



# DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

## FINANCIAL AID DEVELOPMENTS – APRIL 2022 By Amy Hedrick, Policy Analyst

### MISSOURI STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM EXITING FFELP

After forty-three years of serving Missouri’s student loan borrowers as the state-designated guaranty agency, the Missouri Student Loan Program (MSLP) will exit the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP). The on-going COVID-19 pandemic collection moratorium plus the announcement that defaulted borrowers will receive a “fresh start” by entering repayment in good standing at the end of the moratorium has made it unfeasible to continue as a guaranty agency. The U.S. Department of Education will select a successor guaranty agency to accept Missouri’s student loan portfolio in the upcoming weeks. See the Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development [press release](#) dated April 29, 2022 for additional information.

With the exit of the MSLP, publication of the monthly *Financial Aid Developments* and *Compliance Update* is also ending. This will be the last edition. Quoting Nora Maxwell, Director of the Missouri Student Loan Program, “It has been our honor to serve the citizens of Missouri for the past 43 years.”

### ANOTHER PAYMENT PAUSE EXTENSION AND A “FRESH START”

A U.S. Department of Education [press release](#) dated April 6, 2022 announced an

additional extension of the student loan repayment, interest, and collections moratorium through August 31, 2022 for all federally-held loans and guarantor-held FFELP loans. Along with the extension, ED also announced that defaulted borrowers will receive a “fresh start” and will enter repayment in good standing at the end of the moratorium. ED has not released any additional details on the “fresh start” as of yet.

### GUIDANCE & OPERATIONS

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

- [Update on the use of “Professional Judgment” by Financial Aid Administrators \(Updated April 29, 2022\) \(DCL-GEN-21-02\)](#)
- [Requirements for Distribution of Voter Registration Forms \(DCL GEN-22-05\)](#)
- [Volume 4 – Processing Aid and Managing FSA Funds \[2022-2023 Federal Student Aid Handbook\] \(EA GENERAL-22-25\)](#)
- [Operational Implementation Guidance #2 – COD System Implementation of the Revised 2022–](#)

- [23 Federal Pell Grant Payment and Disbursement Schedules \(EA GRANTS-22-06\)](#)
- [Record Submission Due Date for 2020–21 Direct Loan Program Year Closeout \(EA DL-22-03\)](#)
- [Revised Special Handling Process for FAFSA Filers Under the Age of 13 \(EA APP-22-06\)](#)
- [Comment Request: Forms Related to the Health Education Assistance Loan \(HEAL\) Program \(87 FR 25477\)](#)
- [Comment Request: Foreign Graduate Medical School Consumer Information Reporting Form \(87 FR 24143\)](#)
- [Comment Request: Loan Cancellation in the Federal Perkins Loan Program \(87 FR 22198\)](#)
- [Comment Request: Part 601 Preferred Lender Arrangements \(87 FR 22197\)](#)
- [Additional Resources for Financial Aid Administrators: New School Guide and FSA Assessments \(EA GENERAL-22-23\)](#)
- [2021–22 Verification Reporting and Verification Status Code “W” Warning Message \(EA GRANTS-22-04\)](#)
- [HEAL Program Information – Maximum HEAL Program Interest Rates for Quarter Ending June 30, 2022 \(EA LOANS-22-05\)](#)
- [Comment Request: Application for Approval to Participate in Federal Student Aid Programs \(87 FR 21644\)](#)
- [Operational Implementation Guidance – Federal Student Aid’s Implementation of Revised 2022–23 Federal Pell Grant Payment and Disbursement Schedules \(EA GRANTS-22-03\)](#)

- [2022–23 FAFSA® Spring Renewal Campaign \(EA APP-22-05\)](#)
- [Updated Federal Perkins Loan Assignment and Liquidation Guide Now Available \(EA CB-22-09\)](#)
- [Appendices A-G \[2021-2022 Federal Student Aid Handbook\] and Errata and Updates to the Application and Verification Guide \[2022-2023 Federal Student Aid Handbook\] \(EA GENERAL-22-22\)](#)
- [Comment Request: Third Party Servicer Data Collection \(87 FR 19486\)](#)

## **SYSTEM UPDATES & SOFTWARE**

Federal Registers, Dear Colleague Letters, and Electronic Announcements regarding federal student aid systems and software.

- [Service Release Available for EExpress for Windows 2021–2022, Release 2.0 to Maintain Pell ESOA Import Functionality \(EA EDESUITE-22-02\)](#)
- [Availability of EExpress for Windows, 2022–2023, Release 2.0 \(EA EDESUITE-22-01\)](#)
- [Electronic Statement of Account for UEI Change in Additional COD System Implementation for 2022–23 Award Year \(EA GRANTS-22-05\)](#)