

hot TOPICS



IPD Financial Aid News

October 1999

Reauthorization Update

On October 7, 1998, Congress enacted the Higher Education Amendment of 1998, also known as the Reauthorization. Several changes have resulted from the enactment of this legislation. Some of the more notable changes are listed below:

- The Department of Education must subject all proposed regulations to the negotiated rule-making process before publishing them as final regulations.
- The Department of Education must publish new regulations by November 1 in order for the regulations to be effective by the next award year (July 1).
- The Department of Education must publish new software and hardware requirements by December 1 in order for those requirements to be effective on July 1 of the following year.
- The Department has amended the number in college to exclude the parents of a dependent student.
- The use of a single common application form (the FAFSA) is now required for all Title IV programs in place of the previous requirement that the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program have a separate application.
- The Secretary must develop and implement a master promissory note that can be used as a multi-year note for FFEL and Direct Loans for periods of enrollment beginning not later than July 1, 2000.
- Institutions must distribute voter registration forms received from the State to all currently enrolled students.
- Beginning October 7, 2000, institutions must calculate the percentage and amount of funds the student did not earn and return those funds to the Title IV, HEA Programs.
- As part of the provision pertaining to the return of funds, an institution may grant a leave of absence of up to 180 days in any 12-month period. During the leave of absence, the student is not considered withdrawn and no refund calculation is necessary.
- Institutions must notify prospective and currently enrolled students of the new refund provision and specify the manner in which the institution will implement the provision.
- Institutions may use electronic means to provide exit counseling.
- Students who are enrolled at least half-time in teacher certificate courses as part of a post-baccalaureate program not leading to a graduate degree may be eligible to receive Pell Grants if those courses are required by a state to teach in that state.

Y2K Update

The deadline for Y2K testing has been extended to October 29, 1999. Instructions for completing the CPS Y2K testing procedures can be found on the Internet at <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OCIO/year/b2a.html>.

Entrance/Exit Counseling Update

New entrance/exit counseling software is now available through USA Group. Students can perform entrance/exit counseling on line in an interactive environment. More information is available at <http://www.usagroup.com>.

Goings On

The Institute for Professional Development Fall Financial Aid Training session is scheduled to take place from October 27–29, 1999. The session will focus on processing aid for non-term programs. Current regulatory guidelines applicable to all institutions participating in Title IV programs will also be presented and discussed. Please contact Kristen or Adrienne if interested in participating.

This training session will again be offered March of next year.

Other Training Opportunities

- Department of Education “New FAA Training” Workshops are being offered at various sites across the country. These workshops are for financial aid administrators with little or no Title IV financial aid experience. Locate a workshop near you by accessing the <http://www.ifap.ed.gov> website and clicking on the ‘Training Information’ hyperlink.
- USA Group is holding “Student Loan Workshops” at sites all over the United States. Check out the USA Group website at <http://www.usagroup.com> for more details.

Teleconference

Don't miss the opportunity to discuss current issues with your peers. If you have not been able to join a previous teleconference, instructions are included below for your convenience.

Next Teleconference Date: Wednesday, December 8th, 1999
Time: 7:30–9:00 AM, Phoenix Time
Bridge Number & Code: **480-929-7482/ Code #4120**

Please carefully follow the recorded instructions at each prompt when dialing into the Teleconference Bridge.

- There is a 10-minute window prior to beginning the teleconference when callers can enter with the assigned code number. If you call before the 10-minute window, you may not be connected to the teleconference.
- If you experience any difficulty connecting with the teleconference phone number/code you have been assigned, please dial the Corporate Operator's phone number (480-966-5394) and ask to be transferred to the Teleconference Bridge, ext. 1025.
- If you need to step away from the teleconference for a moment, please do not place your phone on hold. Instead, place your phone on mute or simply hang up and dial in again.



Coming Attractions

AT LAST!!! In response to popular demand, a listserv is now available to allow you to consult with one another about the common problems you face and solutions that have provided positive results. The global distribution list for Financial Aid has been created and activated. To utilize the list, open a regular email message and type ipdfinaid@uophx.edu in the TO: section of the message. When the email is sent, it will go to all the members of the list. Clicking "Reply" in response to the email will send the response to all members of the list.

Look for regulatory information and other items of interest to be communicated on the listserv. Check your email frequently!

This Page Is For You

Do you have information about job openings or upcoming events at your institution that you'd like to share with the other IPD institutions? Just email the information (including the name of the event or job opening, any relevant dates, and a name, telephone number, or email address of a contact person) to Adrienne Jones by December 1, 1999, at adrienne.r.jones@us.arthurandersen.com so that your information will be included in the next newsletter.

Job Openings

Financial Aid Assistant at Medaille College

Full time position in the Accel Program-Associate Degree, along with five years significant financial aid experience and familiarity with DOS programs, and Windows '95. Must be able to work evening hours. Must have excellent people skills, and be able to handle general functions of busy office. A good attitude and a smile a must.

Contact Phyllis Hart at phart@medaille.edu.

