


FAFSA & Application Processing Update



Virginia Hagins
U.S. Department of Education
December 2012

Federal Student Aid | PROUD SPONSOR of the AMERICAN MIND™
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

Agenda

- 2012-2013 Application Statistics
- 2013-2014 FAFSA Enhancements
- CPS Processing and ISIR Changes
- Verification Approach and Process
- Available Documentation
- Important Dates

Federal Student Aid | PROUD SPONSOR of the AMERICAN MIND™
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

Application Statistics

The following statistics are for applications submitted January 1, 2012 - September 30, 2012

Transaction Source	2012-2013	2011-2012
Web	16,437,268	16,061,798
EZ Web	2,175,909	2,443,125
Paper	41,268	65,864
Electronic Other	97,510	183,078

Federal Student Aid | PROUD SPONSOR of the AMERICAN MIND™
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

Application Statistics

The following statistics are for applications from January 1, 2012 - September 30, 2012

Application Type (English)	Number of applicants	Average Completion Time (in minutes)	Application Type (English)	Number of applicants	Average Completion Time (in minutes)
FAFSA	3,455,616	37:04	FAFSA	3,879,269	19:03
EZ FAFSA	329,120	32:02	EZ FAFSA	594,765	16:31
Renewal	4,003,109	27:13	Renewal	4,894,169	14:36
EZ Renewal	394,268	19:52	EZ Renewal	774,079	10:60

4

Federal Student Aid | PROUD SPONSOR of the AMERICAN MIND™
AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

IRS Data Retrieval Tool Statistics

- As of July 15th, the volume of successful authentications with the IRS for the 2012-2013 cycle had surpassed the entire volume of successful authentications for 2011-2012
- As of September 23rd, **5,198,417** unique users had successfully authenticated for 2011-2012
- As of September 30th, **7,160,227** unique users have successfully authenticated for 2012-2013
- For 2013-2014, the IRS DRT is scheduled to become available on **February 3rd**

5

Federal Student Aid | PROUD SPONSOR of the AMERICAN MIND™
AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION


Integration of StudentAid.gov and YouTube

- URLs for discontinued websites will be replaced with references to StudentAid.gov
- Users will be able to link to Federal Student Aid's YouTube videos from FAFSA on the Web home page

Thinking About College?



Use FAFSA4caster to see how federal student aid can help you pay for college!



Check out how Federal Student Aid can put you on a path to success. [View Videos on YouTube](#) or [Download the Accessible Videos](#)

6

Federal Student Aid | PROUD SPONSOR of the AMERICAN MIND™
AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Enhanced Browser Detection


- Browsers that were tested and determined to be incompatible with *FAFSA on the Web* will continue to be blocked
- All other browsers, current & new, will be supported and the unsupported browser message will no longer display

7

New Messaging for Estimators

- Instructional text will display for applicants who indicate they "Will file" their taxes

Student Financial Information

 You indicated you "Will file" a 2012 tax return.

If your 2012 income is similar to your 2011 income, use your 2011 tax return to provide estimates for questions about your income. If your income is not similar, click [Income Estimator](#) for assistance estimating your adjusted gross income, and answer the remaining questions about your income to the best of your ability.

You should return to update the estimates you provided with your 2012 tax return information once you file. At that time, you may be eligible to use the [IRS Data Retrieval Tool](#) to transfer your tax return information into the FAFSA.

8

Enhanced IRS DRT Questions

- The format of the IRS Data Retrieval Tool filtering question will be enhanced
- Question labels will be improved for clarity

Student Tax Information

For 2012, have you completed your IRS income tax return or another tax return?
 Already completed *

 You may be able to use the [IRS Data Retrieval Tool](#) to view and transfer your tax information from the IRS.

Did you file an amended tax return?
 Yes No

Did you file a Puerto Rican or foreign tax return?
 Yes No

Did you file your taxes electronically in the last 3 weeks (or by mail in the last 3 weeks)?
 Yes No

Based on your response, we recommend that you transfer your information from the IRS into this FAFSA.

Enter your PIN and click [Link To IRS](#)
 what is your pin? [\[FederalStudentAid.com My PIN\]](#)

[LINK TO IRS](#)

9

Enhanced "Sign & Submit" Page

- The preparer question will be modified to include a link to a help topic
- The PIN signature option will display more prominently
 - "Sign Electronically With My PIN" will be the default signature option for most applicants
 - Students/parents can choose another option for signing, and when selected, the system will display options to use PIN, print a signature page, or submit without signatures, along with definitions for each

10

Sign & Submit

Application was successfully saved.

[VIEW OR PRINT YOUR FAFSA INFORMATION](#)

Are you a preparer?
 Yes No

Student Signature

Student's Social Security Number: 000-00-1234

Student's last name: parkinson

Student's date of birth: 01/01/1990

What is your (the student's) PIN?
[FAFSAIDon't Know My PIN](#)

[Other options to sign and submit](#)

Help and Hints

Are you a preparer?

A preparer is anyone who charges a fee for helping you fill out your FAFSA.

Typically high school counselors, school financial aid administrators, or other mentors do not charge a fee to help you complete your application, so they are not considered preparers unless you paid them for their services.

If you are a preparer, select Yes.

11

Student Signature

Student's Social Security Number: 000001234

Student's last name: parkinson

Student's date of birth: 01/01/1990

Don't have a PIN? [Apply for a PIN](#)
It takes only a few minutes to get your PIN.

We recommend signing electronically with a PIN so you don't have to print and mail a signature page or return later to sign your FAFSA. If you are unable to sign electronically, select one of the following options.

Sign Electronically With My PIN
This is the fastest option.

What is your (the student's) PIN?
[FAFSAIDon't Know My PIN](#)

Print A Signature Page
This option requires that you print and mail your signature. Click the **Print Signature Page** button on this page.

Submit Without Signatures
This option allows you to submit your FAFSA now without your signature, but you will need to return later to sign.

Are you a preparer?

A preparer is anyone who charges a fee for helping you fill out your FAFSA.

Typically high school counselors, school financial aid administrators, or other mentors do not charge a fee to help you complete your application, so they are not considered preparers unless you paid them for their services.

If you are a preparer, select Yes.

12

Improved Confirmation Page

- “What Happens Next?” section enhanced and relocated
- New text informs applicants that eligibility for federal aid is dependent upon meeting eligibility guidelines
- Applicants will now have the option to share on Facebook or Twitter that they completed their FAFSA



13

Confirmation Number: F 03400113695 10/14/2012 00:39:13
 Data Release Number: (DRLN) 9383

Congratulations, molly! Your FAFSA was successfully submitted to Federal Student Aid. You should print this page for your records.

What Happens Next

- You will be notified when your FAFSA is processed.
- Your FAFSA information will be made available to your school(s), and they will use it to determine the aid you may be eligible to receive.
- Your school(s) will contact you if they need more information or when they are ready to discuss your financial aid award.
- If you have questions about your financial aid package, contact your school(s).

Eligibility Information

Estimated Expected Family Contribution (EFC) = 00000
 The EFC is an index that schools use to determine your eligibility and is not the amount of money that you have to pay. Your school's financial aid office will use your EFC to determine the specific types and amounts of student aid you are eligible to receive.

Based on the **eligibility criteria**, you may be eligible for the following:

Fast Grant Estimate - \$5,550.00
Direct Stafford Loan Estimate - \$12,500.00
 You may also be eligible to receive other federal, state, or institutional grants, scholarships, and/or work-study.

In addition, you should learn about [federal site benefits for education](#), including the [American Opportunity Tax Credit \(AOTC\)](#).

14

Additional Application Updates

- Any references to “Food Stamps” will be changed to “Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)”
- All students with a high school diploma will be required to provide the high school's name, city, and state

15

2013-2014 CPS Enhancements

NSLDS Unusual Enrollment History Flag

Post-Screening Reason Code:

- CPS will system-generate a new transaction with Reason Code 24 for records that have a change in the NSLDS Unusual Enrollment History Flag value after the initial pre-screening
- The new transaction will include the new value for the NSLDS Unusual Enrollment History Flag and a SAR Comment or C Flag as appropriate

25

Federal Student Aid | PROUD SPONSOR OF THE AMERICAN MIND™
AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

2013-2014 CPS Enhancements

Use of IRS Data Flags in Edits

- Edits applied to data fields that can be transferred from the IRS revised to use the IRS Data Field Flags as additional criteria to determine whether edit is met
- When the IRS Data Field Flags shows that the applicant transferred the data from the IRS and did not change it, the CPS will not apply the following reject edits:
 - Parents: 12 & C
 - Student: 3, C, and G

26

Federal Student Aid | PROUD SPONSOR OF THE AMERICAN MIND™
AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

2013-2014 CPS Enhancements

Auto Zero EFC Threshold Updated

Income Threshold for Automatic Zero EFC increased from \$23,000 to \$24,000



27

Federal Student Aid | PROUD SPONSOR OF THE AMERICAN MIND™
AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

2013-2014 Verification Process

For FAFSA information to be verified and acceptable documentation, refer to:

- Federal Register Notice published on July 12, 2012
- DCL GEN-12-11 posted on July 17, 2012

FAFSA information to be verified by the applicant

- Include the same verification items that were in place for 2012-2013 for tax filers and non-tax filers, including SNAP and Child Support Paid if reported
- Two additional verification selection items:
 - High School Completion Status
 - Identity/Statement of Educational Purpose

28

Federal Student Aid
AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PROUD SPONSOR of
THE AMERICAN MIND™

2013-2014 Verification Selection

- Records with EFCs subjected to verification selection, including signature only rejects
- Target is to select 30% of applicants

NEW

for 2013-2014:

- Records with data transferred from the IRS will not be selected if IRS data was not changed and answers to Number of Family Members and Number in College do not require verification
 - Note: Both parent and student must have transferred data for dependent records
- A Verification Selection Group will be identified on the ISIR for each selected record to indicate which data fields require verification

29

Federal Student Aid
AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PROUD SPONSOR of
THE AMERICAN MIND™

2013-2014 Verification Process

NEW

for 2013-2014: Verification Tracking Groups

- Each applicant selected for verification will be placed into one of five Verification Tracking Groups
- The applicant's ISIR will use the Verification Tracking Flag field to indicate the applicant's Verification Tracking Group: V1, V2, V3, V4, or V5
- The individual verification items that an applicant must verify are based upon the Verification Tracking Group to which the applicant is assigned

NEW

for 2013-2014: Verification Selection Change Flag

- Identifies a transaction that is selected for verification, if the transaction being corrected was not selected for verification previously

30

Federal Student Aid
AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PROUD SPONSOR of
THE AMERICAN MIND™

2013-2014 Verification Process

Verification Tracking Flag Groups:

Verification Tracking Flag	Verification Tracking Group	Verification Description
V1	Standard Verification	Record selected because conditions based on statistical analysis error-prone risk model were met
V2	SNAP Verification	Record selected for receipt of SNAP criteria only
V3	Child Support Paid Verification	Record selected for Child Support Paid criteria only
V4	Custom Verification Group	Record selected for Identity criteria only
V5	Aggregate Verification Group	Record selected for Identity criteria and "Standard Verification" criteria

31

2013-2014 Verification Process

Verification Flag and Verification Tracking Flag on the ISIR

FAA INFORMATION				
Date ISIR Received	MM/DD/YYYY	Pushed ISIR Flag	XXX	
Verification Flag	Y	Rejects Met:	99,99,99,99,99,99,99	
Professional Judgment	XXXXXX	Verification Tracking Flag	V3	
Transaction Receipt Date	MM/DD/YYYY	Dependency Override	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	
Auto Zero EFC Flag	XXX	Rejected Status Change Flag	X	Duplicate SSN Flag
EFC Change Flag	XXXXXXXX	Verification Selection Change Flag	Y	Address Only Correction
SNT Flag	XXX	Special Circumstance Flag	X	SAR C Change Flag

FAA Access to CPS Online - Student Inquiry

NEED HELP? 2013-2014
999999999
FAA Information
Application Flags
MANUEL E. DOMESTICASTRANE

Verification Selection Change Flag: Transaction is now selected for verification when the transaction being corrected was not selected.

Verification Flag: Selected for Verification

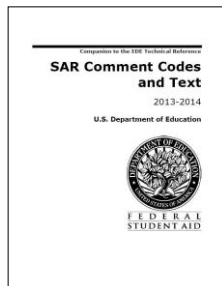
Verification Tracking Flag: Child Support Paid Verification Group

32

Available Documentation

SAR Comment Codes

The *SAR Comment Codes and Text* document serves as a standalone guide, as well as a companion to the *Electronic Data Exchange (EDE) Technical Reference*

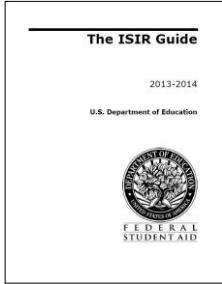


33

Available Documentation

ISIR Guide

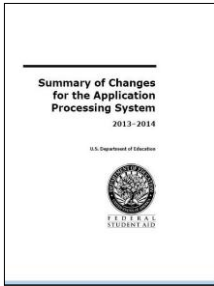
The *ISIR Guide* is designed to assist FAAs with interpreting student information on the ISIR and making corrections



Available Documentation

The *Summary of Changes for the Application Processing System* is

- Designed to meet the reference needs of FAAs, programmers, and data processing staff
- Describes updates and enhancements to the 2013-2014 application processing system and to student and school Web products



Available Documentation

The *Federal Student Aid Handbook* consists of

- Application and Verification Guide (AVG)
- Six other volumes

The AGV is intended for FAAs to help with

- filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA),
- verifying information,
- making corrections and other changes to the information reported on the FAFSA.

Important Dates

- July 30, 2012
 - **2013-2014 Electronic Data Exchange (EDE) Technical Reference** draft (including the ISIR Record Layout and ISIR Cross-Reference)
- August 16, 2012
 - **2013-2014 Application Processing System Specifications for Software Developers** draft
- September 13, 2012
 - **2013-2014 EFC Formula Guide** posted on IFAP

37

Important Dates

- October 18, 2012
 - **2013-2014 CPS Test System User Guide**
- October 17, 2012
 - **2013-2014 Electronic Data Exchange (EDE) Technical Reference- Final**
- October 29, 2012
 - **2013-2014 ISIR Guide** posted on IFAP

38

Important Dates

- November 5, 2012
 - **2013-2014 SAR Comment Codes and Text**
- December 30, 2012
 - The **CPS Test System** is made available

39

Important Dates

- January 1, 2013
 - 2013-2014 *FAFSA on the Web* site is available to students and 2013-2014 FAA Access to CPS Online Web site
- January 2, 2013
 - The 2013-2014 CPS begins processing

40

Your Training Officers....

Virginia W Hagins
Virginia.w.hagins@ed.gov

Bruce Honer
Bruce.honer@ed.gov

Robert Vallas
Robert.vallas@ed.gov

41

Kindly complete an evaluation....

<http://s.zoomerang.com/s/VirginiaHagins>

Paper format also available

42
