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# Federal Update

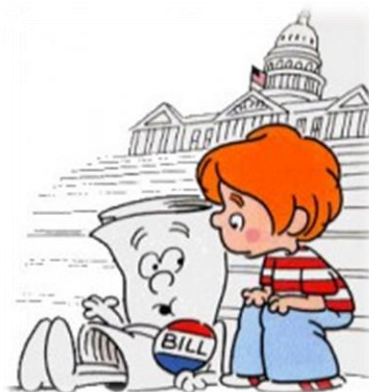
## WFAA Conference

Kim Wells | October 2018  
U.S. Department of Education

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# Omnibus Appropriations Bill



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## Omnibus Appropriations Bill

**On March 23, 2018 the President signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018, Public Law 115-141 (H.R. 1625)**

Impacts Federal student aid in several ways:

- Pell Grant awards
- FAFSA use
- Children of Fallen Heroes Act
- Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)

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## 2018-2019 Pell

- **Maximum Scheduled Award: \$6,095**
  - Increase of \$175 from 2017-18
  - May be able to receive up to 150% of scheduled Pell award
- **Minimum Award: \$650**
- **Maximum eligible EFC: 5486**
- Updated **Payment Schedules** published in **DCL GEN-18-04** (April 10, 2018)
  - *Replaces GEN-18-01*
  - April 13, 2018 EA #1- provides operational guidance

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## FAFSA Data Use

- The law permits, but **does not require**, schools to provide FAFSA data to a scholarship granting organization designated by an applicant **if**:
  - The applicant has provided explicit written consent **and**
  - The disclosure is to assist the applicant in applying for and receiving financial assistance at that school
- The scholarship organization **cannot sell or otherwise share** the FAFSA data they receive from schools under this section
- This provision will remain in effect until the HEA is reauthorized

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## Children of Fallen Heroes Scholarship Act

### Amends Sec. 473(b) of HEA

- Expands special rule for “EFC shall be deemed zero”
  - Eligible to receive Pell Grant beginning with 2018-2019 award year
  - Parent or guardian actively serving as a public safety officer and died in the line of duty while performing as a public safety officer
- At time of parent or guardian’s death student was:
  - Less than 24 years of age or;
  - Enrolled at an institution of higher education on a part-time or full-time basis
- Partial Pell Grant to full Pell Grant
  - Zero EFC used for all other title IV aid

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Further guidance coming

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## Temporary Expanded Public Service Loan Forgiveness (TEPSLF)

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- Appropriation for temporary expansion of forgiveness
- Has limited funding on a first come, first served basis, and once the funds are used, TEPSLF ends
- Available only to Direct Loan borrowers
- To qualify, the borrower must have:
  - Submitted an application and had it denied *only* because some or all of the payments were not made under a qualifying repayment plan
  - At least 10 years of eligible full-time employment certified by a qualifying employer and approved by FedLoan
  - Made 120 qualifying payments while working full-time for the borrower's qualifying employer(s)

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## TEPSLF - continued

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- ED will reconsider borrower eligibility for Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) using an expanded list of qualifying repayment plans and some payments that don't count toward PSLF may count toward forgiveness under TEPSLF
  - Additional qualifying repayment plans include:
    - Graduated Repayment Plan
    - Extended Repayment Plan Consolidation Standard Repayment Plan
    - Consolidation Graduated Repayment Plan
- Refer to [May 23, 2018 Electronic Announcement](#)

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# FAFSA Processing



## 2019-20 Award Year

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## 2019-20 CPS Processing Updates

- Need Analysis
  - Automatic Zero EFC income threshold increased from \$25,000 to \$26,000
- DHS-SAVE Process
  - Systematic Alien Verification Entitlement implemented to electronically provide citizenship information to financial aid administrators (FAAs)
  - FAAs are no longer permitted to submit paper G-845 forms in order to process third-step verification requests related to citizenship
  - [June 27, 2018 Electronic Announcement](#)

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## DHS-SAVE Process

- If get “no records found”
  - Be sure to enter last 2 digits of DHS verification number with capital letters and enter date of birth with preceding zeroes
  - If DHS verification number is less than 2 months old, hold record for further guidance
  - If response screen indicates case is closed or DHS verification number is greater than 2 months old and case is closed and documentation the student provided supports citizen’s eligible noncitizen status, send DHS verification number to [applicationprocessingdivision@ed.gov](mailto:applicationprocessingdivision@ed.gov)
    - ED will resend record to DHS to create new DHS verification number which can be used to resubmit document through SAVE

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## DHS-SAVE Process Training

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- [Federal Student Aid E-Training Website](#)
  - Quick Takes
    - [DHS/SAVE Part I](#)
    - [DHS/SAVE Part II](#)

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**myStudentAid mobile app:  
myFAFSA**

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## Fafsa.gov Home Page Moving to Studentaid.gov

- Beginning October 1, 2018, the [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov) page will move to [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov)
  - Allows for a more integrated applicant experience
  - Redirects will take applicants to correct URL if using [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov) or [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov) in browser bar
  - New URL: [Studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa](http://Studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa) (As of 10/1/18)

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## The FAFSA® is Mobile!

- FAFSA form going mobile on [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov) and via myStudentAid mobile app
  - [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov) changes implemented July 22, 2018 making website more mobile-friendly
  - 2018-19 myStudentAid mobile app Beta version available summer 2018
  - 2019-20 myStudentAid mobile app available October 1, 2018
  - [July 24, 2018 Electronic Announcement](#)

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## The FAFSA<sup>®</sup> is Mobile!

### *Making fafsa.gov Mobile-Friendly*

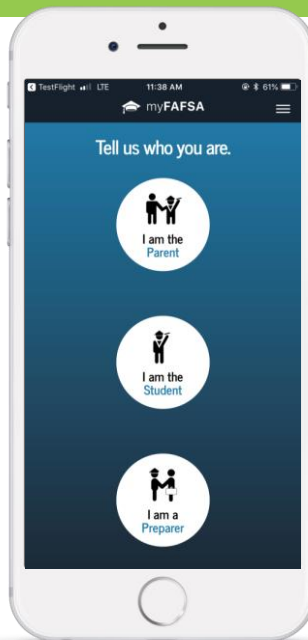
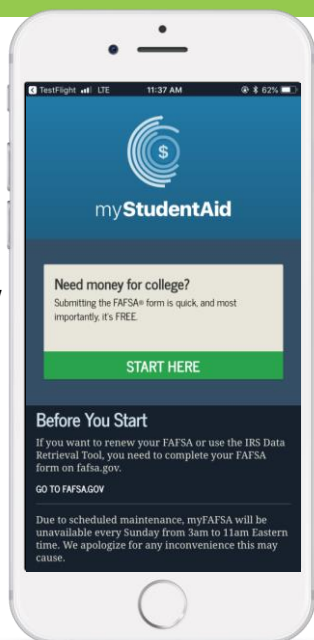
- [Fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov) will reshape and resize to fit mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets
- Page design now has more modern and user-friendly look and feel
- “Help and hints” now replaced by “Tool tips”
  - Tool tips provide easy-to-use contextual information as applicants navigate the FAFSA form
- Some questions grouped differently to allow for ease of application

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Landing View  
and  
Roles



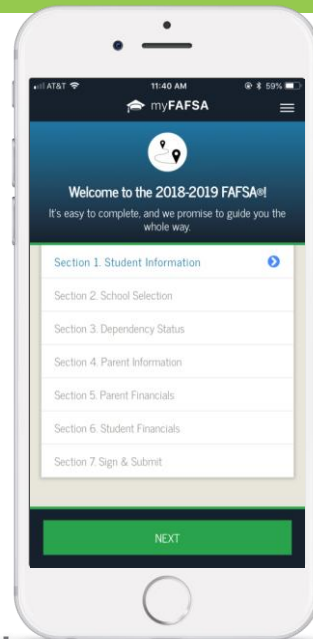
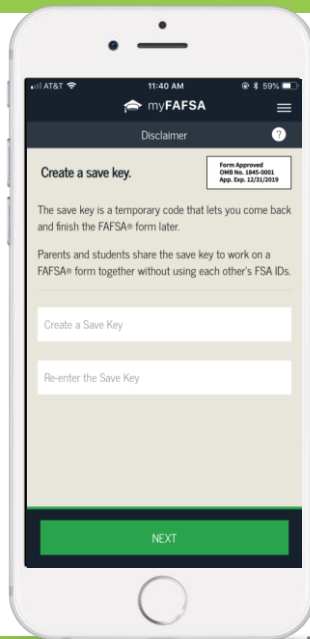
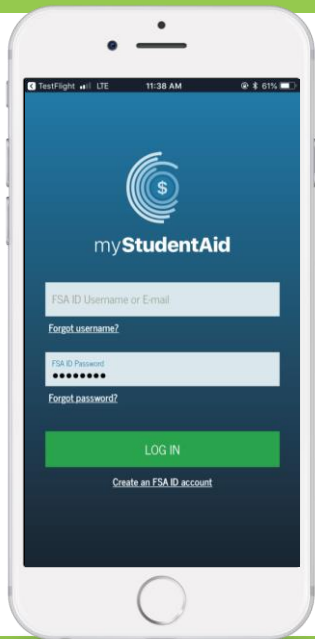
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Log In

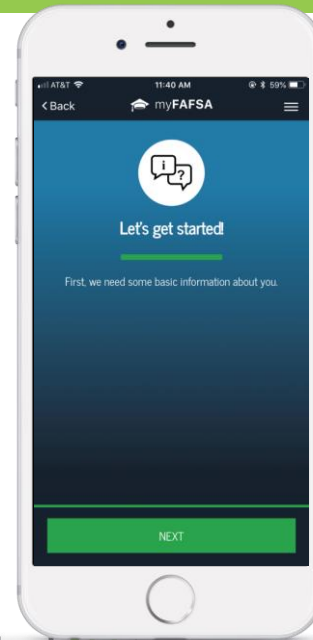
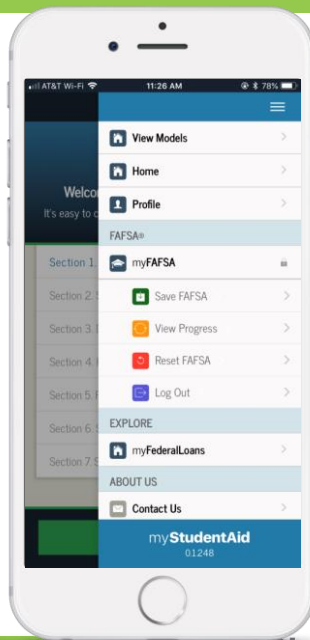
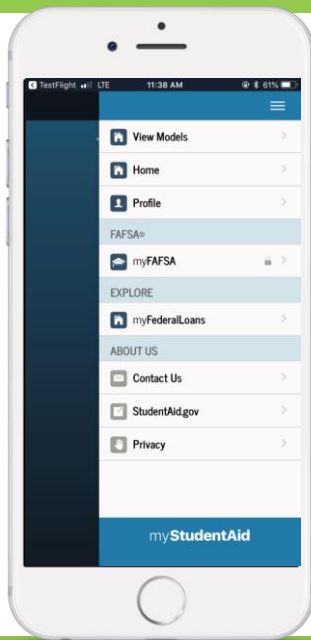


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Get Started

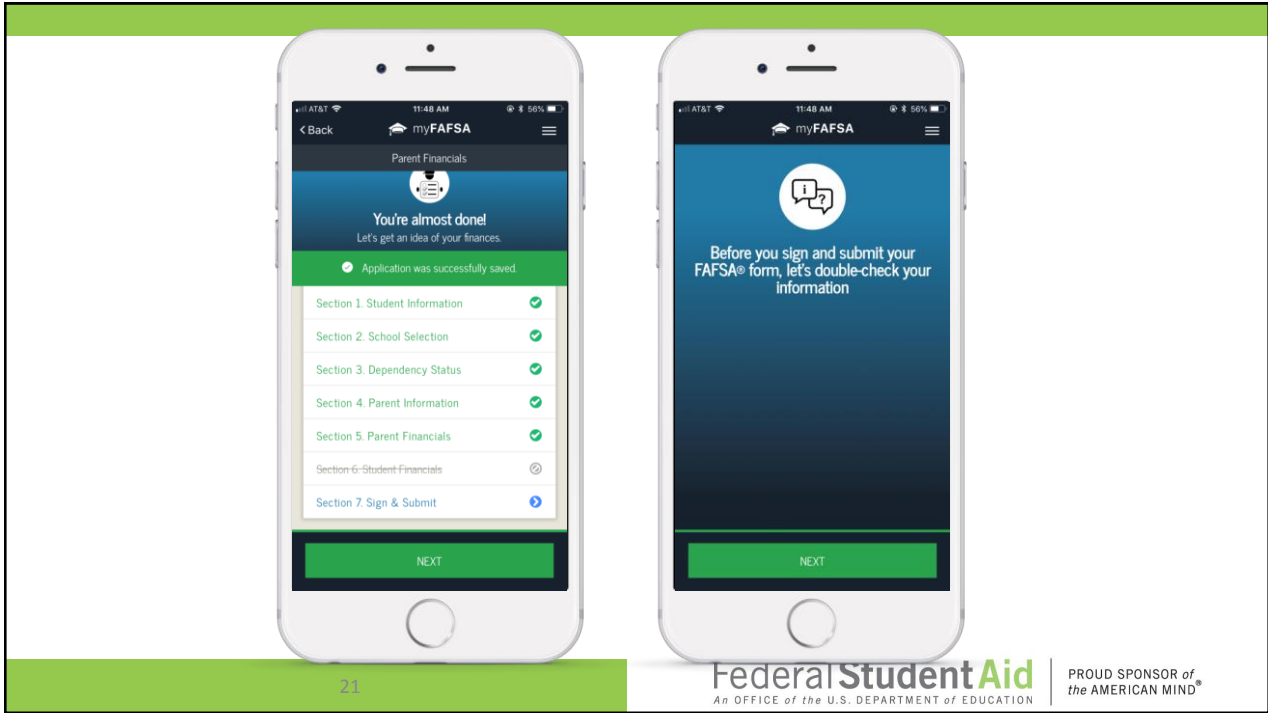


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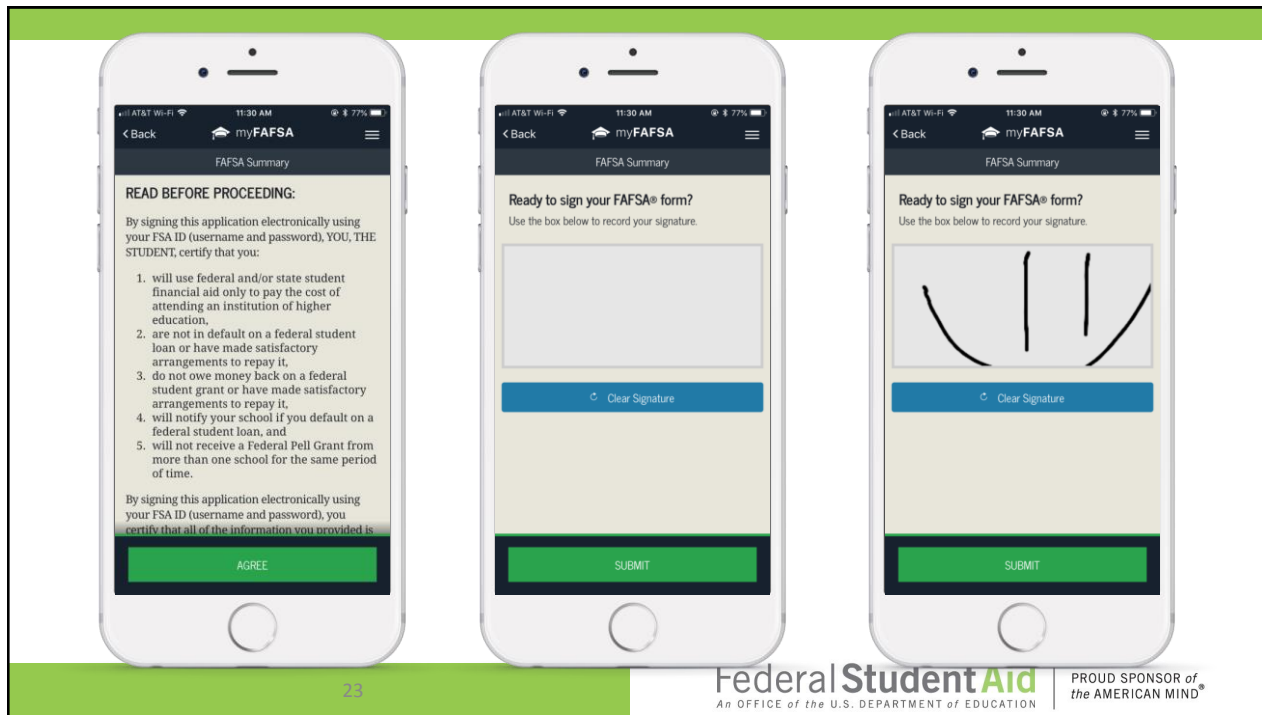
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## Important Publication Dates

**June  
2018**

2019-20  
Application  
Processing  
System  
Specifications  
for Software  
Developers  
(DRAFT)

2019-20  
Electronic  
Data  
Exchange  
(EDE)  
Technical  
Reference  
(DRAFT)

2019-20  
Electronic  
Data  
Exchange  
(EDE)  
Technical  
Reference  
(FINAL)

2019-20 EFC  
Formula Guide

**August  
2018**

2019-20 SAR  
Comment  
Codes and  
Text

2019-20 ISIR  
Guide

**September  
2018**

2019-20  
Summary of  
Changes for  
the Application  
Processing  
System  
(SCAPS)  
Guide

2019-20  
FAFSA on the  
Web Preview  
Presentation

**November  
2018**

2019-20 CPS  
Test System  
User Guide

2019-20  
Application  
Processing  
System  
Specifications  
for Software  
Developers  
(FINAL)

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## Important System Dates

MILESTONE	DATE
2019-20 FAFSA on the Web Demonstration Site	September 23, 2018
2019-20 EExpress for Windows, Release 1.0	September 24, 2018
2019-20 FAFSA on the Web availability	October 1, 2018
2019-20 IRS Data Retrieval Tool availability	October 1, 2018
2019-20 FAA Access to CPS Online availability	October 1, 2018
2019-20 Distribution of SARs/ISIRs begins	October 2, 2018

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# 2018-19 Award Year

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## IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) Security Enhancements

### ISSUE

Concerns were raised that cyber criminals could use the IRS DRT to steal sensitive taxpayer data.

### RESOLUTION

- New encryption safety measures to protect sensitive taxpayer data
- Different user experience



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## IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) 2018-2019

- The IRS DRT function reinstated for the 2018-2019 FAFSA on the Web
- To enhance the security and privacy of the sensitive personal data, all DRT data is encrypted/masked and hidden from view on:
  - IRS DRT website
  - FAFSA web pages
  - Student Aid Report (SAR)
- Applicants and parents will see the words “Transferred from the IRS” in the data entry fields on the FAFSA web pages and SAR
- [Electronic Announcement August 7, 2017](#)

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## IRS DRT Changes

- Any web edits that include information transferred from IRS will no longer be presented to the applicant or parent
- Instead, new SAR comments will display on the ISIR (and SAR) to alert financial aid administrators that at least one edit was triggered but could not be displayed and therefore, could not be resolved online
- Comment Codes:
  - 400 (parent) = Your Financial Aid Administrator may contact you to resolve any issues related to parental data reported on your FAFSA
  - 401 (student) = Your Financial Aid Administrator may contact you to resolve any issues related to data reported on your FAFSA
  - For more information, refer to [August 7, 2017 Electronic Announcement](#)

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## Verification



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## 2018-2019 Verification

- [GEN-17-05](#): 2018-2019 Verification (5/5/17 Federal Register)
  - No changes to verification tracking groups
- [August 16, 2017 Electronic Announcement](#): 2018-19 Verification Suggested Text
- Updates:
  - Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) is available again (masking process)
  - Dependent students who are nontax filers **do not** have to provide confirmation of nonfiling status from the IRS or other relevant tax authority
    - Other parties do (parents, independent students, etc.)

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## 2019-2020 Verification

- [GEN-18-03](#) - 2019-20 Verification (3/28/18 Federal Register)
  - No changes to verification tracking groups or FAFSA verification items from 2018-2019
  - No changes to the acceptable documentation requirements from 2018-2019
- 2019-20 Verification Suggested Text - forthcoming
- [July 30, 2018 Electronic Announcement](#) - EDE Technical Reference for the 2019-20 ISIR record layout, including Verification Tracking Flags

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## 2018-2019 Campus-Based Programs Key Dates

**1/3/2018 – Federal Register:** Announced the 2018-2019 Award Year Deadline Dates for the submission of requests and documents for the Campus-Based programs

**August 13, 2018:**

- Campus-Based Reallocation Form for return of 2017–2018 funds and the request for supplemental FWS funds for the 2018–2019

**October 1, 2018:**

- 2019–2020 FISAP (2017–2018 expenditures and requests for 2019–2020 to be submitted via COD)
- Work Colleges Program Report of 2017–2018 expenditures
- 2017–2018 Financial Assistance for Students with Intellectual Disabilities Expenditure Report

**December 14, 2018:**

- 2019–2020 FISAP Edit Corrections
- 2019–2020 Perkins Cash on Hand Update as of October 31, 2018

**February 4, 2019:**

- Request waiver of the 2019–2020 award year penalty for the underuse of 2017–2018 funds

**March 4, 2019:**

- The Institutional Application and Agreement for Participation in the Work Colleges Program for the 2019–2020

**April 22, 2019:**

- Request for waiver of the FWS Community Service Expenditure Requirement for 2019-2020

Calendar for the month of


## 2019-2020 Need Analysis Tables

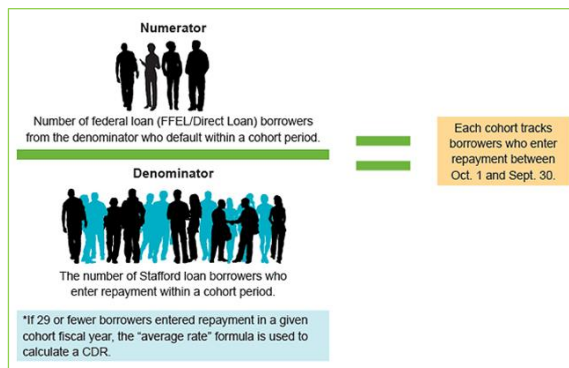
As required in Sec. 482 of the HEA, the 2019-2020 need analysis tables with any modifications, updates, and notices will be posted to IFAP in late summer.

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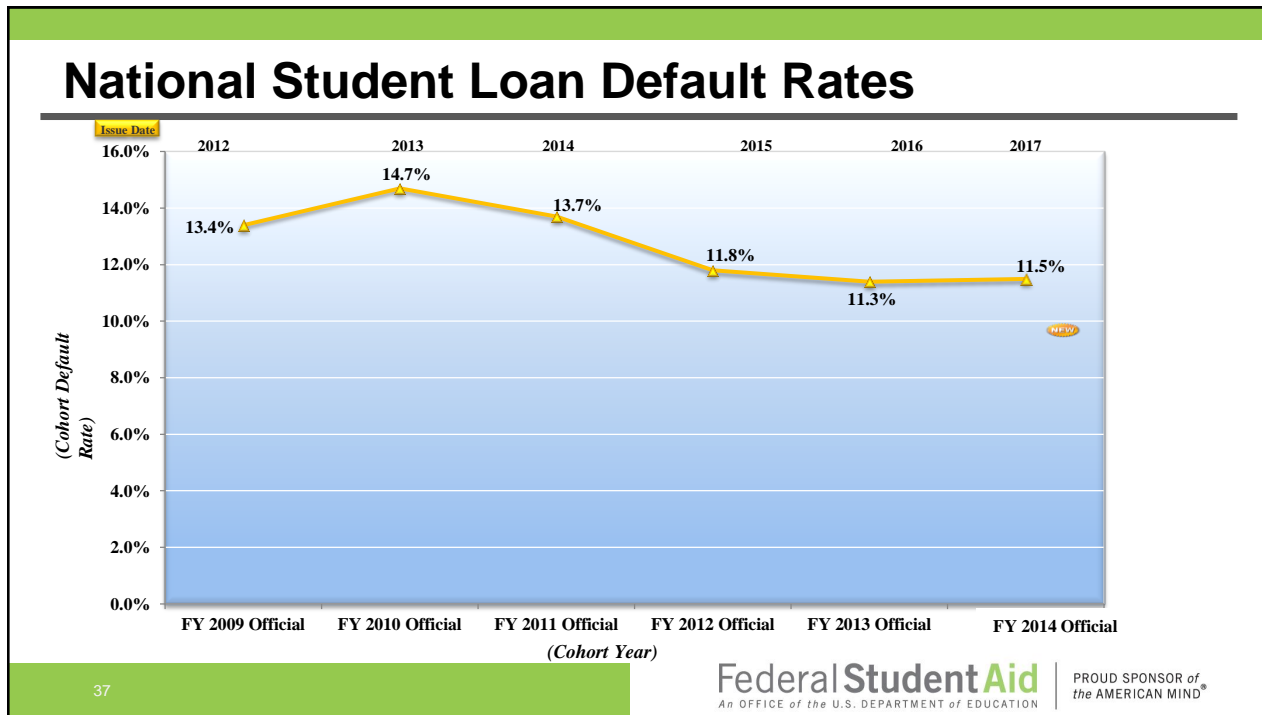
## Electronic Announcements

- [September 25, 2018](#): FY 2015 Official Cohort Default Rates (CDR) released
- [October 2, 2018](#): 2019-20 FAFSA form and myStudentAid mobile app now available
- [October 2, 2018](#): 2019-20 CPS Web Demo System and Mainframe Test System now available

# Cohort Default Rates



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## CDRs and References

- FY14 CDR for Washington is 10.4%
- Resources
  - FY 2014 Official Cohort Default Rates – Electronic Announcement - September 27, 2017
  - Default Resource Page  
<https://ifap.ed.gov/DefaultPreventionResourceInfo/index.html>

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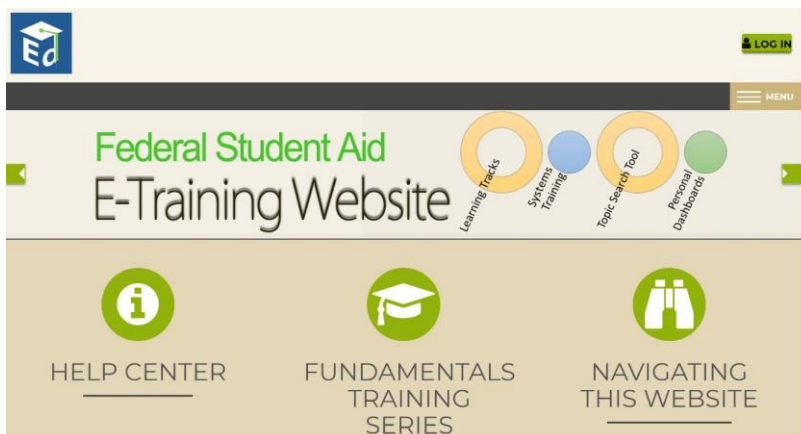
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A presentation slide titled "FSA Training". The slide features a large screen displaying the text "FSA Training" in bold black letters. To the right of the screen, a silhouette of a person is pointing towards the screen. In the foreground, the silhouettes of four people are shown from behind, looking at the screen. The slide has a green header and footer. The footer contains the number "39" on the left, the "Federal Student Aid" logo in the center, and the text "An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION" and "PROUD SPONSOR of the AMERICAN MIND" on the right.

## Federal Student Aid E- Training (FSA E-Training)

<https://fsatraining.info/>

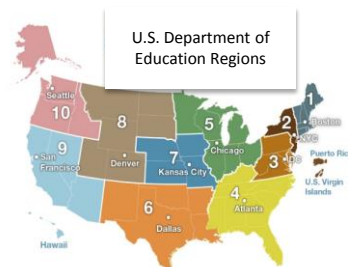


A screenshot of the Federal Student Aid E-Training Website. The website has a light beige background. At the top left is the "Ed" logo. At the top right are "LOG IN" and "MENU" buttons. The main heading is "Federal Student Aid E-Training Website". Below the heading are four circular icons: "Learning Tracks" (orange), "Systems Training" (blue), "Topic Search Tool" (yellow), and "Personal Dashboards" (green). Below these icons are three main sections: "HELP CENTER" with an information icon, "FUNDAMENTALS TRAINING SERIES" with a graduation cap icon, and "NAVIGATING THIS WEBSITE" with a binoculars icon.

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## FSA E-Training: Fundamentals of Federal Student Aid Administration

- FSA Coach Fundamentals (replaces FSA Coach)
  - FSA Coach Fundamentals must be successfully completed online on the FSA E-Training website to attend the in-person workshop
    - FSA Coach Fundamentals can also be used as a standalone training tool to train new FA staff
- In-person workshop
  - 5 day workshop offered at FSA's Regional Training Facilities
  - Available dates found on FSA E-Training after completing "FSA Coach"
    - Click on "Fundamentals Training Series"
    - [Dear Colleague ANN 18-09](#)



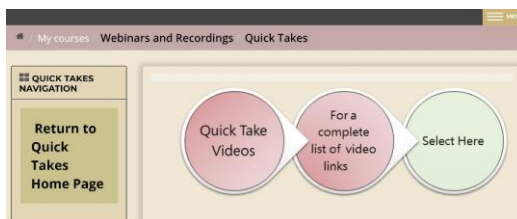
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## FSA E- Training: Quick Takes

- Brief videos, 15-20 minutes in length, on a variety of Federal Student Aid topics such as :
  - Conflicting Information
  - Professional Judgement
  - Defining a "year" in Federal Student Aid
  - Establishing Cost Of Attendance
  - Satisfactory Academic Progress
  - More than 20 topics available
- On the FSA E-Training Home page, select "Menu", scroll down to "Webinars and Recordings" and select Quick Takes



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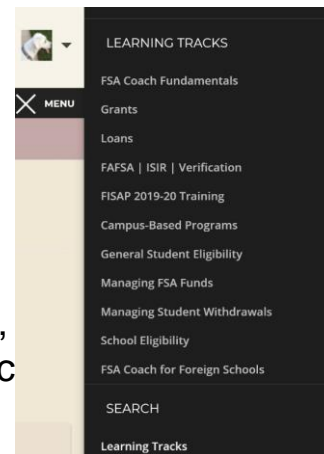
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## FSA E- Training: Comprehensive Training

- Training is available in more detail on a variety of Federal Student Aid topics such as:
  - R2T4
  - Campus Safety and Security
  - Default Prevention
  - Several others
- Designed to take 60-90 minutes each
- On the FSA E-Training Home page, select “Menu”, scroll down to “Learning Tracks”, and select a topic or select “Search” and “Learning Tracks” after selecting “Menu”



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## 2018 FSA Training Conference



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# Contacts and Feedback



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## Contacts

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- School Participation Team
  - Main Number:
  - IIS - Number
- Training Officers
  - Name – Number
- Email – `firstname.lastname@ed.gov`



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## Training Feedback

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To ensure quality training we ask all participants to please fill out an online session evaluation

- Go to “insert trainer evaluation”
- This feedback tool will provide a means to educate and inform areas for improvement and support an effective process for “listening” to our customers
- Additional feedback about training can be directed to Mark Gerhard at [mark.gerhard@ed.gov](mailto:mark.gerhard@ed.gov)

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## QUESTIONS?

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A chalkboard graphic with the words "THANK YOU" written in large, white, hand-drawn letters in the center. Surrounding this central text are numerous international phrases for "thank you" written in smaller, white, hand-drawn letters. The phrases include: QIJANAQ, SHUKRAN, FALEMENDERIT, DANK U, TEŞEKKÜRLER, KÖSZÖNÖM, TACK, TERIMA KASIH, DÖJEH, MAHALO, TAK, VINAKA, MERCI BEAUCOUP, GRATIAS TIBI AGO, DIOLCH, GRAZIE, TAKK FYRIR, DZIEKI, SPASIBO, GRACIAS, TANKEWOL, HVALA, DANKE, KIITOS, DIAKUJU, DANGGE, KHÀWP, KHUN, RAV TODOT, MERSI, BLAGODARYA, GMADLOBTH, and OBRIGADO.