



# DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

## FINANCIAL AID DEVELOPMENTS – JANUARY 2022

By Amy Hedrick, Policy Analyst

### ANNUAL STUDENT LOAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Electronic Announcement [DL-22-01](#) announced that borrower completion of the Annual Student Loan Acknowledgement will not be required for the 2022-23 award year and beyond. The acknowledgement will still be available on StudentAid.gov and schools will still receive completion information, but completion prior to disbursement will no longer be required. The EA directs schools to adjust borrower notifications and modify systems to reflect the requirement removal.

### PERKINS LOAN FORBEARANCE LIMIT WAIVER

Electronic Announcement [CB-22-03](#) announced the waiver of the three-year cumulative Perkins Loan forbearance limit due to the ongoing COVID-19 national emergency. *Borrowers with loans under the Federal Perkins Loan Program who have been placed in a forbearance status will be excluded from the three-year cumulative limit on forbearances during the duration of the COVID-19 national emergency, effective March 13, 2020.*

### REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

The U.S. Department of Education (DE) published three Federal Registers on January 10, 2022 requesting comments for the

proposed, revised, and continued collection of information. [87 FR 1128](#) – Student Assistance General Provisions -Annual Fire Safety Report – seeks comments on the request for an extension without change to the fire safety reporting requirements under 34 CFR §668.49. Additionally, [87 FR 1129](#) – Borrower Defense to Loan Repayment – seeks comments for an extension of the information collected on OMB Form 1845-0132 (Borrower Defense to Repayment Application) under the 1998 Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act §455(h). Finally, [87 FR 1130](#) – Student Assistance General Provisions-Non-Title IV Revenue Requirements (90/10) – seeks comments for revising the currently approved information collected in the Supporting Statement (OMB 1845-0096) based on recent changes to the 90/10 provisions under 34 CFR§668.28 to include burden hours. Submit comments at [Reginfo.gov](#) or via email to [ICDocketmgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketmgr@ed.gov) on or before February 9, 2022.

### GUIDANCE & OPERATIONS

Federal Registers, Dear Colleague Letters, and Electronic Announcements regarding guidance and operational information for federal financial aid programs and award years.

- [Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Work-Study, and Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant Programs; 2022-23 Award Year Deadline Dates \(87 FR 4871\)](#)
- [2022-2023 Federal Pell Grant Payment and Disbursement Schedules \(DCL GEN-22-03\)](#)
- [Federal Pell Grant Program Reconciliation \(EA GRANTS-22-01\)](#)
- [Tentative 2022–23 Funding Levels for the Campus-Based Programs \(EA CB-22-04\)](#)
- [Loan Servicing Information - Reporting Student Loan Interest Payments for 2021 \(EA LOANS-22-03\)](#)
- [HEAL Program Information – Maximum HEAL Program Interest Rates for Quarter Ending March 31, 2022 \(EA LOANS-22-02\)](#)
- [Use of FAFSA Data to Administer Federal Programs \(DCL GEN-22-02\)](#)
- [Updated Designation of Entity under Section 483\(a\)\(3\)\(E\) of the Higher Education Act and Institution of Higher Education \(IHE\) Guidance \(EA GENERAL-22-05\)](#)
- [Loan Servicing Information - Temporary Closures of Federal Loan Servicing Centers Due to Hazardous Weather Conditions \(EA LOANS-22-01\)](#)
- [2022-2023 FAFSA Verification-Internal Revenue Service \(IRS\) Tax Return Transcript Matrix \(EA VERIF-22-01\)](#)
- [IRS Data Retrieval Tool and Potential Inaccurate \\$1 Adjusted Gross Income for the 2022–23 FAFSA Form \(Updated Jan. 13, 2022\) \(EA APP-21-19\)](#)
- [EDconnect 8.5.1 Security Patch \(January 12, 2022\)](#)
- [Reminder: Mandatory SAIG Software Upgrade – EDconnect 8.5.1 Security Patch Must Be Installed by Feb. 20, 2022 \(EA GENERAL-22-04\)](#)
- [Volume 5 – Withdrawals and the Return of Title IV Funds \[2021-2022 Federal Student Aid Handbook\] \(EA GENERAL-22-03\)](#)
- [Reminder – Deadline for 2022–23 Underuse Penalty Waiver for the Campus-Based Programs is Feb. 7, 2022 \(EA CB-22-02\)](#)
- [GA-2022-01: Fiscal Year 2019 Cohort Default Rate Calculations \(NSLDS Guaranty Agency \(GA\) Technical Updates\) \(January 5, 2022\)](#)
- [Requirement for Foreign Medical Schools to Submit Scores for the United States Medical Licensing Examination \(USMLE\) Step 2-CS \(DCL GEN-22-01\)](#)

## **INFORMATION & TRAINING**

Federal Registers, Dear Colleague Letters, and Electronic Announcements regarding federal financial aid informational sessions, learning opportunities, and published reports.

- [Live Internet Webinars – Wednesday Webinar Series, February–May 2022 \(DCL ANN-22-01\)](#)
- [StopRansomware.gov website – The U.S. Government’s One-Stop Location to Stop Ransomware \(EA GENERAL-22-02\)](#)