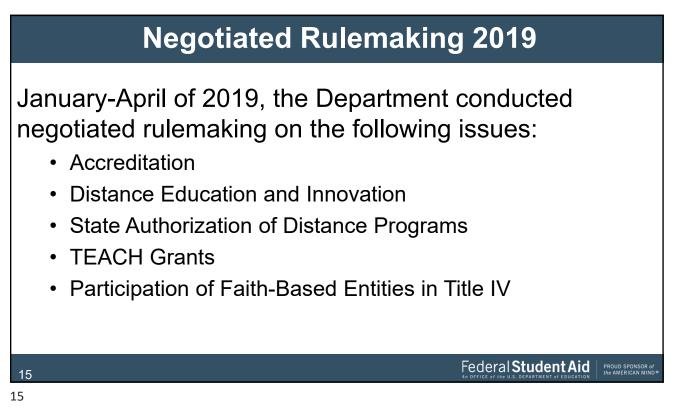
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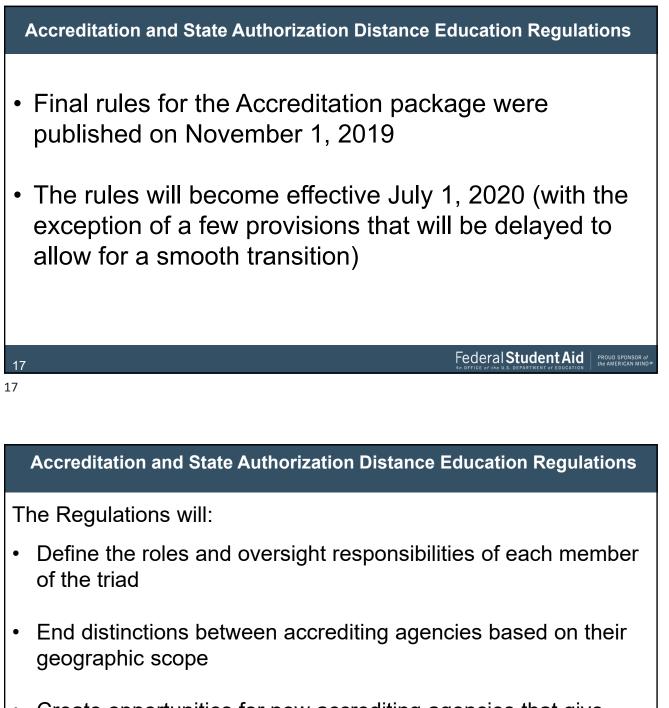




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	Negotiated Rulemaking 2019
•	The Negotiated Rulemaking Committee reached consensus on all issues!
•	The issues will be published in three separate packages:
	 Accreditation/State Authorization TEACH/Faith-Based Issues Distance Education and Innovation
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 Create opportunities for new accrediting agencies that give priority to student needs and outcomes

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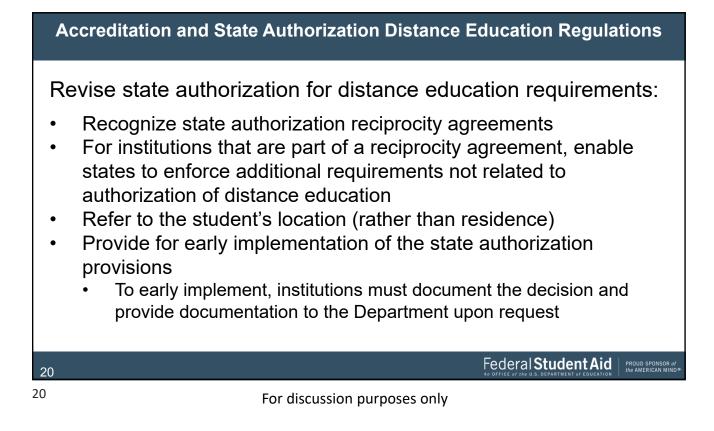
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Accreditation and State Authorization Distance Education Regulations

- Enable new programs and curricular changes to be approved more quickly to ensure that education keeps pace with workplace needs
- Explicitly allow institutions to engage employers in program development and review
- Inform student choice by helping students determine which programs are mostly likely to prepare them to meet the licensure or certification requirements in certain occupations
- Ensure students studying at foreign institutions have the opportunity to complete part of their program in the U.S. or to take courses offered by other institutions in the country in which they are enrolled

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Accreditation and State Authorization Distance Education Regulations

Department of Education Webinars (recordings will be posted to IFAP):

- January 22, 2-3 p.m. EST:
 - New recognition process, standards, recognition criteria, and implementation time frames
- January 23, 3-4 p.m. EST:
 - Substantive change, compliance, time frames, additional locations, alternate standards, and student outcomes
- January 30, 2-3 p.m. EST:
 - Teach outs, closures, state authorization, and additional locations





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TEACH Grants & Faith-Based Entities

To minimize the number of TEACH Grants that are converted to Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans, the proposed regulations include:

- Simplify TEACH Grant program requirements
 - Loan conversion will occur only if recipient asks the Secretary to convert his/her TEACH Grants to loans, or if the recipient fails to begin or maintain qualifying teaching service within a timeframe that would allow the recipient to satisfy the service obligation
- Update, strengthen, and clarify other areas of the TEACH Grant program regulations

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TEACH Grants & Faith-Based Entities

Faith-Based Entities:

- The Department reviewed Title IV regulations in light of:
 - The Supreme Court's decision in *Trinity Lutheran* Church of Columbia, Inc. v. Comer
 - The U.S. Attorney General's Memorandum on Federal Law Protections for Religious Liberty relating to executive order 13798

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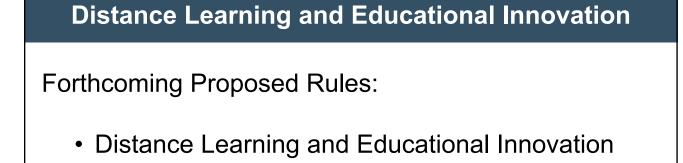


TEACH Grants & Faith-Based Entities

Faith-Based Entities proposed regulations include:

- Deleted outdated provisions that presume members of religious orders have no financial need
- Modified provisions relating Work-Study, Public Service Loan Forgiveness, and loan deferments for volunteer work to ensure that the provisions do not encroach on the Free Exercise clause of the Constitution

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Federal Update

Distance Learning and Educational Innovation

The consensus language for the Distance Learning and Innovation packages address:

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

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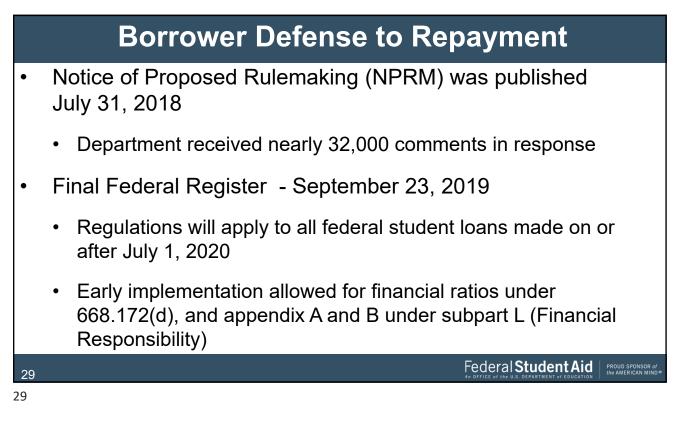
Distance Learning and Educational Innovation

- 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
- Removes barriers to innovation and student completion, graduation, or employment
- Direct assessment programs and competency-based education

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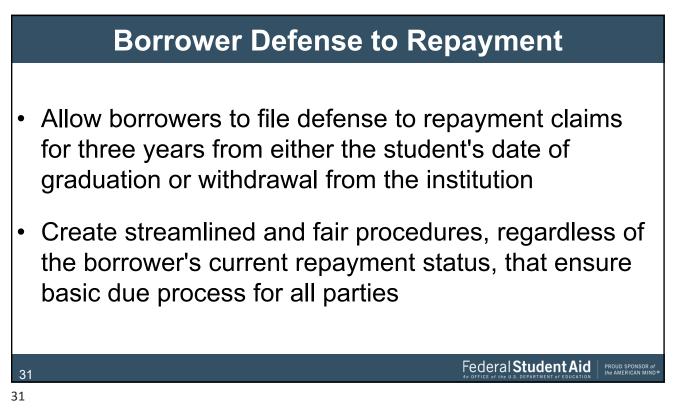
Borrower Defense to Repayment

The Regulations will....

- Grant borrowers the right to assert borrower defense to repayment claims against institutions, regardless of whether the loan is in repayment, in default, or in collection proceedings
- Maintain the current rule's preponderance of the evidence standard for all borrower defense to repayment claims

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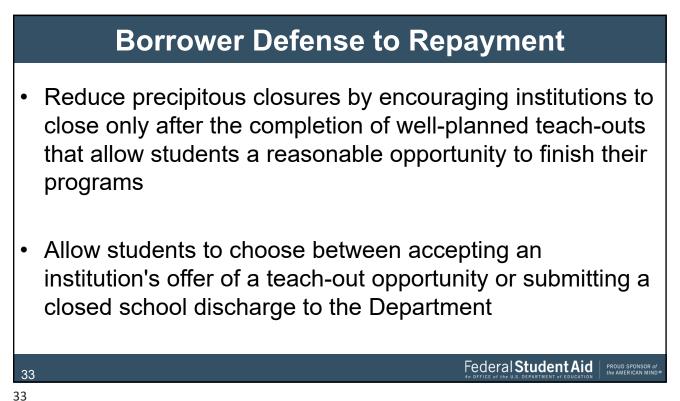


Borrower Defense to Repayment

- Give students the ability to allege a specific amount of financial harm and to obtain relief in an amount determined by the Department, which may be greater or lesser than their original claim amount
- Extend the closed school discharge window from 120 days to 180 days, ensuring that students have a meaningful opportunity to obtain relief if they cannot complete their programs due to school closures



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Borrower Defense to Repayment

- Provide fair, clear, and verifiable financial triggers for recalculating an institution's financial responsibility composite score and triggering additional security to protect taxpayers
- Update composite score calculations to reflect changes to Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) accounting standards

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Federal Update

Implementation of School Notice Requirements

- November 25, 2019 electronic announcement, ED alerted schools that we will soon begin to send notices required under the 2016 final borrower defense regulations
 - After we receive a borrower defense discharge application, we will send the school associated with the borrower's allegations a letter and a copy of the borrower's application and invite the school to respond and provide information relevant to the borrower's allegations within 30 days
- We will provide information on the implementation of any future changes to the school notice requirements under the 2019 borrower defense regulations before they become effective

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Federal Update

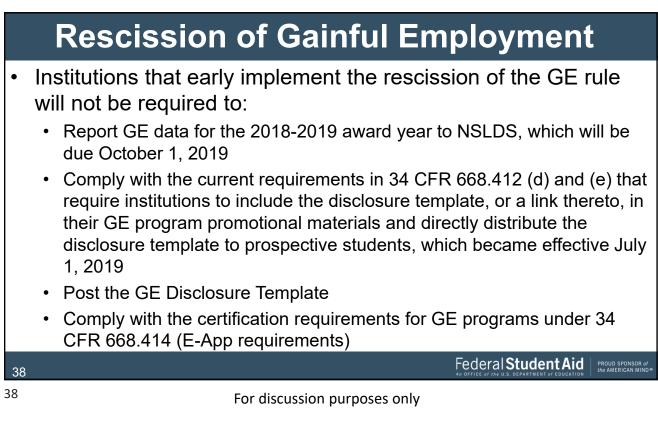
Rescission of Gainful Employment

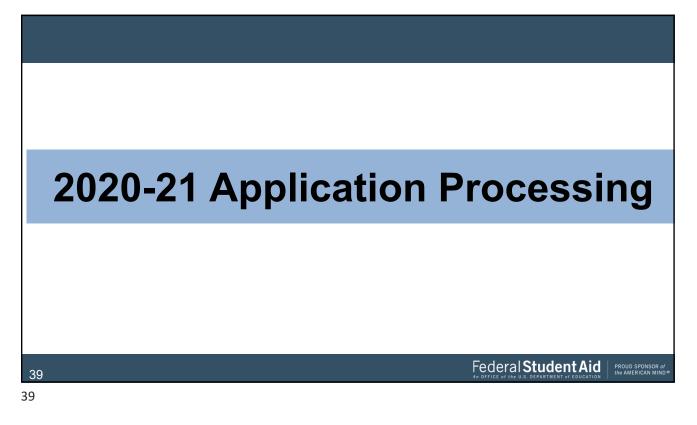
- Official implementation date of the GE rescission is July 1, 2020
- Schools have the option to early implement the rescission
 - An institution that early implements the rescission must document its early implementation internally and make such documentation available upon request by the Department
 - Documentation must be signed and dated

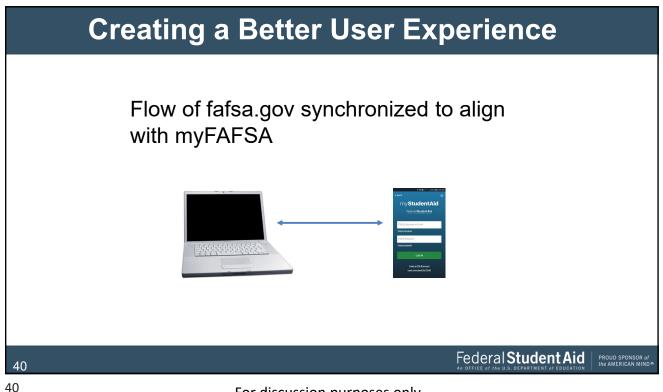
June 28, 2019 EA

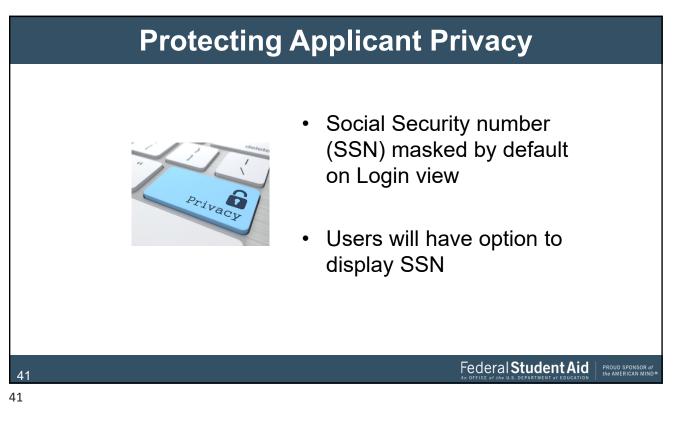
• Institutions that do not early implement the rule are expected to comply with current GE rules until rescission becomes effective

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Tracking myFAFSA Submissions

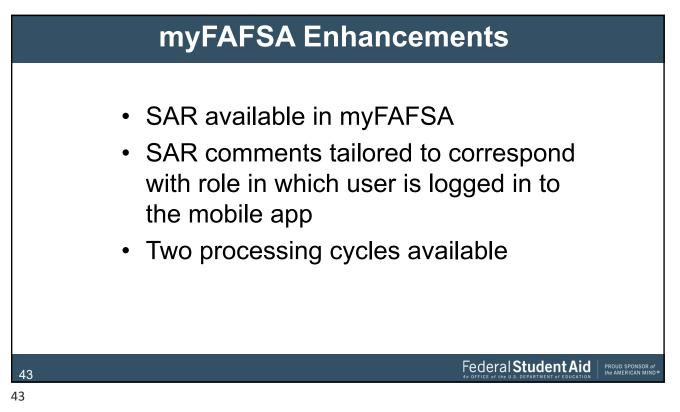
- Internally tracking mobile app submissions beginning 10/01/19
- Starting in March 2020, will add the transaction source to the ISIR showing "Mobile App"

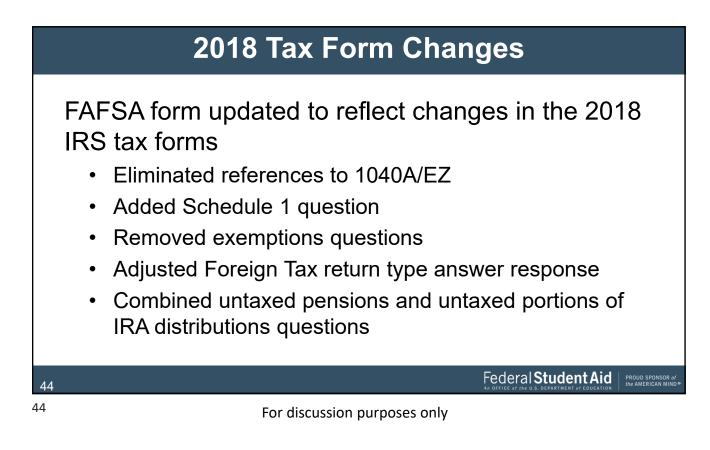


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Federal Update

Elimination of 1040A/EZ

- Type of tax return filed questions (33 and 80) modified to remove eliminated forms
- Eligible to file 1040A or 1040EZ questions (35 and 82) replaced with Schedule 1 question



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Schedule 1 Question

The elimination of IRS Forms 1040A and 1040EZ required FSA to develop a reasonable proximation for automatic zero (AZ) and simplified needs test (SNT) EFC calculations

• Questions 35 and 82 repurposed to ask whether the applicant or parent did or will file a Schedule 1 with their 2018 tax return

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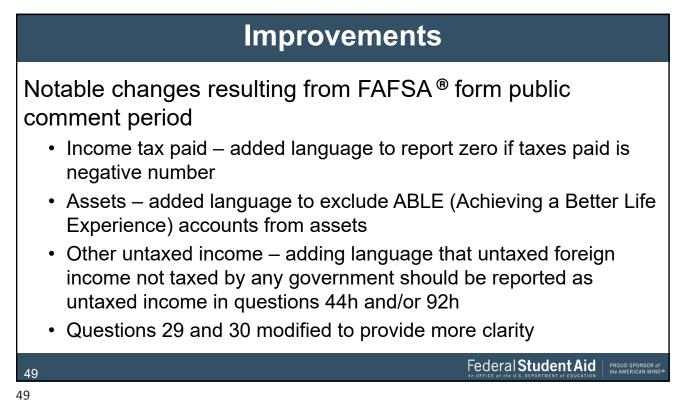
IRS Changes

- Exemptions field eliminated on tax forms, therefore exemptions questions (38 and 87 on 2019-20 FAFSA form) were removed
- Addition of IRS Form 1040-NR and 1040-NR-EZ to response options for type of tax return filed questions (33 and 80)

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	Student Questions for Tax Filers Only
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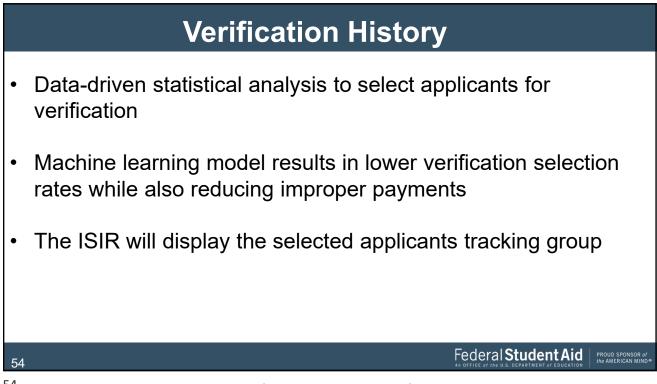


DHS-SAVE 3rd Step Verification Update • SAVE Instructions for U.S. Department of Education (School) Users Version 3.0 document is now available on IFAP: https://ifap.ed.gov/DHSSAVEEligibleNoncitizen/ElectThirdStepVerfi.html

	•	 Version 3.0 Combines and updates all SAVE system process changes from last 2 electronic announcements SAVE instructions 2.0 and Resend record to matches functionality How to resolve the "No Cases Found" error message Changes to the "Additional Request" buttons (VAWA, Cuban/Haitian Entrant, and Fraud) PDPA (Supervisor Third Step Only, STSO) User IDs are now enabled to view records and submit third step verification requests DHS verification numbers will start with "00" followed by the last 2 digits of a year How to advise students who need to correct, renew or replace their immigration documents
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DHS-SAVE Help and Support
 Email questions to applicationprocessingdivision@ed.gov, or Call APD voicemail at 202-377-4600 and leave message with: Student's DHS verification number Your name Your question Your question Your phone number **Note: Do not call the SAVE Call Center because they do not have a full understanding of our unique SAVE system access
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	2020-2021 Verification
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Federal Update

2020-2021 Verification

- May 24, 2019 Federal Register
 - Outlines federal verification items and documentation requirements
- Dear Colleague Letter GEN-19-02
 - Supplemental verification information
- July 31, 2019 Electronic Announcement
 - Suggested text for 2020-2021 verification included in App. A
 - Schools only required to use exact language for the Statement of Educational Purpose

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2020-2	021 Verification
 SCHEDULES to satisfy V1 or V5 Amended tax returns IRS identity theft Provides in footnotes the statement that a nonfile 	group changes signed paper tax returns AND THEIR verification requirements under: ne ability for a school to accept a signed er (or tax filer with an IRS approved extension) obtain IRS verification of nonfiling (not required
56	Federal Student Aid Proud sponsor a
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2020-2021 Verification

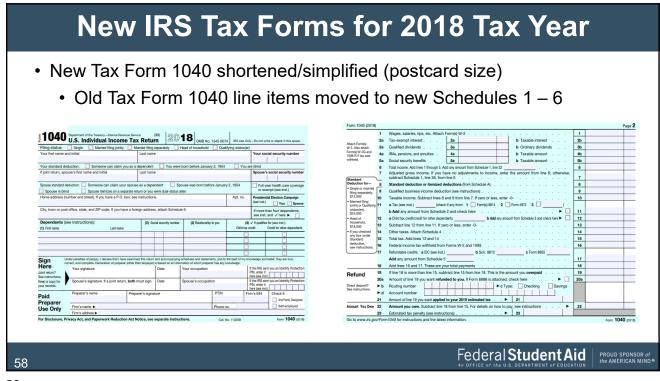
• Filing extension beyond automatic six-month extension for 2018 tax year:

- A copy of the IRS's approval of an extension beyond the automatic six-month extension for tax year 2018
- No longer require copy of IRS Form 4868, "Application for Automatic Extension of Time to File U.S. Individual Income Tax Return," for tax year 2018 and beyond
- Verification of nonfiling from the IRS dated on or after October 1, 2019
- A copy of IRS Form W–2 for each source of 2018 employment income received or an equivalent document; and
- If self-employed, a signed statement certifying the amount of AGI and U.S. income tax paid for tax year 2018

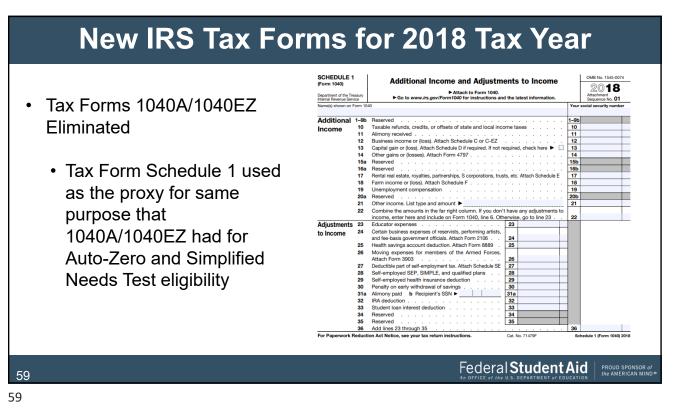
<u>Note</u>: If an institution requires that, after the income tax return is filed, an individual granted an extension submit tax information, it must be used to reverify the income and tax information reported on the FAFSA.

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New IRS Tax Forms for 2018 Tax Year

- Tax Form Schedule 1 proxy exceptions would have allowed 1040 filers to still be eligible to file 1040A
- Institutions are not required to verify self-reported answer to Schedule 1 question

Notes for questions 35 (page 4) and 82 (page 6)

Answer "No" if you (and if married, your spouse) did not file a Schedule 1. Answer "No" if you (and if married, your spouse) did or will file a Schedule 1 to report **only one or more** of the following items:

- 1. Capital gain (line 13 may not be a negative value)
- 2. Unemployment compensation (line 19)
- Other income to report an Alaska Permanent Fund dividend (line 21 – may not be a negative value)
- 4. Educator expenses (line 23)
- 5. IRA deduction (line 32)
- 6. Student loan interest deduction (line 33)

Answer "Yes" if you (or if married, your spouse) filed or will file a Schedule 1 and reported additional income or adjustments to income on any lines other than or in addition to the six exceptions listed above.

If you do not know if you filed or will file a Schedule 1, select "Don't know."

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Federal Update



- New Tax Transcript template allows for both the old (2017 and prior) tax forms and the new (2018 and subsequent) tax forms
- Combines old tax lines and new tax lines into one transcript
 - Tax information/data should only appear on corresponding tax data line for applicable tax year

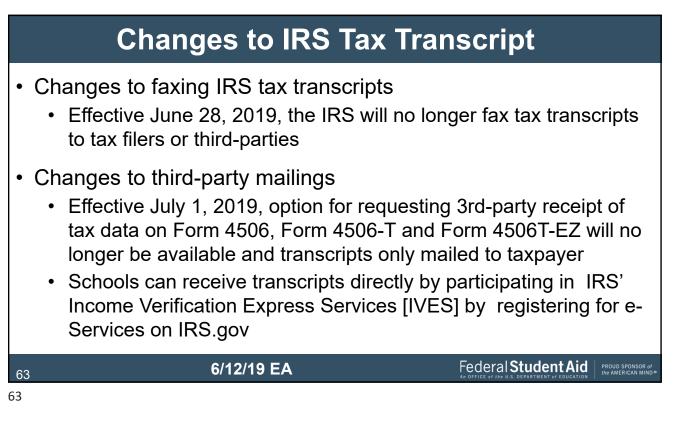
Income WAGES, SALARIES, TIPS, ETC:
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WAGES, SALARIES, TIPS, ETC: TAXABLE INTEREST INCOME: SON H:
TAX-EXEMPT INTEREST: \$0.00 CROIMARY DIVIDEND INCOME: SCH B: \$0.00 CUALFIED DIVIDENDS: \$0.00 REFUNDS OF STATE/LOCAL TAXES: \$0.00 ALMONY RECEIVED: \$0.00 BUSINESS INCOME OR LOSS (SCHEdule C): \$2,400.00 BUSINESS INCOME OR LOSS: SCH PER COMPUTER: \$2,400.00 CAPITAL GAINO R LOSS: SCH C PER COMPUTER: \$2,400.00 CAPITAL GAINO R LOSS: SCH U MEN COMPUTER: \$3,000.00 CAPITAL GAINS OR LOSSES (Porm 4/97): \$0.00 CYAL IRA DISFRIBUTIONSI: \$0.00
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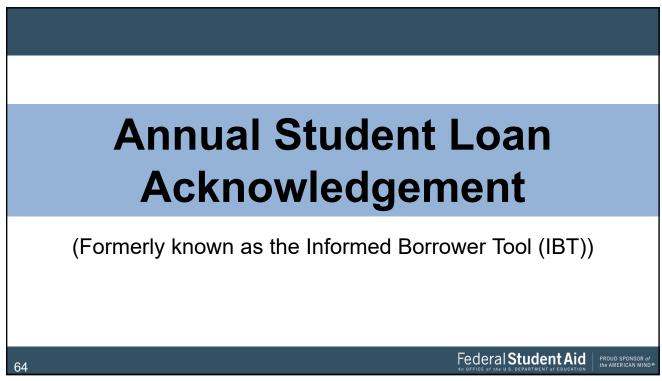
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2020-2021 Verification-IRS Tax Return Transcript Matrix

- The Department published an electronic announcement on November 26, 2019, which included an attachment of the 2020-2021 FAFSA Verification-IRS Tax Return Transcript Matrix
- The matrix may help financial aid administrators map 2018 IRS Tax Return Transcript information to FAFSA/ISIR data







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Federal Update

Annual Student Loan Acknowledgement

- Designed to assist borrowers in understanding the financial responsibility of funding their education
- Borrowers will see a user-friendly interface to view cumulative loan balance and repayment obligation
- Available on StudentAid.gov initially as an informational tool

November 21, 2019 Electronic Announcement

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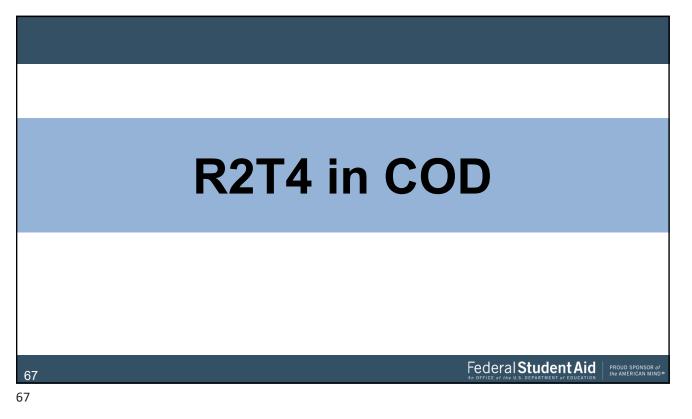
Annual Student Loan Acknowledgement Confirmation

- Starting in 2020-21, all Direct Loan (DL) borrowers (students and parents) will be required to confirm they have viewed the Annual Student Loan Acknowledgement before loans can be disbursed
- Schools must receive the confirmation for each borrower each award year before disbursing funds
- Annual Student Loan Acknowledgement Confirmation
 Process requirement will be implemented in Spring 2020

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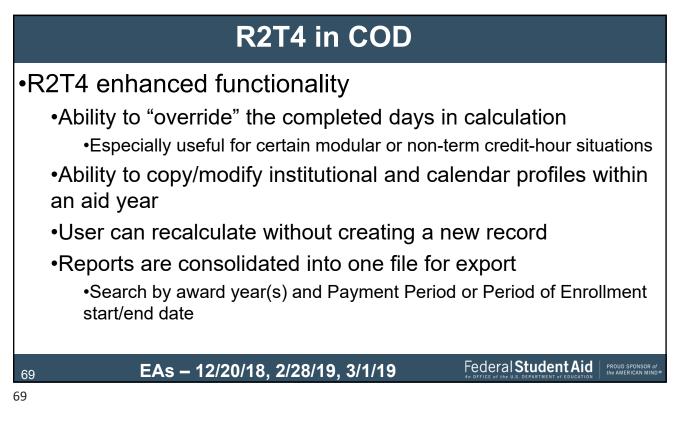


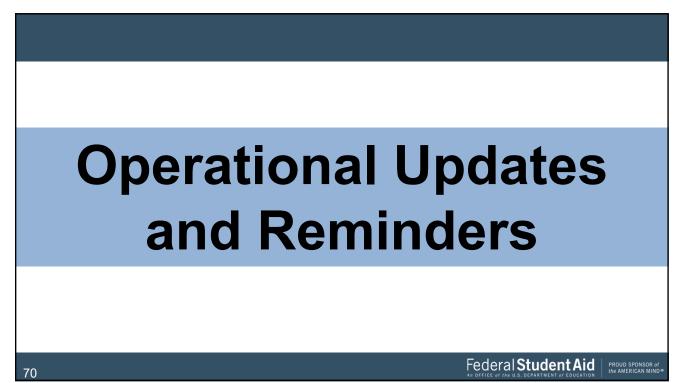
- R2T4 migrated to COD on April 7, 2019
 - https://cod.ed.gov
 - New sidebar located under "Tools"
 - · Core-functionality and calculations did not change
 - Base year for tool is 2017-18
 - Data is available for ten years from base-year
 - Calculations and previous information from FAA Access to CPS Online will not transfer to COD
 - FAA Access R2T4 was decommissioned in December 2019

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Student Data and 2020 Census

1/14/20 – Student Privacy Policy Office (SPPO) Letter

•U.S. Census Bureau intends to verify and collect data about colleges'/universities' student housing through May 15, 2020
•The SPPO letter was developed to provide specific guidance to schools on the types of student information ("directory information") that can be shared with the Census Bureau and when and how that private student information can be provided
•To review the SPPO letter please go to: studentprivacy.ed.gov

– <u>https://studentprivacy.ed.gov/topic/letters-importance</u>

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Self-Certification Form

1/10/20 – Electronic Announcement

 Contains the new Private Education Loan Applicant Self-Certification form (Self-Certification form) under OMB Control Number 1845-0101

- No changes from the earlier version of the form

- The expiration date of the new form is 8/31/2022 and replaces the previous version with an expiration date of 7/31/2019
 - The previous version of the Self-Certification form with the expiration date of 7/31/2019 may continue to be distributed until February 29, 2020

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Federal Update

Website Consolidation

12/13/19 – Electronic Announcement

- During the weekend of December 21-22, 2019, Federal Student Aid consolidated the current functionality of StudentAid.gov, StudentLoans.gov, FSAID.ed.gov, and some components of NSLDS[®] Student Access (NSLDS.ed.gov) under one umbrella website which will be *an enhanced version of StudentAid.gov*
- All of the functionality of StudentLoans.gov will be available under the new StudentAid.gov, and all existing pages will be redirected to the new pages
- FSAID.ed.gov and NSLDS Student Access will remain operational in the short term

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NSLDS Updates

11/25/19 Electronic Announcement

- Announces the availability of the <u>updated</u> <u>National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS®)</u> <u>Enrollment Reporting Guide</u>
 - Comprehensive document containing step-by-step instructions for reporting enrollment information to NSLDS and provides information on new functionality in NSLDS

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NSLDS Updates

NSLDS Newsletter #65 (October 2019)

- Automatic Closed School Discharge Code (CS02)
 - Indicates loan has been discharged due to school closing on or after November 1, 2013 and has been closed for at least three years (and borrower met all other criteria for discharge)
 - 11/25/19 EA discusses student eligibility and the closed school liability process
- New Cancer Treatment Deferment Type Code "CD

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College Scorecard

11/20/19 – Electronic Announcement

- <u>College Scorecard</u> has published new data metrics including:
 - 1) earnings of students one-year after graduation by field of study and
 - 2) cumulative loan debt of borrowers by field of study
- In 2020, College Scorecard will continue to expand and address the remaining data metrics described in the March 2019 Executive Order on <u>Improving Free Inquiry, Transparency, and Accountability at Colleges</u> and <u>Universities</u>
- College Scorecard uses both NSLDS and Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) data to present program-level information to prospective students and data users

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Federal Update

Revised Standard Term Policy

11/5/19 – Electronic Announcement

- Semesters and trimesters may now be between 14 and 21 weeks of instruction
- Quarters may now be between 9 and 13 weeks of instruction
- Standard terms are no longer required to be substantially equal
 - Two-week tolerance changed to maximum term length cap limit (exception for 12-week standard quarters)
 - Academic Year definition remains unchanged
- Contains a series of Q & As and term examples

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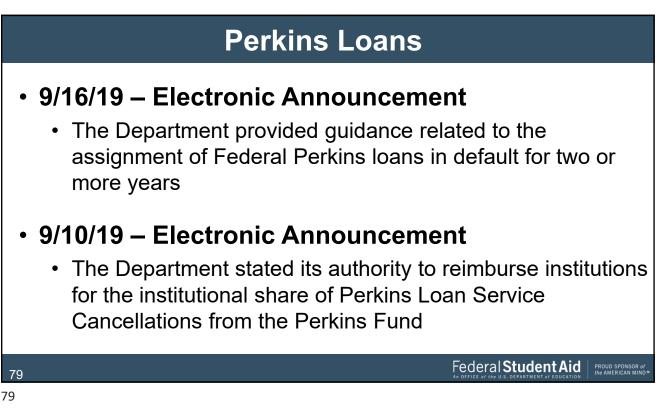
Single Audit Submission Requirements

11/5/19 – Electronic Announcement

- "Single Audit Submission Requirements for Fiscal Years Ending Within Calendar Year 2019 and Future Fiscal Years"
- Public and non-profit institutions participating in Title IV programs that submit a Single Audit that does not include the Student Financial Assistance Cluster as a major program are not required to notify their respective School Participation Division of any low-risk designation for fiscal years ending within calendar year 2019 and future fiscal years
- Institutions <u>must still submit</u> (via the eZ-Audit system) their complete Single Audit each year by the due date regardless of whether the Student Financial Assistance Cluster was audited as a major program

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2020-2021 College Financing Plan

9/5/19 Electronic Announcement

- Template name changed to College Financing Plan
- Added interest rate on each loan; more detail about need-based and meritbased scholarships and grants; can compare on-campus and off-campus living arrangements; and provide clear distinction between loans and grants and other aid that do not need to be repaid
- Simplified language and format, removing elements that add clutter or were unnecessarily complex
- 2020-2021 template to include additional data elements, a new responsive design, and the ability to customize colors to match those of your institution
 - <u>https://www2.ed.gov/policy/highered/guid/aid-offer/index.html</u>

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Proration of Payment Period Charges

3/5/19 – Electronic Announcement

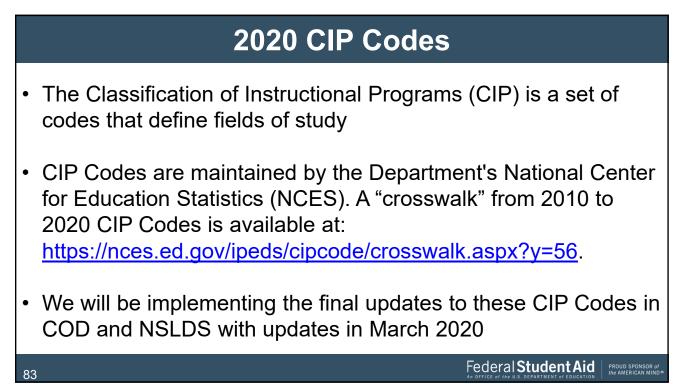
• Department provided guidance and series of Q & As about when and how to prorate costs associated with books, supplies, and equipment when a school charges for these items upfront for periods greater than a payment period

Guidance includes:

- Explanation that a school is only required to prorate charges for books and supplies if students do not have a real and reasonable opportunity to purchase them elsewhere
- Clarification that "real and reasonable opportunity" includes online purchasing options
- Specific proration procedures
- R2T4 considerations

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FSA Cybersecurity Compliance

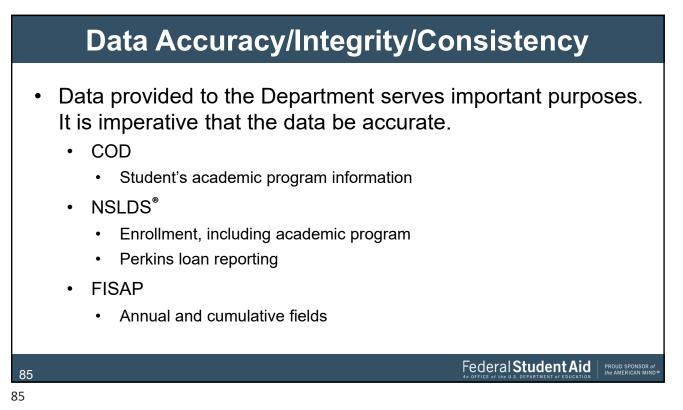
- Federal Student Aid recognizes the importance of strong data security and has consolidated its cybersecurity compliance information and resources on IFAP
- The page contains instructions for reporting a breach, assessing compliance with the FTC's Safeguards Rule, as well as information on privacy regulations, documents, and tools
- Please bring these resources to the people on your campus who are responsible for this



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https://fsatraining.ed.gov/c	ourse/view.php?id=277
Information for Financial Aid Professional (IFAP)	Other Published Guidance from ED
The Federal Student Aid (FSA) Handbook	FAA Access to CPS Online
Application Processing Guides	Common Origination and Disbursement (COD)
Operational Guides	System National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS)
Technical References	
The Higher Education Act (HEA)	Other Web-based Systems and Software
Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)	Web-based Resources
In a Nutshell: Negotiated Rulemaking	Contact Information for ED and Other Federal Resources
Federal Registers	FSA Assessments
Dear Colleague Letters (DCL)	Tools for Building Policies and Procedures
Electronic Announcements	Direct Loan Tools
Program Integrity Q&As	Preparing for Audits and Program Reviews

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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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Federal Update

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/zRrKZl

Federal Student Aid

Ask A Fed Online

FSA has implemented a 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 ready to assist schools with their questions.

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