



800.242.0977
djainfo@gotodja.com

P.O.Box 456
Wichita, KS 67002

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

IMPORTANT DATES:

Early March

Release of 24/25 ISIRs

March 6

DJA Webinar:
Administrative Capability

March 8

Approval Date of 6
Appropriations Bills

March 10

Daylight Savings Time

March 22

End of Stopgap Resolution
Funding Bill

March 25-28th

ABHES Annual Conference

IN THIS ISSUE:

- In the News: 24/25 FAFSA Support Strategy and AY Flexibilities
- In the News: Congress Passes Continuing Resolutions Bill
- FY 2021 Draft CDR Released
- First ACA Pell Grant Payments Released
- Direct Loan Program Closeout Information
- FSA Announcements and Publication Review
- Compliance Corner
- DJA Calendar

This February is a leap year as we get an extra day this month. Some view this added day with luck and yet others assign it a superstitious curse. While I tend to not believe in such folklore, I can't help but think that the last leap year we had brought us the coronavirus and an international pandemic. And this leap year, we have the 24/25 FAFSA implementation pandemonium. Though our current mayhem can't compare to 2020, I must that those in the financial aid industry certainly aren't using the word "lucky" when describing the debacle occurring with the repeated delays and system wide issues surrounding the release of the overhauled 24/25 FAFSA and subsequent Department systems.

In this newsletter, we provide a summary of all updates provided in the month of February in regards to the 24/25 award year, focusing specifically on the Department of Education's FAFSA Support Strategy. We also review the added 24/25 award year flexibilities passed by the Department to reduce the burden on schools to enable to them to focus their resources on getting students the aid they need. Additionally, we cover the most recent continuing resolution bill passed by Congress to avoid a government shutdown.

There are several deadlines and regulatory reminders within this edition as well, including the upcoming opening date to begin appealing the FY 2021 Draft CDR's released earlier this month. Be sure to review the important dates to the left of this introduction and the remaining coverage provided within this issue. We have also shared valuable resources provided by FSA addressing regulatory compliance on the horizon of implementation. We encourage you to visit those links.

We appreciate the opportunity to keep your institution informed.

*Thank you,
Renee Ford, Vice President*



IN THE NEWS: 24/25 FAFSA COLLEGE SUPPORT STRATEGY AND AWARD YEAR FLEXIBILITIES

FAFSA Support Strategy: In last month's [newsletter](#), we provided updates on the delay of the 24/25 ISIRs, originally set for release at the end of January, to a later period of early March. As we shared, the reason for the delay centered around the discovery of the 24/25 SAI tables not taking into account inflation figures, resulting in the potential loss of millions of federal aid to students. That reality did not align with one of the primary objectives of the FAFSA Simplification Act, which intended to provide increased aid offerings to a great student population. While further research revealed the Department of Education(ED) was made aware of the inflation oversight in the fall of 2023, it was not until late January that they made a press release providing their intention to fix the SAI tables. Though the solution will ultimately benefit the student borrowers, it has placed a significant burden on schools in that the 24/25 ISIRs are still not in the hands of administrators needing to provide their future students the aid packaging offers needed to determine enrollment for the upcoming award year.

Quickly following the [press release](#) announcing the correction to the SAI tables, ED released a subsequent [press release early this month](#), deploying their FAFSA Support Strategy. This action plan is their effort to rectify the chaos of repeated delays and system issues that has become indicative of the implementation for the 24/25 FAFSA overhaul. Designed to provide additional staffing, funding, resources and technology assistance to help schools and student borrowers better complete the updated FAFSA form and ensure institutions are able to process student records efficiently and accurately once ISIRs are released.

The [FAFSA College Support Strategy](#) initially outlined three primary objectives with further intentions provided to achieve them. Over the month of February, ED provided additional [details](#) on those intentions. For a complete summary, see below:

- **Deploying federal personnel and expertise to help colleges prepare and process financial aid forms:**
 - Offer federal financial aid experts to high need, lower-resourced colleges, including Historically Black Colleges/Universities and Tribal Colleges/Universities, to ensure they have they have the necessary tools to train and support staff; process financial aid packages; understand the necessary steps to prepare; and provide on-campus support. Institutions will be prioritized to receive more extensive support from FSA based on several factors including known past challenges in administering a *Title IV* program (e.g., on heightened cash monitoring), percentage of enrolled students that receive Pell grants, imminent critical deadlines (e.g., decision dates or start of summer semester), and the level of resources currently available to the institution. Schools were expected to receive notification from ED mid-February if they would potentially benefit from this resource.
 - To request assistance, schools can email [here](#).
 - Additionally, to support a broader range of institutions, ED will provide a new concierge phone line with access to financial aid experts offering personalized support based on their individual needs.
- **Directing funding for technical assistance and support for under resourced colleges:** \$50 million in federal funding is being allocated to non-profit groups specialized in financial aid support and services. These groups will use these funds to recruit financial aid professionals to provide additional technical assistance and support, beyond the federal teams deployed by the Department, for under resourced colleges. The federal funding will be administered by the Educational Credit Management Corporation and



will engage experienced nonprofits like the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) and the Partnership for Education Advancement.

- To request support, please email the FSA Concierge services [here](#).
- **Releasing tools to help colleges prepare to quickly and accurately process student records and deliver financial aid packages:** Additional test ISIRS were announced to be released by February 16th, along with a commitment to work with financial aid system developers to ensure schools and states can prepare their software systems effectively. These test ISIRS were later provided on an open-source tool in a public U.S. Department of Education GitHub [repository](#). Further tools were shared on [studentaid.gov](#), including FAFSA completion data and a resource providing applicants and contributors with tips for successful completion of the 24/25 FAFSA.

As the month concluded, ED provided an additional [press release](#) updated the public on its progress on the 24/25 FAFSA implementation. The release began with a promising statement from Secretary of Education, Miguel Cardona, “We are putting all hands-on deck and using every lever we have to make sure we can achieve the transformational potential of the Better FAFSA to make higher education possible for many more of our nation’s students. The technical updates we are making today will not impact our implementation timelines, and combined with other implementation efforts, the Department’s Better FAFSA will result in more students eligible to access more Pell Grants in the 2024–25 award year.”

FSA provided a subsequent [Electronic Announcement](#) highlighting the types of additional support ED intends to offer:

- **A technical update to the SAI Formula (PLEASE NOTE AT THE TIME OF PUBLICATION- THIS UPDATE IS NULL AS CONGRESS PASSED A SHORT TERM BILL REMOVING THIS CHANGE):** To squash fears of timeline delays, the announcement immediately states that the change needed to the SAI formula will be provided without a delay to the overall 24/25 implementation. The technical update is described as being needed to ensure full alignment with the FAFSA Simplification Act and its intention to expand aid opportunities to students for the 24/25 award year. Essentially, the SAI formula for dependent students was previously calculated using a minimum threshold on the allowance for negative income (set at -1500) earned by dependent students (e.g., the Student’s Contribution from Income). As ED finalized preparation to deliver completed applications to schools in the first half of March, it was identified that the bipartisan *FAFSA Simplification Act* did not specify an income floor for dependent students. Implementing a floor would be inconsistent with the letter of the law. The technical updates to SAI Formula A will remove the minimum negative floor of -1500 and will be reflected in the ISIRs that are delivered to schools and state aid agencies in the first half of March.
- **The release of a test data file containing approximately 100 system generated test ISIRs:** These system-generated test ISIR data will cover different student scenarios. There will be dependent student records with one or two parents, independent student records with and without a spouse, and records reflecting the new provisionally independent student status. These records will also provide examples of federal tax information (FTI) retrieved from the IRS, showing if the IRS FTI can be used, and when to use self-reported FTI. There will be examples of all three formulas (A, B, and C) used to calculate the new SAI along with the intermediate values, Max Pell Indicator, and Min Pell Indicator. Lastly there will be some



rejected records which will not have an SAI but will include the associated reject codes. **As of our February 29th publication date, this test file has not yet been released.**

- **Further updated test ISIRs and open-source tools will be provided in the ED’s repository:** The announcement shared the materials provided on ED’s GitHub [repository](#), including the following:
 - Several field and formatting updates have been applied to the eight published test ISIRs.
 - A community contributor added test ISIR files intended to assist testing systems using progressively larger batches of ISIRs.
 - The open-source tools have had some small feature enhancements.
- **A test of partners’ connectivity to active FTI SAIG Mailboxes:** ED shared they would be offering a dummy test ISIR file to active FTI- SAIG Mailboxes to ensure it can be effectively received and retrieved by the associated partner.
 - The file, sent in SAIG message class ISRF25OP, was generated on February 29th.

24/25 Award Year Flexibilities: In addition to the objectives and action steps outlined in the FAFSA Support Strategy, ED also offered [additional flexibilities](#) effective for the 24/25 award year. The goals of these flexibilities are to make it easier and more efficient for schools to process student records. They include:

- **Significantly reducing verification requirements:** ED will be significantly reducing verification requirements, while continuing key measures focused on avoiding identity fraud. In past years, the Department selected a much larger portion of FAFSA applicants for colleges to verify. This year’s significant reduction in verifications will reduce the burden for colleges and students while continuing to protect against fraud.
- **Suspending new routine program reviews:** The Department will suspend all new program reviews through June 2024, except for those related to the most serious issues like suspected fraud or a severe breach of fiduciary duty. Institutions with an ongoing program review can also request extensions for responses to program reviews, reports, or requests for additional documentation. This flexibility will reduce the time that colleges’ financial aid offices need to devote to producing documentation and responding to Department inquiries during the time they need to focus on quickly getting aid award offers to students.
- **Providing additional flexibility on recertification:** The Department will waive 90-day requirement for schools to recertify before their PPA expires for schools whose PPA expires in March, June, or September 2024, meaning these schools have until their expiration day to submit a recertification application. Providing this flexibility will give time back to institutions at a critical moment and enable them to focus their resources on getting students the aid they need.

Where Are We Today? If you have gotten this far, you might be asking yourself now what? What do we know today? Honestly, that is a loaded question and it seems as though the answer can often change day by day and even hour by hour. Each time we have attempted to draft this newsletter, a new update has been provided. We do know that currently the expectation of 24/25 ISIRs has maintained with the release of “early March”. However, March starts tomorrow and the release of the 100 system generated ISIRs has not yet been deployed to ensure systems are adequately prepared for the first batch of **real** 24/25 ISIRs. Therefore, to define “early March”, we are looking closer to the end of next week or the second week of March. ED has communicated that ISIRs will be released in batches based on application submission dates to ensure that there is not a system crash due to the massive data export and import from FSA systems.



When the ISIRs are received, the reality is most software systems are still working overtime to ensure they are effectively programmed to onboard the data and comply with 24/25 requirements. To date, software vendors have only received 11 test ISIRs, all manually generated. In comparison, there are typically upwards of a thousand test ISIRs provided and all system generated in the fall of the FAFSA release. DJA's own financial aid software, New Leaf, is prepared to receive 24/25 ISIRs; however, like other software vendors industry wide, our developers have concern over the lack of test data provided to ensure proper receipt of each type of scenario. The promise of the 100 system generated ISIRs will hopefully be the missing key to ensure a successful system onboarding for all software platforms.

While the release of the 24/25 ISIRs will allow schools to begin reviewing the applications for aid eligibility, there is still many questions surround the ability to package aid with the Pell Grant allocation undetermined as the FY 2024 budget has yet to be passed by the federal government. Under the HEA, FSA did release tentative Pell maximum and minimum figures last month; however, it came with a note that these amounts could change dependent on the passing of the fiscal year budget. The current continuing resolution for the FY 2024 budget is set to expire on March 8th and a looming government shutdown is a real possibility. **However**, be sure to read the following article where we review the most recent announcement today, February 29th, sharing Congress passed a short term funding bill to keep the federal government open until March 22nd. The biggest takeaway that affects our industry- **the short term funding bill rescinds the SAI technical update change we just shared above.**

To conclude, the climate in our industry is very fluid and while this newsletter briefing provides a breakdown of what has occurred in the month of February and a tentative plan for what is to come, we want to note that if this implementation has taught us anything it is that nothing is certain. As we mention in our sources, we encourage ALL schools and industry partners to keep current by utilizing the linked FSA 24/25 FAFSA Update webpage.

Sources:

Supporting news publications and Department releases linked within the article. To stay current on regular status updates and resources related to the 24/25 FAFSA, we encourage you to visit the [FSA 24-25 FAFSA Update](#) page on the Knowledge Center.

IN THE NEWS: CONGRESS PASSES SHORT-TERM FUNDING BILL TO AVERT GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN- SAI CALCULATION UPDATE IS NO LONGER

As mentioned in our prior article and just prior to publication of this newsletter, the House and Senate passed a short-term funding bill to avert a government shutdown. Essentially, the stopgap bill provides additional time for a full-year funding bill to be finalized and passed, as congressional leaders have shared that they have reached an agreement on only six appropriation bills. The inability to agree upon a full funding- bill makes way for a tiered approach in passing appropriation bills. The six funding bills that have been agreed upon and will subsequently pass before the initial March 8th deadline include the departments of Agriculture (FDA), Commerce (Justice and Science), Energy and Water Development, Interior, Military Construction (Veteran Affairs) and Transportation (Housing and Urban Development). The remaining departments are included in bills slated to be held for a vote



February 2024

prior to the new March 22nd deadline provided in the current continuing resolution. Of those remaining departments is the Department of Labor (Health, Human Services and Education), which maintains jurisdiction and funding for the Department of Education.

Though absent from the appropriations bill that will be effective on March 8th, the continuing resolution didn't forget about the Department of Education altogether- in fact, besides providing an extension of continuing appropriations, the bill has an entire section dedicated to addressing the modifications of the FAFSA. Embedded within this secondary section is a provision that restores the minimum negative income floor of -1500 for the student's contribution of income for the 24/25 award year. While ED argued setting the minimum floor went against the intentions of the FAFSA Simplification Act, Congress disagrees with the modification efforts and therefore **the technical update to the SAI announced in a prior EA outlined above WILL NOT be completed.** Either way, ED had shared the update would have no bearing on the implementation timeline, but the change was to provide expanded aid opportunities that are effectively no longer.

Sources:

Congress Appropriations Short Term Bill: [Continuing Resolution](#)

CNN News Release: [Congress Passes Stop Gap Bill](#)

FY 2021 DRAFT COHORT DEFAULT RATES

Last month in our *Compliance Corner*, we provided guidance on addressing the draft cohort default rates. We encourage you to revisit that publication as late this month, ED distributed the FY 2021 draft cohort default rate (CDR) notification packages. FSA also published an Electronic Announcement providing information about the distribution of the draft rates and the begin dates for appealing the draft rates.

For both eligible domestic and foreign schools enrolled in the Electronic Cohort Default Rate (eCDR) process, the FY 2021 official cohort default rate and accompanying documentation were sent via the Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG). This information was sent to the SAIG mailbox of the destination point administrator designated by the school. Each eCDR package contains the following information:

- Cover Letter (message class SHDRLROP)
- Extract-Type Loan Record Detail Report (message class SHCDREOP)

Schools that are not signed up to receive the eCDR package electronically or schools that want a replacement copy of their CDR cover letter can now download their letter directly from the school's cohort default rate page on NSLDS. On the cohort default rate history page schools can retrieve their letter by clicking 'view' under the notification letter column. By clicking 'view' a PDF copy of the notification letter will pop up.

LRDR File review: Schools are reminded of the availability of the NSLDS Loan Record Detail Report (LRDR) Import Tool. The LRDR Import Tool can be used to easily load data generated from the LRDR into the Microsoft Excel spreadsheet application, which is designed to assist schools with reviewing and analyzing their LRDR extract



February 2024

files. To download the LRDR Import Tool, go to the Default Management - Templates and Spreadsheets Topics page on the Knowledge Center.

The announcement also announced the start date to appeal your FY 2021 Draft CDR's. Starting *Tuesday, March 7, 2023* all schools can submit the Incorrect Data Challenges (IDC) through the eCDR Appeals Application in the web electronically. Participation Rate Index Challenges (PRI) will continue to be submitted via hard copy. FSA offers an additional reminder that the eCDR Appeals is a web-based application that allows schools to electronically submit certain challenge and adjustment requests during the specified timeframes. The application also allows data managers (guaranty agency or federal loan servicer) and Federal Student Aid personnel to electronically view and respond to these challenge/adjustment requests. The application tracks the entire life cycle of each request from the time the case is submitted until the time a decision is made and the case is closed.

Sources:

[Electronic Announcement](#)

FIRST PELL GRANT ADMINISTRATIVE COST ALLOWANCE PAYMENTS FOR 23/24 AWARD YEAR

ED processed the first Pell Grant Administrative Cost Allowance payments for the 23/24 award year for all schools on Feb. 20, 2024. The Federal Pell Grant (Pell Grant) regulations at 34 CFR 690.10 provide for an Administrative Cost Allowance (ACA) payment of \$5.00 to each participating school for each student who receives a Pell Grant at that school for an award year. These funds may be used only to defray the costs of administering the Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal Work-Study, and Federal Perkins Loan programs.

ACA payment amounts are not included in a school's Current Funding Level (CFL) but are payments made to a school based on its unduplicated student recipient information. A school's total number of Pell Grant unduplicated recipients, used in the calculation of the ACA payment, includes students with at least one reported accepted actual disbursement (Disbursement Release Indicator or DRI equals "True") in the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System. A student will be included in the calculation even if there is a full recovery of the entire Pell Grant award.

A school's calculated Pell Grant ACA payment will be posted in G6 as an Available Balance in the school's Pell ACA G6 Award Number, P063Q23####. Once posted, a school will sign in to the G6 website and process a drawdown transaction in G6 to receive the funds. **For DJA Clients**, we drew these funds down and provided an accounting report (cash request) indicating the transfer to your account.

Sources:

[Electronic Announcement](#)

DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM CLOSEOUT INFORMATION FOR 22/23

In the December issue of our *Compliance Corner*, we reviewed the importance of routine reconciliation for those schools participating in the Direct Loan Program. That guidance is important as proper reconciliation practices ensure a successful program closeout. Earlier this month, FSA provided a reminder to schools of the data submission deadline of **July 31, 2024** for the 22/23 Direct Loan Program Year. This is the last processing day of the program year, so all school data must be received and accepted by this date to be included in a school's final Ending Cash Balance for the year.

Within the announcement, FSA offers the reminder **all cash management, disbursement reporting, and monthly reconciliation regulatory requirements supersede the closeout deadline**. Essentially, if your school is meeting these regulatory requirements, the final closeout stage should begin no later than the last award end date (also known as the loan period end date) at the school for a given program and year to reconcile to a zero Ending Cash Balance and close out soon after its final disbursements and should **not** wait until the closeout deadline.

To successfully close out, a school must—

- Have an Ending Cash Balance of \$0 and Total Net Unbooked Disbursements of \$0 internally, and as reflected on the School Account Statement (SAS), and
- Complete the School Balance Confirmation form on the [COD website](#).

As part of the closeout process, ED will send notices via Zero Balance or Remaining Balance emails. In addition, they will distribute a Notification Warning Letter via email to schools in early May 2024. This email will be sent to the Financial Aid Administrator and President at each school that has not confirmed closeout on the [COD website](#) (including any schools with a zero balance that have not confirmed closeout). It will serve as a reminder to finish processing and confirm closeout before the established data submission (closeout) deadline. After the closeout deadline, the school will be notified of its remaining balance through a Demand Letter or Negative Balance Letter. Any remaining positive balance will result in a final liability for the school.

A school must be aware of its closeout status even if its Direct Loan processing is handled by a third-party servicer. **It is the school's responsibility to ensure that it finishes processing and confirms closeout on time.**

DJA Clients: DJA completes the closeout process for your school. Please let us know if you receive a zero balance or remaining balance notification. If you have any questions, you can contact our Director of Accounting, Tabitha Belshe at tbelshe@gotodja.com.

Sources:

[Electronic Announcement](#)

February 2024

ADDITIONAL FSA ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

This section of our newsletter provides quick links to other important FSA announcements not covered in this newsletter and publications that have been released this month for your review.

Electronic Announcements and Dear Colleagues:

[SAIG Software Upgrade for FTI Data Transmission – Availability of EDconnect 8.6.1, Updated Documentation, and Password Guidance \(Updated Feb. 29, 2024\)](#)

[Revised Special Handling Process for FAFSA Filers Under the Age of 13](#)

[Applying for Title IV Eligibility for Direct Assessment \(Competency-Based\) Programs](#)

[Use of Federal Work-Study Funds for Voter Registration](#)

Publications:

[2024–2025 COD Technical Reference \(Initial\) Now Available](#)

[Volume 1: Student Eligibility and Volume 7: The Federal Pell Grant Program Now Available \[2024-25 Federal Student Aid Handbook\]](#)

[Application and Verification Guide \[2024-2025 Federal Student Aid Handbook\]](#)

Federal Registers: The following are registers released requesting comments on regulatory guidance

[Comment Request: Revised Second Chance Pell Experiment and Prison Education Program \(PEP\) Data Collection](#)

[Comment Request: Gainful Employment/Financial Value Transparency Reporting Requirements](#)

[Comment Request: Comprehensive Transition Program \(CTP\) for Disbursing Title IV Aid to Students With Intellectual Disabilities Expenditure Report](#)

[Comment Request: Foreign Institution Reporting Requirements Under the CARES Act](#)

[Comment Request: PLUS Adverse Credit Reconsideration Loan Counseling](#)

[Comment Request: Personal Authentication Service \(PAS\) for Federal Student Aid ID](#)

[Comment Request: Work Colleges Application and Agreement](#)

[Comment Request: Work-Study Colleges Expenditure Report](#)

[Comment Request: Student Assistance General Provisions Subpart I Immigration Status Confirmation](#)

COMPLIANCE CORNER

FEDERAL PELL GRANT PROGRAM RECONCILIATION

In our December newsletter, we provided an article checking in on your Title IV compliance in relation to Title IV Aid Disbursement Reporting, Excess Cash, and Reconciliation Requirements. For our *Compliance Corner* this month, we are going to expand on that guidance and review specific steps your school should take in reconciling the Federal Pell Grant Program. FSA provided a recent [Electronic Announcement](#) also stressing the importance of



conducting routine reconciliation of the Pell Grant program to ensure a seamless final reconciliation to closeout the award year.

It is important to note that reconciliation activities are not only a function of the financial aid office, but rather an action step that should also be completed closely with the business office at your school. Lets start by defining Pell Grant Reconciliation, which is the process by which a school reviews and compares Pell Grant data recorded on the ED's systems with the information in the school's internal records and resolves any discrepancies. This process should be performed on a regular basis and **is recommended at least monthly**.

Compliance Note: Conducting reconciliation frequently can help ensure that your school is properly exercising its fiduciary responsibilities to safeguard federal funds and ensure that they are used as intended.

There are two types of reconciliation, which can be performed separately or simultaneously during the month, including:

- **Internal Reconciliation:** This is the process where the business and financial aid offices compare disbursement transactions (actual disbursements and adjustments) and related cash transactions (Drawdowns, Drawdown Adjustments, Refunds of Cash, and Returns). If discrepancies are found, the school must document and resolve them in a timely manner.
- **External Reconciliation:** The school compares its reconciled internal records to ED's records of funds received and returned, student disbursements and adjustments, and cash balances recorded in the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System. At a minimum, this reconciliation must be completed at least monthly to ensure that data is correct in all systems and that cash management and disbursement reporting timelines are being met. The Department offers various tools to assist you with external reconciliation. **For DJA Clients we perform external reconciliation on your behalf.**

These reconciliation activities can be performed in any order, but the Department recommends completing internal reconciliation first as there will be fewer discrepancies to resolve when performing the external reconciliation. Schools should document their reconciliation process and the resolution of any identified discrepancies.

In addition to regular monthly reconciliation of Pell Grant data, a final reconciliation should be performed as soon as possible after final scheduled disbursements have been made for the award year. This final reconciliation should ensure that all data is correct, and the Total Net Drawdowns equals the Net Accepted and Posted Disbursements (NAPD), in the COD System (Cash >NAPD balance should equal \$0.00).

This process must be performed within the applicable data closeout deadline- typically the last day of September each year, as well as immediately following processing of any additional data by the school (for example, eligible late disbursements or disbursement adjustments made within regulatory timeframes, but which occur after the data submission deadline). There are two deadlines which impact this process:

- **Data Submission (Closeout) Deadline** – The data submission (closeout) deadline is published annually in a Federal Register Notice. The 2023–24 award year will close on Sept. 30, 2024. After this date, the COD System will not accept new or increased awards or new or increased disbursement amounts without prior

February 2024

approval for an extension to the established data submission (closeout) deadline. Downward adjustments will continue to be accepted without an extension. If your school needs to request an extension to the data submission deadline, this request must be submitted via the COD website at <https://cod.ed.gov>.

- **Funding Cancellation Deadline** – Pell Grant funding availability is canceled five years after the data submission (closeout) deadline for the award year. For example, for the 2018–19 Federal Pell Grant award year (July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019), the funding cancellation date is Sept. 30, 2024 [2019 + 5 = 2024]. After the funding cancellation deadline, schools will be unable to report any further award or disbursement changes to the COD System for that award year. In addition, schools will be unable to draw down or adjust funds via the G6 website, and any refunds of cash must be made to the Pell miscellaneous account (contact the G6 help desk for instructions). As such, schools must complete all final reconciliation activities well before this final deadline and in accordance with disbursement reporting timelines and the data submission (closeout) deadline defined above.

For additional information on Pell Grant Program Reconciliation, we recommend utilizing FSA’s Questions and Answer section in their Electronic Announcement linked [here](#).

CALENDAR and RESOURCES

Training Resources

DJA MONTHLY WEBINARS

Administrative Capability- Wednesday, March 6th, 11 a.m. CST

NOTE: There may be a difference between DJA local time and your time zone. To determine your time zone equivalent, click on this link to view a time zone map: <http://www.worldtimezone.com/time-usa12.php>

Webinars are free to clients, as well as our newsletter recipients, on a trial basis. Invitations are automatically sent to all clients, however if you do not receive an invitation, email Lynessa Roberts at lroberts@gotodja.com. After registering, you will receive the log-in information. If you would like to attend a webinar and are not a DJA client, please email Lynessa and she will ensure you receive an invite to register. Questions can be directed to Lynessa by email or by calling toll free at 1-800-242-0977.

2024 DJA WEBINAR SCHEDULE

MAR 6	Administrative Capabilities
APR 3	Satisfactory Academic Progress
MAY 8	Return of Title IV Funds (Including LOA)
JUN 5	General Participation Requirements
JUL 10	Campus Crime Report



February 2024

AUG 7	Entrance and Exit Counseling
SEPT 4	Cash Management
OCT 2	Enrollment Reporting Using NSLDS
NOV 6	Program Integrity (Audits, Program Review)
DEC 4	1098-T Reporting

Conference Schedule

20th Annual National Conference on Allied Health Education March 25-28th

The National Conference on Allied Health Education is an annual event hosted by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES). This year's conference will be held in Las Vegas at the Aria Resort and Casino starting March 25, 2024 through March 28, 2024. An array of informative and timely break-out sessions will be offered to attendees. DJA will also be present, alongside other exhibitors, to showcase the advantages a partnership with our company can offer to ensure your institution maintains regulatory compliance through our streamlined, cost-savings approach. Visit us to discuss how our services can best meet your financial aid administration needs.

For more information on this event visit their [site](#).

Disclaimer: The information presented in this Newsletter is provided as a service and represents our best efforts to assist institutions with federal student aid regulations. We have collected information we believe to be important in finding and obtaining the resources for administering federal student aid; however, we assume no liability for the use of this information. The information in this newsletter does not constitute, and should not be construed as, legal advice.

