



The House Approves Six-Month Extension Of Higher Education Act. It took less than ten minutes for the House of Representatives to debate and approve, by voice vote, H.R. 3927, the Third Higher Education Act Extension of 2007. The bill extends program authority to continue all programs contained in the Higher Education Act (HEA), including the Title IV student aid programs, for six months until April 30, 2008. The current extension expires on October 30, 2007. The legislation now goes to the Senate for action. <http://www.nasfaa.org/publications/2007/gheaext102407.html>

Dear Colleague Letters

- ANN-07-21 This letter announces FSA's podcast of the recent 2007-08 online, instructor-led training sessions on Applicant Data Resolution. Topics include resolving student application data rejects and using the Department's Web-based systems to correct errors. <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/dpccletters/ANN0721.html>
- ANN-07-20 This letter announces additional training sessions on NSLDS using the Department's Distance Education system. Topics covered include an overview of the NSLDS system, how to make changes to student data, how to add users and how to read codes within the system as well as report overpayments and use the transfer monitoring function. <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/dpccletters/ANN0720.html>
- ANN-07-19 The Department announced additional classes for the NSLDS Aggregate Loan Calculation training series. This instructor-led online training will focus on how NSLDS calculates and reports student's aggregate loan levels. <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/dpccletters/ANN0719.html>
- GEN-07-07 This letter provides additional information on the course enrollment requirements for a student to receive payment under the SMART Grant Program. <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/dpccletters/GEN0707.html>
- P-07-02 The Department announces the repeal of the Federal Pell Grant "tuition sensitivity" provision for the Pell Grant Program and the elimination of the Alternate Payment and Disbursement Schedules for the 2007-08 award year. <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/dpccletters/P0702.html>

Electronic Announcements

- 10-26-2007 FSA has provided a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation containing screen shots of the 2008-09 FAFSA on the Web site. <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/1025FOTW0809EAScreenShots.html>
- 10-24-2007 FSA announced the posting of the 2008-09 Summary of Changes for the Application Processing System guide. <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/1024SumofChgforAPSGuide0809.html>
- 10-23-2007 The 2008-09 COD Technical Reference is now available. <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/1023CODTechRef0809.html>

- 10-22-2007 FSA has provided answers to some of the questions you may have about the 2008-09 FAFSA Distribution Strategy.
<http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/1022FAFSAFAQ.html>
- 10-19-2007 FSA is in the process of relocating the data center that supports numerous FSA systems and Web sites. The data center relocation is scheduled to occur in three phases over the next several months. In this announcement, information about the implementation of the first phase is provided.
<http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/1019VDCUpdate1FirstRelocationPhase.html>
- 10-19-2007 Within the next few days, OPE will publish in the Federal Register a notice announcing their intention to establish one or two negotiated rulemaking committees to prepare proposed regulations for the student assistance programs authorized under Title IV of the HEA. The number of committees and their organization will be based upon the comments received as a result of the notice.
<http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/1019NNR2007.html>
- 10-19-2007 Effective October 1, 2007, many Immigration Status Verification Units have been closed. All schools should review the updated Attachment A on the IFAP Web site. This attachment, "Where to Mail Form G-845," must be used to determine the correct USCIS field office for your state or territory (and in some cases, county). Once you have identified the correct USCIS field office for your school, use the address on page 4 for all manual G-845 processing requests.
<http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/1019USCISFieldOfficeClosures.html>
- 10-19-2007 FSA is pleased to announce the posting of the final draft of the 2008-09 EDE Technical Reference. The EDE Technical Reference provides programmer specifications, record layouts, and other detailed information for schools or other organizations that need to design software systems to interface with Federal Student Aid's application processing system.
<http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/1019EDETechRef0809OctUpdate.html>
- 10-12-2007 As explained in DCL P-07-02, CCRAA modifies the award rules for the Pell Grant Program. Specifically, the "tuition sensitivity" provision is repealed. As a result, the two-page "Alternate" Payment and Disbursement Schedules published in Dear Colleague Letter P-07-01 may no longer be used. All Pell Grant awards for the 2007-08 Award Year must be determined using the four-page "Regular" Payment and Disbursement Schedules.
<http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/1012ReportAdjust0708PellGrants.html>
- 10-02-2007 In this letter, FSA highlights the main enhancements to the FAFSA4caster. They have also referenced communications material for your use at outreach events with students who want to enter or return to college.
<http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/1002FAFSA4Caster2ndRel.html>
- 09-28-2007 FSA has provided the third and final installment of the 2008-09 COD Technical Reference Draft. They plan to post the final 2008-09 COD Technical Reference in October 2007.
<http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0928CODTechRefSept0809DraftThird.html>
- 09-28-2007 FSA announces the availability of an updated Computer-Based Training for the COD System Web site. The updated COD training includes enhancements that have been made to the COD System from March 2004 through April 14, 2007.
<http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0928UpdCBTProgforCOD.html>
- 09-28-2007 This Electronic Announcement supersedes the guidance posted on September 24, 2007. The only change made to the earlier guidance is to correct the first paragraph under the "Verification Status Report" section to accurately reflect the

students who are listed in this report.

<http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0928VeriStatusCode.html>

Federal Registers

- 10-22-2007 The Secretary has published a notice announcing the intention to establish one or more negotiated rulemaking committees to prepare proposed regulations. The notice also announces three regional hearings where interested parties can suggest issues that should be considered for action by the negotiating committees. Finally, the notice requests nominations for individual negotiators who represent key stakeholder constituencies that are involved in the student financial assistance programs. The deadline date for receiving nominations for negotiators to serve on the negotiating committees is November 9, 2006.
<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20071800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/pdf/E7-20785.pdf>
- 10-12-2007 The Secretary requests comments on the SAR that the Department proposes to use for the 2008-09 award year. Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before November 13, 2007.
<http://www.ifap.ed.gov/fregisters/FR10122007SAR.html>
- 09-28-2007 The Secretary is amending the Perkins Loan Program, FFEL Program, and Direct Loan Program regulations to implement changes to HEA resulting from enactment of the Third Higher Education Extension Act of 2006. These final regulations reflect the provisions that authorize the discharge of the outstanding balance of certain Perkins, FFEL and Direct Loan Program loans for survivors of eligible public servants and other eligible victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. These final regulations are effective October 29, 2007.
<http://www.ifap.ed.gov/fregisters/FR09282007.html>

For more information on any of the above, please don't hesitate to contact me.

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