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## NOVEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

#### **November 23 & 24**

Thanksgiving Day- DJA Closed

#### **November 27- December 1**

Virtual FSA Conference

#### **December 1-4**

G6 System Outage

#### **December 6**

DJA Webinar-1098-T  
Reporting  
11:00 am CST

#### **December 7**

Active Confirmation of TG  
Numbers Deadline

#### **December 12/13**

DJA 24/25 Case Study Training

#### **December 15**

FISAP Corrections Due

### **IN THIS ISSUE:**

- In the News: Release of 24/25 FAFSA
- Final Regulations Published
- Smucker Amendment on 150% Certification
- Continuing Resolution
- Reminder: FTI SAIG Enrollment and Active TG Confirmation
- FSA Microlearning Series
- FISAP Corrections Due
- Borrower Defense to Repayment Update
- Compliance Corner: FAFSA Simplification Act Changes
- DJA Calendar

*In this edition of the DJA Monthly Newsletter, we cover in depth the recent release of the Final Rule on Administrative Capability, Financial Responsibility, Certification Procedures and Ability to Benefit. Currently, the House has proposed an amendment to the 150% Certification that was removed with the Final Rule. The proposed amendment has not yet been voted on in the House. With implementation on July 1, 2024 it is important to familiarize yourself with these regulatory requirements.*

*In addition to the new regulations, this past month has also brought several new updates regarding the 24/25 FAFSA Implementation. FSA announced the 24/25 FAFSA will be available for applicant submission by December 31, 2023. In the same announcement, they shared ISIRs will not be published until the latter part of January 2024. In their effort to continue to provide training opportunities on the re-designed FAFSA, FSA also released a Microlearning Series on trending topics available on the FSA Training website.*

*We also include several reminders within the newsletter. The FTI SAIG Enrollment Agreement was released last month and must be completed to ensure institutions are set up to receive the 24/25 ISIRs once they are processed. Additionally, the annual active confirmation of TG Numbers is due by December 7<sup>th</sup> this year for all users. Lastly, if your institution needed to correct the FISAP, those corrections are due by December 15<sup>th</sup>.*

*If your institution has received a Borrower Defense to Repayment claim over the past few months, I encourage you to also read the most recent update provided by FSA. These recent claims are a part of the Sweet v. Cardona settlement and are being handled under the 2016 Regulations.*

*We appreciate the opportunity to keep your institution informed.*

*Thank you,  
Renee Ford, Vice President*



## ***IN THE NEWS: 24/25 FAFSA OPEN FOR STUDENT SUBMISSION BY DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>***

Students and families will be able to complete and submit FAFSA forms online by Dec. 31. FSA released an [Electronic Announcement on November 15, 2023](#) providing this update and notifying higher education institutions the Department of Education expects applications to peak in late January and February 2024. Schools will begin receiving aid eligibility information, including Institutional Student Information Records (ISIRs), by the end of January 2024, with information on paper forms to follow. Additionally, students will also be able to make corrections and updates at that time. Institutions will be able to make corrections in the weeks following. *FSA will provide regular status updates in a new [2024-25 FAFSA Updates](#) feature on the FAFSA Simplification Information Topics page on the Knowledge Center.*

This long-awaited announcement comes after months of preparing for the redesigned and streamlined FAFSA. The changes to the FAFSA are the most significant made to the FAFSA in over forty years. The new form will significantly improve how students and their families apply for eligibility. With the introduction of federal tax information coming directly from the IRS applicants will be introduced to a role-based application process that requires the consent to release their tax data. The FAFSA redesign also reflects updates to the student aid calculations by linking Pell eligibility to family size and the federal poverty level.

FSA has provided extensive training through their *Better FAFSA Better Future* training series. Any user can create an FSA training account to access the training under their **Recorded Training** menu option and select **Webinar and Training Videos**. The *Better FAFSA Better Future* is listed under FAFSA Simplification. Click [here](#) to set up an account and start training today.

**DJA Clients:** We highly encourage you to repeat the 24/25 FAFSA Simplification Act training DJA provided this month to prepare for this release.

### **Sources:**

[Electronic Announcement: Update on the Simplified, Streamlined, Redesigned 2024-25 FAFSA](#)

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## ***FINAL REGULATIONS ON ADMINISTRATIVE CAPABILITY, FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY, CERTIFICATION PROCEDURES AND ATB PASSED***

On October 31, 2023, the U.S. Department of Education (Department) published in the Federal Register the official version of its [Final Rule](#) on Financial Responsibility, Administrative Capability, Certification Procedures, and Ability to Benefit (ATB).

### **Financial Responsibility**

- Remove and reserve § 668.15 and consolidate all financial responsibility factors, including those dealing with changes in ownership, under subpart L of part 668.



- Amend § 668.23 to require that audit reports are timely submitted, by the earlier of 30 days after the completion of the report or six months after the end of the institution's fiscal year.
- Amend § 668.23 to require that, for any domestic or foreign institution that is owned directly or indirectly by any foreign entity holding at least a 50 percent voting or equity interest in the institution, the institution must provide documentation of the entity's status under the law of the jurisdiction under which the entity is organized.
- Amend § 668.171, which requires institutions to demonstrate that they are able to meet their financial obligations, by adding events that constitute a failure to do so, including failure to make debt payments for more than 90 days, failure to make payroll obligations, or borrowing from employee retirement plans without authorization.
- Amend in § 668.171 the set of conditions that require an institution to post financial protection if certain events occur. These mandatory triggers are certain external events, financial circumstances that may not be reflected in the institution's regular financial statements, and financial circumstances that are not yet reflected in the institution's composite score.
- Amend in § 668.171 the set of conditions that may, at the discretion of the Department, require an institution to post financial protection. These discretionary triggers are external events or financial circumstances that may not appear in the institution's regular financial statements and are not yet reflected in the institution's calculated composite score.
- In § 668.174, clarify the language related to compliance audit or program review findings that lead to a liability of at least 5 percent of title IV, HEA volume at the institution, to more clearly state that the relevant reports are those issued in the two most recent years, rather than reviews conducted in the two most recent years.
- Add a new § 668.176 to consolidate the financial responsibility requirements for institutions undergoing a change in ownership in subpart L of part 668.
- Redesignate the existing § 668.176, establishing severability, as § 668.177.

### **Administrative Capability**

- Amend § 668.16(h) to require institutions to provide adequate financial aid counseling to enrolled students that includes more information about the cost of attendance, sources and amounts of each type of aid separated by the type of aid, the net price, and instructions and applicable deadlines for accepting, declining, or adjusting award amounts.
- Amend § 668.16(k) to require that an institution not have any principal or affiliate that has been subject to specified negative actions, including being convicted of or pleading nolo contendere or guilty to a crime involving governmental funds.
- Add § 668.16(n) to require that an institution has not been subject to a significant negative action by a State or Federal agency, a court, or an accrediting agency and has not lost eligibility to participate in another Federal educational assistance program due to an administrative action against the institution.
- Amend § 668.16(p) to strengthen the requirement that institutions must develop and follow adequate procedures to evaluate the validity of a student's high school diploma.
  - Add § 668.16(q) to require that institutions provide adequate career services to eligible students who receive title IV, HEA program assistance.



- Add § 668.16(r) to require institutions to provide students with geographically accessible clinical or externship opportunities related to and required for completion of the credential or licensure in a recognized occupation, within 45 days of the completion of other required coursework.
- Add § 668.16(s) to require institutions to disburse funds to students in a timely manner consistent with the students' needs.
- Add § 668.16(t) to require that, for institutions that offer GE programs, less than half of their total title IV, HEA revenue comes from programs that are “failing” under subpart S.
- Add § 668.16(u) to require that an institution does not engage in misrepresentations or aggressive recruitment.

## Certification Procedures

- Amend § 668.13(b)(3) to eliminate the requirement that the Department approve participation for an institution if the Department has not acted on a certification application within 12 months.
- Amend § 668.13(c)(1) to include additional events that lead to provisional certification.
- Amend § 668.13(c)(2) to require provisionally certified schools that have major consumer protection issues to recertify after three years.
- Add § 668.13(e) to establish supplementary performance measures the Secretary may consider in determining whether to certify or condition the participation of the institution.
- Amend § 668.14 to establish, in new paragraph (a)(3), the requirement for an authorized representative of any entity with direct or indirect ownership of a private institution to sign a PPA.
- Amend § 668.14(b)(17) to include all Federal agencies and State attorneys general on the list of entities that have the authority to share with each other and the Department any information pertaining to an institution's eligibility for or participation in the title IV, HEA programs or any information on fraud, abuse, or other violations of law.
- Amend § 668.14(b)(26)(ii) to limit the number of hours in a GE program to the greater of the required minimum number of clock hours, credit hours, or the equivalent required for training in the recognized occupation for which the program prepares the student, as established by the State in which the institution is located, or the required minimum number of hours required for training in another State, if the institution provides documentation of that State meeting one of three qualifying requirements to use a State in which the institution is not located that is substantiated by the certified public accountant who prepares the institution's compliance audit report as required under § 668.23. This provision does not apply to fully online programs or where the State entry level requirements include the completion of an associate or higher-level degree.
- Add § 668.14(b)(32)(i) and (ii) to require all programs that prepare students for occupations requiring programmatic accreditation or State licensure to meet those requirements.
- Add § 668.14(b)(32)(iii) to require all programs to comply with all State laws related to closure of postsecondary institutions, including record retention, teach-out plans or agreements, and tuition recovery funds or surety bonds.
- Add § 668.14(b)(33) to provide that an institution may not withhold official transcripts or take any other negative action against a student related to a balance owed by the student that resulted from an error in the



institution's administration of the title IV, HEA programs, or any fraud or misconduct by the institution or its personnel.

- Add § 668.14(b)(34) to require an institution to provide an official transcript that includes all the credit or clock hours for payment periods in which a student received title IV, HEA funds and for which all institutional charges were paid at the time the request is made.
- Add § 668.14(b)(35) to prohibit institutions from maintaining policies and procedures to encourage, or that condition institutional aid or other student benefits in a manner that induces, a student to limit the amount of Federal student aid, including Federal loan funds, that the student receives, except that the institution may provide a scholarship on the condition that a student forego borrowing if the amount of the scholarship provided is equal to or greater than the amount of Federal loan funds that the student agrees not to borrow.
- Amend § 668.14 to establish, in new paragraph (e), a non-exhaustive list of conditions that the Secretary may apply to provisionally certified institutions.
- Amend § 668.14 to establish, in new paragraph (f), conditions that may apply to institutions seeking to convert from a for-profit institution to a nonprofit institution following a change in ownership.
- Amend § 668.14 to establish, in new paragraph (g), conditions that apply to any nonprofit institution or other institution seeking to convert to a nonprofit institution.
- Amend § 668.43(a)(5) to require all programs that prepare students for occupations requiring State licensure or certification to list all the States where the institution has determined, including as part of the institution's obligation under § 668.14(b)(32), that the program does and does not meet such requirements.

### **Ability to Benefit**

- Amend § 668.2 to codify the definition of “eligible career pathway program.”
- Amend § 668.32 to differentiate between the title IV, HEA aid eligibility of non-high school graduates who enrolled in an eligible program prior to July 1, 2012, and those who enrolled after July 1, 2012.
- Amend § 668.156 to separate the State process into an initial two-year period and a subsequent period for which the State may be approved for up to five years.
- Amend § 668.156 to require, with respect to the State process, that: (1) The application contain a certification that each eligible career pathway program intended for use through the State process meets the definition of an “eligible career pathway program.” (2) The application describes the criteria used to determine student eligibility for participation in the State process. (3) The withdrawal rate for a postsecondary institution listed for the first time on a State's application does not exceed 33 percent. (4) Upon initial application the State will enroll no more than the greater of 25 students or one percent of enrollment of each participating institution.
- Amend § 668.156 to remove the support services requirements from the State process, including orientation, assessment of a student's existing capabilities, tutoring, assistance in developing educational goals, counseling, and follow up by teachers and counselors, which duplicate the requirements in the definition of “eligible career pathway program.”
- Amend the monitoring requirement in § 668.156 to provide a participating institution that has failed to achieve the 85 percent success rate up to three years to achieve compliance.



- Amend § 668.156 to require that the State prohibit an institution from participating in the State process for at least five years if the State terminates its participation.
- Amend § 668.156 to: clarify that the State is not subject to the success rate requirement at the time of the initial application but is subject to the requirement for the subsequent period; reduce the required success rate from 95 percent to 85 percent; require the success rate to be calculated for each participating institution; and amend the comparison groups to include the concept of “eligible career pathway programs.”
- Amend § 668.156 to require that States report information on race, gender, age, economic circumstances, education attainment, and such other information that the Secretary specifies in a notice published in the **Federal Register** .
- Amend § 668.156, with respect to the Secretary's ability to revise or terminate a State's participation in the State process, by providing that the Secretary may (1) approve a State process once for a two-year period if the State is not in compliance with the regulations, and (2) lower the success rate to 75 percent if 50 percent of the participating institutions across the State do not meet the 85 percent success rate.
- Add a new § 668.157 to clarify the documentation requirements for eligible career pathway programs.

**Source:**

Federal Register: [Final Rule](#)

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**HOUSE SMUCKER AMENDMENT TO 150% CERTIFICATION RULE**

Representative Lloyd Smucker (R-PA) introduced an amendment to the House, Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Bill. [Amendment #176](#) (Also known as the Smucker Amendment) “prohibits the Department from using funds to implement, administer, or enforce a provision of their October 31, 2023 final rule that would prohibit education and training programs from exceeding their state's minimum hours requirements.”

The Amendment is in relation to the Department’s Final Rule outlined in the coverage above, which included a provision that eliminated the 150% certification rule for Title IV institutions. The Final Rule, that covered Certification Programs, instead required that all clock hour programs change their hours to the amount the state requires as a minimum by July 1, 2024. Many institutions with programs required under the new regulations to move to 100% of the state’s requirement would see limited eligibility for their students for FSA funds. The final rule on Certification Procedures are linked [here](#). To date, the House has not yet voted on the proposed amendment.

**Sources:**

House Amendment: [Smucker Amendment](#)

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**CONTINUING RESOLUTION KEEPS THE GOVERNMENT OPEN**

While FY2023 funding was set to expire on September 30, 2023, Congress has been working on a [continuing resolution](#) passed hours before that original expiration date. The first resolution allowed the current FY2023

spending bill to extend to November 17<sup>th</sup>. To avoid another government shutdown, just last week Congress passed a second [Continuing Resolution](#) on Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> that will allow the government to remain open temporarily. The President signed the resolution on Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>.

This Continuing Resolution differs from past ones in that it provides funding through two tiers. Some departments will be funded through January 19<sup>th</sup>, while others will be funded through February 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Department of Education falls under the second tier. While the Senate has come to a consensus on the FY 2024 spending bill, the House still has been unable to reach bipartisan support. This recent resolution will allow for a continuation of funding levels. As a result, the Department of Education at minimum will not have FY 2024 funding levels until February. The higher education industry as a result should not expect to receive the 24/25 Maximum and Minimum Pell Grant figures to be published by March if we use a historical reference.

**Sources:**

Electronic Announcement: [Continuing Resolution](#)

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## **[REMINDER TO COMPLETE FTI SAIG ENROLLMENT AGREEMENT AND COMPLETE ACTIVE TG CONFIRMATION](#)**

In a recent [Electronic Announcement](#), FSA reminded Institutions of Higher Education and third-party partners to sign the updated Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG) Enrollment Agreement for the new FTI SAIG Mailbox. In order to receive *Institutional Student Information Records* (ISIRs) for the 2024–25 award year and beyond. During the week of Oct. 22, 2023, FSA sent an email to all Destination Point Administrators (DPAs) who currently manage the ISIR service at their organization (i.e., the owner of the SAIG mailbox that receives ISIRs). The email came from [CPSSAIG@ed.gov](mailto:CPSSAIG@ed.gov) and included a new FT number to identify the organization's newly assigned FTI-SAIG mailbox. DPAs must follow the step-by-step instructions included in the email to access and sign the updated SAIG enrollment agreement on the [SAIG Enrollment](#) website. (**DJA CLIENTS:** All clients have been successfully submitted).

For additional information about submitting the signed SAIG enrollment agreement, refer to the [Sept. 22, 2023 Electronic Announcement](#).

In addition, updated SAIG software must be installed to receive 2024–25 ISIRs in the new FTI-SAIG mailbox.

New versions of [EDconnect](#) and [TDClient](#) are now available on the [Software and Other Tools](#) page of the Knowledge Center website, along with an accompanying user guide with installation instructions. We have also provided updated user documentation for use with the new [FTI-TDCommunity Manager \(FTI-TDCM\)](#).

Important information for software users can be found in the [Nov. 8, 2023 Electronic Announcement](#).



## Active Confirmation for TG Numbers

FSA also published an Electronic Announcement this week reminding every organization and user enrolled for a Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG) account of the requirement to review and validate the assigned TG Numbers and Electronic Services user accounts by **December 7, 2023**. Accounts that must be validated include TG numbers (SAIG mailboxes) with access to the [NSLDS Professional Access](#) website, the [COD website](#), and all [FAA Access to CPS Online](#) and EDconnect user accounts. It also includes TG numbers enrolled for SAIG batch services for the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS<sup>®</sup>), the Central Processing System (CPS), the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System, and the Financial Management System (FMS).

Failure to accurately complete this process by Dec. 7, 2023 will result in loss of access to Federal Student Aid data systems, including services such as *Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR)* deliveries, ISIR requests, *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA<sup>®</sup>)* corrections, and NSLDS enrollment reporting and updates. Users were sent an automatic reminder last week prompting them to complete the TG confirmation.

To ensure all authorized users maintain their access, it is critical that both the First Step and the Second Step outlined in the announcement are completed by the Dec. 7, 2023 deadline. The link to the announcement is included below under **Sources**.

### Sources:

Electronic Announcement: [FTI SAIG Enrollment Reminder](#)

Active Confirmation for TG Numbers: [Active Confirmation of TG Numbers](#)

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## FSA TRAINING MICROLEARNING VIDEO SERIES FOR FAFSA SIMPLIFICATION

Last month, FSA announced expanded training opportunities related to FAFSA Simplification, including a Microlearning Video Series covering trending topics. After the FSA summer webinar series concluded, they reviewed all the questions received to identify some of the most frequently asked topics in FAFSA Simplification. As a result, FSA created a series of fifteen short instructional videos to provide a deeper understanding of those topics utilizing examples and scenarios. Each microlearning video also provides links to helpful resources used to create the training.

To watch videos in the Trending Topics series, please visit the FAFSA Simplification area of Recorded Training. You must log into the FSA Training Center at [fsatraining.ed.gov](https://fsatraining.ed.gov) to review the videos.

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## FISAP CORRECTION DEADLINE DECEMBER 15TH

FSA released an Electronic Announcement this week reminding institutions of the upcoming deadline next month regarding the FISAP corrections. As published in the *Federal Register* [notice](#) on Jan. 18, 2023 (88 FR 2901), any





changes, corrections or edits to the Fiscal Operations Report for 2022–23 and the Application to Participate for 2024–25 (FISAP) must be submitted to the Department of Education (the Department) no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern time (ET) on Friday, Dec. 15, 2023.

Additionally, as stated in a Sept. 25 update to the [Aug. 30, 2023 Electronic Announcement](#) about the FISAP deadline, schools impacted by a recent major disaster received an **extension to file** their FISAP until Dec. 15, 2023. Any impacted schools that will not be able to file their FISAP by December 15 should contact the FSA Partner and School Relations Center using the contact information below to request additional time.

If a school needs to make changes to data that was originally reported on its FISAP, the school must log in to the [Common Origination and Disbursement \(COD\) website](#) and change the data in the applicable section(s) of the FISAP and resubmit the FISAP for processing. Additionally, the announcement provided action steps to take prior to submitting the corrections to ensure the accuracy of the submitted FISAP data. Please utilize the link listed below for those action steps.

#### Sources:

Electronic Announcement: [FISAP Edit Corrections Due December 15, 2023](#)

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### **BORROWER DEFENSE SCHOOL NOTIFICATION PROCESS UNDER THE 2016 REGULATIONS**

If your institution has received a Borrower Defense claim in the past several months, you are not alone. Although the Borrower Defense regulations are currently under a legal pause (read our [August newsletter](#) for more information), the Department of Education is sending schools notice of borrower defense applications as part of a settlement reached in the *Sweet v Cardona* litigation. The *Sweet v. Cardona* settlement requires ED to adjudicate applications received from June 23, 2022 to November 15, 2022, under the 2016 Regulation. That regulation requires ED to notify schools of all applications before they are substantively reviewed. Schools have the option to respond to the notices, and there is no negative inference against a school if it does not respond.

As stated, the 2016 Regulation requires ED to notify schools of all borrower defense applications filed by its former or current students and provides an optional opportunity for the school to respond before adjudication. Such notification occurs prior to any substantive review of the application. ED notifies schools by sending the school the borrower's application form. ED's policy is to provide schools that wish to respond 60 days from the date the school receives the notification. A nonresponse does not create an inference in favor of the borrower. **Please note this statement is in contrary to the guidance assumed by several legal groups as we waited for more information from the Department of Education.**

After the notice period ends and the fact-finding process is complete, ED adjudicates the application(s) on the merits. The 2016 Regulation provides for approvals based on substantial misrepresentation; a nondefault, favorable contested judgment; or breach of contract. Substantial misrepresentations are the most common type of alleged misconduct. For substantial misrepresentations, ED must have evidence that demonstrates that a borrower's school



made a substantial misrepresentation that the borrower reasonably relied on to their detriment (34 C.F.R. § 685.222). Applications are approved or denied based on these elements. To meet this standard, ED requires facts to prove each of these elements; these facts typically answer the who, what, when, where, why, and how questions relating to the alleged misconduct.

If a discharge is approved, ED will at a separate date determine whether to engage in a separate proceeding to recoup borrower defense costs from the school. Schools will have an opportunity to contest any recoupment action before a hearing officer if they choose to do so. In the announcement, FSA also included a section for Frequently Asked Questions. The link to that is listed below under **Sources**.

**Sources:**

Electronic Announcement: [Borrower Defense School Notification Process under the 2016 Regulations](#)

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## COMPLIANCE CORNER

### FAFSA SIMPLIFICATION ACT: TRAINING RESOURCES

Over the past several months, we have dedicated the *Compliance Corner* to preparing for the significant changes scheduled for implementation under the FAFSA Simplification Act. In this edition of the *Compliance Corner*, we will share the resources we have found the most valuable. First, we have linked each of our DJA Newsletter's over the past five months. If having everything in writing is your preferred learning method, these newsletters capture each of the changes that will be implemented for the 24/25 award year under the FAFSA Simplification Act.

- [June 2023 Compliance Corner](#): Reviews the steps your institution will need to take to secure and handle the Federal Tax Information (FTI) that will be disclosed directly from the IRS through the FUTURE Act Direct Data Exchange (FA-DDX). Starting with the 24/25 FAFSA, contributors will be provided the opportunity to consent to have their FTI released from the IRS to populate their application.
- [July 2023 Compliance Corner](#): Focuses on the phased implementation that has been implemented for the 23/24 Award Year and strategies to stay in compliance with these new regulatory standards.
- [August 2023 Compliance Corner](#): Summarizes the recently published Dear Colleague GEN-23-11 by reviewing how aid will be awarded using the Student Aid Index (SAI) in the 24/25 Award Year. While the formula for determining need remains the same, the elements within that formula have been replaced, notably the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) has been replaced with SAI and then Estimated Financial Assistance (EFA) has been replaced with Other Financial Assistance (OFA).
- [September 2023 Compliance Corner](#): Provides Part 1 of the role Financial Aid Administrator's (FAA's) will need to play throughout the FAFSA Simplification process to ensure successful implementation. With this being the most comprehensive redesign of the FAFSA form in 40 years, the changes are many and financial aid offices must understand and plan effectively for the impact these changes will bring.



- [October 2023 Compliance Corner](#): Provides Part 2 of the role Financial Aid Administrator's (FAA's) will need to play throughout the FAFSA Simplification. We cover the focus that collaboration with internal and external partners will play in successful implementation.

FSA has also provided ample training resources through webinar series and a variety of publications provided on the FSA Partner website. We have included our favorites below:

**FSA Better FAFSA Better Future Webinar Series:** FSA began a summer learning series focused on the changes implemented through the FAFSA Simplification Act. The 12-part webinar series covers a wide range of topics to ensure learners are adequately prepared. Listed below are the webinar topics you can find at the [FSA Training Website](#).

- Better FAFSA Better Future Overview and Timeline
- Protecting Federal Tax Information at your Institution
- ISIR vs. ISIR
- Professional Judgment, Dependency Status and Verification
- Q&A session
- Student Aid Index Part 1
- Student Aid Index Part 2
- Pell Minimums, Maximums and In Between
- The FAA's Role in FAFSA Simplification
- Q&A Session
- 24/25 FAFSA Demonstration
- StudentAid.gov Account Creation Process Without an SSN Number
- Bonus Microlearning Series as mentioned above in this newsletter

**Dear Colleagues:**

- [FAFSA Simplification Act Changes for Implementation in 24/25](#)
- [FAFSA Simplification Act Changes for Implementation in 23/24](#)

**Electronic Announcements:**

- [Electronic Announcement: Key Terms and Definitions](#)
- [Electronic Announcement: 24.25 FAFSA Form Preview](#)

**FAFSA Prototype:** Utilize access code: prototype2425. Users can access the FAFSA as different contributor roles. A great resource for FAA's and anyone working with students on the changes to the 24/25 application process.

- <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/fafsa-prototype/2425>

**24/25 Draft FAFSA Specifications Guide:** As part of the transition to the FAFSA Processing System under the FAFSA Simplification Act, some of the user documentation has been reorganized, as well as condensed into the comprehensive FAFSA Specifications Guide. What you'll see in this updated resource, is that previously users had to access several guides to gather information regarding the FAFSA processing. Now the ISIR Guide, EDE Technical Reference Guide, FAFSA Specifications Guide, Application Processing System Specifications for



Software Developers, SAR Comment and Text Guide and CPS Test System User Guide are all combined in one comprehensive document. As someone who utilizes many of these resources this is a step that properly represents the term “simplified”. The most recent draft of the FAFSA Specifications Guide is linked [here](#).

**FSA Partner Knowledge Center Home Page- FAFSA Simplification Information:** FSA has made trying to find their resources EASY with a one stop shop button on their FSA Partner Knowledge Center Home Page. From the homepage, users can look under “Featured Information” to find a link FAFSA Simplification Information. This [quick link](#) serves as a repository for all information, guidance and training related to the implementation of the FAFSA Simplification Act and FUTURE Act.

**DJA Clients Added Bonus Resources:** As a DJA Client, you have access to even more training resources and quick guides to help your team increase their knowledge of the changes implemented through the FAFSA Simplification Act. The DJA Client Access Portal provides access to all of our recorded training previously offered. Additionally, clients are encouraged to attend our 24/25 Case Study Training where we will package aid for a sample size of students enrolled in a variety of programs utilizing the changes forthcoming this award year.

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## **CALENDAR and RESOURCES**

### **Training Resources**

#### **DJA MONTHLY WEBINARS**

***1098 T Reporting- Wednesday, December 6 , 2023 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. Invitations are automatically sent to all clients, however if you do not receive an invitation, email Lynessa Roberts at [lroberts@gotodja.com](mailto: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.

#### **2023 DJA WEBINAR SCHEDULE**

DEC 6	1098-T Reporting
DEC 12	24/25 Case Study Training
DEC 13	24/25 Case Study Training



## **Conference Schedule**

### **2023 FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FSA) TRAINING CONFERENCE GOING VIRTUAL November 28- December 1, 2023**

There will be keynote addresses from U.S. Department of Education leadership, five general sessions, 23 breakout sessions (covering the latest in financial aid policy and operational updates), and nine Virtual Exhibit Hall stations.

The 2023 Virtual Federal Student Aid Training Conference agendas and session descriptions are located on the [FSA Training portion of the FSA Partners](#) website. Registration is also now open! Instructions for registrations were provided in an [Electronic Announcement](#).

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*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.*

