



SPOTLIGHT ON TRAINING

Did you know that we offer free training events on a variety of topics? Visit the [Training Calendar](#) on the FedLoan Servicing Web site to learn more about the events or to register.

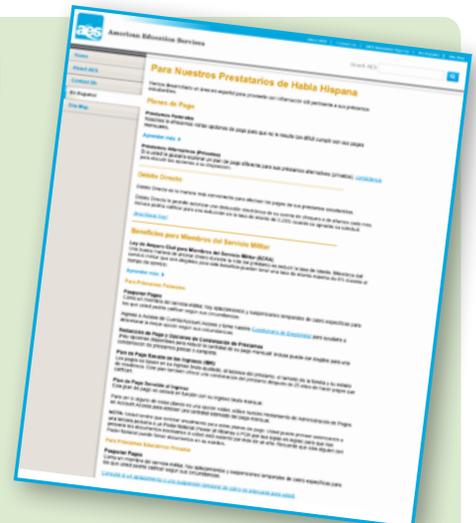
DEADLINE FOR UNDERUSE PENALTY WAIVER IS FEBRUARY 7, 2014



This is a reminder that the deadline to submit the underuse penalty waiver for **2014-15 Campus-Based Programs** is 11:59 PM ET, February 7, 2014. The waiver must be submitted electronically and accepted by mid-night. Access to the CPS Web site, scheduled for December 29, 2013. To avoid this issue in the meantime, schools are encouraged to have applicants submit corrections to financial information through the FAFSA on the Web.

REPAYMENT INFORMATION NOW AVAILABLE IN SPANISH!

We are pleased to announce that repayment information is now available in Spanish on PHEAA.org. Visitors can learn more about reducing and postponing payments, loan discharge, and the benefits available to servicemembers. Access the Spanish portion of our [website](#).



- 2 [Updated Version of FSA Coach for 2013-14 Award Year](#)
- [Look What's New on the 150% Direct Subsidized Loan Limit Page](#)
- [Access to Student Aid Internet Gateway Removed](#)
- 3 [Now Available!](#)
- 4 [Teacher Cancellation Low-Income Directory Updates](#)
- [Updated SAIG Message Class File](#)
- [USDOE Requests Information to Assist in the Development of a PIRS](#)
- 5 [Compliance Corner](#)

Select the Spanish link to access the publication.

UPDATED VERSION OF FSA COACH FOR 2013-14 AWARD YEAR

The updated version of the FSA Coach for the 2013-14 Award Year was released on [December 30, 2013](#). This version of FSA Coach is intended for use by domestic schools and provides over 40 hours of instruction on 33 topics. (The FSA Coach for foreign schools is expected to be released in the future.)

This training resource is located on the [Federal Student Aid E-Training Website](#). Participants must provide their log in information to access the training. Individuals without log in information may register on the Website by selecting "Create New Account."



LOOK WHAT'S NEW ON THE 150% DIRECT SUBSIDIZED LOAN LIMIT INFORMATION PAGE

Visit the [150% Direct Subsidized Loan Limit Information page](#) on the Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Website to review the latest in announcements, training materials, and other resources dedicated to this topic.

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) recently added the Frequently Asked Questions section to the page to provide information and guidance on implementing this rule.



UPDATED SAIG MESSAGE CLASS FILE

Please be aware that on [December 17, 2013](#), all Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG) users with a mailbox should have received an updated version of the EDconnect message class table file "MESSAGTB." The EDconnect transmission software is programmed to request, download, and import the new message class table at the user's next log in. Users who have questions about this update should contact CPS/SAIG Technical Support at [\(800\).330.5947](tel:800.330.5947) (TDD/TTY 800.511.5806 or via e-mail at CPSSAIG@ed.gov).



ACCESS TO STUDENT AID INTERNET GATEWAY REMOVED

December 13, 2013, was the deadline for an institution's Primary Destination Point Administrator (Primary DPA) to perform active confirmation of all TG Numbers assigned to its Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG) users. SAIG access includes: [NSLDS Professional Access Web site](#), the eCampus-Based (eCB) Web site, and all FAA Access to CPS Online, and EDconnect user accounts.

Please be aware that Federal Student Aid (FSA) has removed access for SAIG users whose access was not actively confirmed by the deadline. Users whose access has been removed should coordinate with their institution's DPA to have it restored. Please review the Electronic Announcement published on [December 17, 2013](#), for instructions on restoring access.

NOW AVAILABLE!

On [December 13, 2013](#), the U.S. Department of Education (ED) released the 2014-15 Financial Aid Shopping Sheet. Over the past year, ED met with various stakeholders, including schools, students and guidance counselors. As a result, ED made minor changes to the front page of the Shopping Sheet. Review the Dear Colleague Letter published on December 13, 2013, for a comprehensive list of changes to the Shopping Sheet for the 2014-15 award year.

WORKSHEET FOR QUESTION 23 RELEASE FOR 2014-15 AWARD YEAR

On [December 17, 2013](#), the Worksheet for question 23 was released to the community. The worksheet assists applicants in determining eligibility on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for federal student aid following a conviction for possession or sale of illegal drugs.

NEW EDITIONS OF THE COD PROCESSING UPDATE

Please be aware that a new edition of the [Common Origination and Disbursement \(COD\) Processing Update](#) is made available on business days when there has been a change to the previously published Update and each Friday. Please visit the [COD Website](#) to access the latest version.

2014-15 COD TECHNICAL REFERENCE NOW AVAILABLE

On [December 20, 2013](#), the U.S. Department of Education (ED) made available the 2014-15 COD Technical Reference. Select the link within this article to access all volumes of the Technical Reference.

90/10 REGULATION AND CALCULATION PRESENTATION MATERIALS

In response to interest from the financial aid community, the U.S. Department of Education (ED) has made available the transcript and handouts for the [90/10 Regulation and Calculation Presentation](#) originally presented in the fall of 2011. The materials can be downloaded from the [Training for Financial Aid Professional page](#) on the Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Website.

2014-15 SUMMARY OF CHANGES FOR THE APPLICATION PROCESSING SYSTEM GUIDE

On [December 20, 2013](#), the U.S. Department of Education (ED) published the 2014-15 Summary of Changes for the Application Processing System Guide to provide schools with information about the changes and enhancements made to the application processing system for 2014-15.

2014-15 CPS WEB APPLICATIONS DEMONSTRATION (WEB DEMO) SYSTEM AND 2014-15 CPS MAINFRAME TEST SYSTEM NOW AVAILABLE FOR USE

On [December 30, 2013](#), the U.S. Department of Education (ED) announced the availability of the 2014-15 CPS Web Applications Demonstration (Web Demo) System and 2014-15 CPS Mainframe Test System. The Test System allows mainframe users to test the application and correction data processing between a school's system and CPS outside the production system. Please review the announcement published on December 30, 2013 for more information.



TEACHER CANCELLATION LOW-INCOME DIRECTORY UPDATES

On [December 16, 2013](#), U.S. Department of Education (ED) published an Electronic Announcement to inform the community that it has reached out to states to request updated lists of low-income schools and educational service agencies in order to update the Directory of Designated Low-Income Schools for Teacher Cancellation Benefits.

The Directory is used to determine whether a teacher is eligible for:

- Loan cancellation under the Federal Perkins Loan (Perkins Loan) Program, and
- Loan forgiveness under the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program and the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program.

It is also used to confirm whether a teacher has satisfied certain teaching requirements for the Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program. States that do not respond and provide updated information could impact the eligibility of an applicant(s) to receive federal program benefits.

To inquire about low-income schools included in the Teacher Cancellation Low-Income (TCLI) Directory, contact the appropriate [state agency](#).

USDOE REQUESTS INFORMATION TO ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PIRS

In August of 2013, President Obama directed the U.S. Department of Education (ED) to develop a new college rating system before the 2015-2016 school year. On [December 17, 2013](#), ED published a request in the Federal Register asking interested parties to provide information to assist in the implementation of this new system.

Under the auspices of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), ED hopes to create a PIRS that will advance institutional accountability, enhance transparency, and improve consumer decision-making. To accomplish this, they are eager to collect information on:

- Potential data elements,
- Metrics,
- Methods of data collection and analysis,
- Methods of weighting and scoring, and
- Presentation frameworks.

Organizations that may have developed, or that are in the process of developing, rating systems for postsecondary institutions or for other non-education entities are strongly encouraged to respond.

ED is focusing their inquiry on the following specific categories:

1. The metrics necessary for rating the performance of postsecondary institutions using data that is either already available to ED, or that is not currently available, but which could be collected in the future.
2. Empirical methods for weighting, scoring, or otherwise combining the various metrics into a single dimension or set of dimensions.
3. Empirical methods for weighting, scoring, or otherwise adjusting metrics or grouping institutions to ensure appropriate comparison and calibration within the system.
4. Options for presenting the information for both accountability and consumer information purposes.
5. Models of rating systems developed for entities other than postsecondary institutions.

In order to guide the input they receive, ED has published a number of questions within the Federal Register that expand on the above categories. Interested parties should submit their comments to the NCES on or before January 31, 2014 using one of the following methods:

- Electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal
- Via Postal mail, Commercial Delivery, or by hand to:
Mr. Richard Reeves
National Center for Education Statistics
Attention: Postsecondary Institution Rating System RFI
U.S. Department of Education
1990 K Street NW.
8th Floor
Washington DC, 20006



QUESTION:

If a half-time student is receiving maximum annual loan amount and is enrolled in a school using the Scheduled Academic Year (SAY), can the student receive the next year's annual loan amount at the beginning of the new academic year, or must he/she earn the required number of credits to meet the statutory requirements (i.e. 24 credits)?

ANSWER:

A student is eligible for a new annual loan limit after the Scheduled Academic Year (SAY) calendar period has elapsed. In this part-time student scenario, the student may still be at the same grade level for the next SAY.

For example, a part-time dependent undergraduate student may attempt to earn 6 credits fall 2012, and attempt to earn 6 credits for spring 2013, and does not attend the summer "trailer" term. Using an SAY, the borrower's annual loan limits "reset" after the calendar period for the first year SAY ends. The student, now in the second SAY and the fall 2013 term, would still be considered a freshman/1st year student (with 12 credits earned), and can only receive the corresponding FIRST YEAR loan amounts of \$3500 subsidized and \$2000 unsubsidized Stafford loan funds for the second SAY.

The following is from the 2012 FSA Handbook, Volume 3, Chapter 5, Page 3-89:

Depending on the academic calendar of the program, a student who has reached the annual loan limit cannot receive another Stafford Loan until he or she either begins another academic year, or progresses within an academic year to a grade level with a higher annual loan limit.

The academic year is used as the basis for the student's annual loan limits. Also, from the 2012 FSA Handbook, Volume 3, Chapter 5, Page 3-98:

When using a Scheduled Academic Year (SAY), the student becomes eligible for a new annual loan limit after SAY calendar period has elapsed.



Created in 1963 by the Pennsylvania General Assembly, the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) has evolved into one of the nation's leading student aid organizations. Today, PHEAA is a national provider of student financial aid services, serving millions of students and thousands of schools through its loan guaranty, loan servicing, financial aid processing, outreach, and other student aid programs.

PHEAA's earnings are used to support its public service mission and to pay its operating costs, including administration of the Pennsylvania State Grant and other state-funded student aid programs. PHEAA continues to devote its energy, resources and imagination to developing innovative ways to ease the financial burden of higher education for students, families, schools, and taxpayers.

PHEAA conducts its student loan servicing activities nationally as American Education Services (AES) and FedLoan Servicing.

CONTACT

**BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
& OPERATION/LOAN GUARANTY**
Mon - Fri, 7:30 am to 9:00 pm ET

**STUDENT/PARENT
GRANT & LOAN INQUIRIES**
800.692.7392
granthelp@aesSuccess.org
studentloans@aesSuccess.org

SCHOOL/LENDER INQUIRIES
800.443.0646
loanhelp@aesSuccess.org

These materials have been developed and paid for by the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) for informational purposes. Although the information contained in this document is believed to be accurate at the time of printing, PHEAA does not guarantee its accuracy. You should independently verify that this information is correct.

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