

**1845-0041 Student Assistance General Provision – Subpart E -Verification  
Student Aid Application Information (91 FR 13825)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Commentator: Lisa Martin, Baylor  
University**

**1<sup>st</sup> Comment on FR Doc # 2026-05615**

The Department’s recent fraud prevention initiatives, which resulted in a substantial increase in Verification Tracking Group V5 selections, have created a significant operational and student-service burden for institutions administering Title IV aid. Following the Department’s announcement that approximately 300,000 FAFSA applicants would be newly selected for V5 verification as part of enhanced fraud detection efforts, Baylor University experienced an immediate increase of 167 additional V5 students within a single day, bringing the institution’s total V5 population to 1,375 students. Of those students, 1,353 had not completed verification at the time of review, requiring substantial manual outreach, identity verification review, and follow-up processing. While Baylor supports the Department’s efforts to protect the integrity of the Title IV programs, the timing and volume of these late-cycle selections—occurring well into the upcoming award year packaging and enrollment cycle for incoming Fall students—create significant administrative strain, delay aid processing, and increase confusion and barriers for students attempting to finalize enrollment decisions. Institutions would benefit from earlier identification of fraud-risk applicants, expanded use of automated federal data matching, and additional operational flexibility to reduce the manual burden associated with V4/V5 processing and reporting requirements.

**FSA Response to 1<sup>st</sup> Comment:**

Thank you for your comment. The Department of Education evaluates the verification process each year to see what, if anything, needs to be adjusted based upon internal and external feedback, compliance concerns, new policies/regulations/laws, etc. And the section of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, under FAFSA Simplification [see language below] codifies ED’s

requirement to review and report out on verification practices. We now have a mandate to continuously review and modify verification where appropriate to balance the needs of the students with the needs of the taxpayers.

Verification Burden - the Secretary shall (A) to the maximum extent practicable streamline and simplify the process of verification for applicants for Federal financial aid, (B) in establishing policies and procedures to verify applicants' eligibility for Federal financial aid consider: (1) the burden placed on low-income applicants, (2) the risk to low-income applicants of failing to complete the application, enroll in college, or complete a postsecondary credential as a result of being selected for verification, (3) the effectiveness of the policies and procedures in preventing overpayments, and (4) the reasons for the source of any improper payments; (C) issue a public report not less often than annually that includes the number and percentage of applicants subject to verification, whether the applicants ultimately received Federal financial aid disbursements, the extent to which the SAI changed for such applicants as a result of verification, and the extent to which such applicants' eligibility for Federal financial aid under this title changed.

As a result, this includes the very recent implementation of a real-time identity fraud detection capability within the FAFSA® form as a way to provide real-time fraud detection, real-time identity confirmation during the online FAFSA process, and resolving identity confirmation reject codes more effectively. We appreciate your feedback and will certainly refer these concerns back to the designated business unit for process improvement and further analysis as we continue this newly implemented real-time fraud detection capability journey.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Commentator: Anonymous**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Comment on FR Doc # 2026-05615**

Please ensure 34 CFR Sections 668.53, 668.54, 668.55, 668.56, 668.57, 668.59 and 668.61 have been reviewed according to Executive Order 14219 of February 19, 2025, which requires in relevant part: Sec. 2 Rescinding Unlawful Regulations and Regulations That Undermine the National Interest. (a) Agency heads shall, in coordination with their DOGE Team Leads and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, initiate a process to review all regulations subject to their sole or joint jurisdiction for consistency with law and Administration policy. Within 60 days of the date of this order, agency heads shall, in consultation with the Attorney General as appropriate, identify the following classes of regulations: (i) unconstitutional regulations and regulations that raise serious constitutional difficulties, such as exceeding the scope of the power vested in the Federal Government by the Constitution;(ii) regulations that are based on unlawful

delegations of legislative power;(iii) regulations that are based on anything other than the best reading of the underlying statutory authority or prohibition;(iv) regulations that implicate matters of social, political, or economic significance that are not authorized by clear statutory authority;(v) regulations that impose significant costs upon private parties that are not outweighed by public benefits; (vi) regulations that harm the national interest by significantly and unjustifiably impeding technological innovation, infrastructure development, disaster response, inflation reduction, research and development, economic development, energy production, land use, and foreign policy objectives; and(vii) regulations that impose undue burdens on small business and impede private enterprise and entrepreneurship.(b) In conducting the review required by subsection (a) of this section, agencies shall prioritize review of those rules that satisfy the definition of "significant regulatory action" in Executive Order 12866 of September 30, 1993 (Regulatory Planning and Review), as amended.(c) Within 60 days of the date of this order, agency heads shall provide to the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) within the Office of Management and Budget a list of all regulations identified by class as listed in subsection (a) of this section.(d) The Administrator of OIRA shall consult with agency heads to develop a Unified Regulatory Agenda that seeks to rescind or modify these regulations, as appropriate.

**3Enforcement Discretion to Ensure Lawful Governance.**(a) Subject to their paramount obligation to discharge their legal obligations, protect public safety, and advance the national interest, agencies shall preserve their limited enforcement resources by generally de-prioritizing actions to enforce regulations that are based on anything other than the best reading of a statute and de-prioritizing actions to enforce regulations that go beyond the powers vested in the Federal Government by the Constitution.(b) Agency heads shall determine whether ongoing enforcement of any regulations identified in their regulatory review is compliant with law and Administration policy. To preserve resources and ensure lawful enforcement, agency heads, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, shall, on a case-by-case basis and as appropriate and consistent with applicable law, then direct the termination of all such enforcement proceedings that do not comply with the Constitution, laws, or Administration policy.

**FSA Response to 2<sup>nd</sup> Comment:**

Thank you for your comment. The Department of Education evaluates the verification process each year to see what, if anything, needs to be adjusted based upon internal and external feedback, compliance concerns, new policies/regulations/laws, etc. And the section of the Higher Education Act of

1965, as amended, under FAFSA Simplification [see language below] codifies ED's requirement to review and report out on verification practices. We now have a mandate to continuously review and modify verification where appropriate to balance the needs of the students with the needs of the taxpayers.

Verification Burden - the Secretary shall (A) to the maximum extent practicable streamline and simplify the process of verification for applicants for Federal financial aid, (B) in establishing policies and procedures to verify applicants' eligibility for Federal financial aid consider: (1) the burden placed on low-income applicants, (2) the risk to low-income applicants of failing to complete the application, enroll in college, or complete a postsecondary credential as a result of being selected for verification, (3) the effectiveness of the policies and procedures in preventing overpayments, and (4) the reasons for the source of any improper payments; (C) issue a public report not less often than annually that includes the number and percentage of applicants subject to verification, whether the applicants ultimately received Federal financial aid disbursements, the extent to which the SAI changed for such applicants as a result of verification, and the extent to which such applicants' eligibility for Federal financial aid under this title changed.

Furthermore, sections 483(b)(6) and (d)(6) of the HEA, codified under 20 U.S.C. 1090, contains specific and strict provisions to protect students from unnecessary administrative burden and how institutions of higher education (IHE) handle student financial aid applications. Additionally, when read in conjunction with 20 U.S.C. 1094 (Program Participation Agreements), it is design to ensure that IHEs maintain ethical, transparent, and standardized practices for federal aid disbursements.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Commentator: Lashawn Green**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Comment on FR Doc # 2026-05615**

I submitted a application for fasfa in 2002 I was going to school to become a California Department of forestry first responder Wildlands f fire fighter though Wildland program at plot Rock fire camp and conservation center partnered with California department of corrections Sacramento CA the information that is on the fasfa application needs updating for for my.eucuation to continue though online registration with CTU

**FSA Response to 3<sup>rd</sup> Comment:**

Thank you for your comment. The Department of Education requests that this inquiry be reported to the appropriate help desk so the issue can be logged, researched and resolved. Please contact the Federal Student Aid Information

Center (FSAIC) at 1-800-433-3243.

**4<sup>th</sup> Commentator: Anonymous**

**4<sup>th</sup> Comment on FR Doc # 2026-05615**

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ED-2026-SCC-0661

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Student Assistance General Provision-Subpart E-Verification Student Aid Application Information  
Title: Student Assistance General Provision -Subpart E - Verification Student Aid Application Information

Notification of Declaration of Statement of Policy by implementation and enactments of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 2995 as amended, the Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended, the OPEN Government Act as amended, the Small Business Paperwork Relief and Computer Security Act of 1987, the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018, the Quiet Title Act and exceptions, the Federal Claims Tort Act, the Justice Assistance Act, the American Rescue Plan Act, and the General Provisions Act as amended, Approval by reference of incorporation by the Department of Veterans Affairs Liaison, the Directors of the Office of Management and Budget for review and approval of necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including that the information has practical utility, establishing differing compliance or reporting requirements or timetables that take into account the resources available to respond, approval by the Director of the Federal Register, under the Constitution of the United States and Congressional Authority.

I am requesting Approval for the Student Assistance Programs and an Exemption for the Application, under the Department of Education and the Secretary, the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services, on my behalf and as Federally Recognized Tribe Member, to all for verification and updating records, by meetings and consultations with the Department of Justice, Department of Commerce, the Department of State, the Department of Interior, the Office of Personnel Management, the Executive Administration Branch, the Department of Labor and the EEOC, the Federal Student Aid Administration, the Presidential Proclamation, Executive Order or Public Land Order of the Secretary of the Interior for Final Judgments and judgement bar on any action related, for the case of Semtek Int'l Inc. v. Lockheed Martin Corp., 531 U.S. 497, 502, Steele Co., 523 U.S., 101-102, Arbaugh v. Y & H Corp, 546 U.S. 500,510-511, and Brownback v. King case 19-546.

Effective 03/23/2026 by my Oath of judicial form of my affirmation of voluntary Consent and Authorization for Clarification of Status of Previously Issued Rulemaking and Exemptions, Rulemaking for Special Authority for Certain

Unmanned Aircraft and any exemption granted under Authority, based on on my confirmation and this written request to the Federal Aviation Administration's Administration. For the Administrator's Assessment of Unmanned Aircraft Systems Expedited Exemptions and Approvals Treatment of Mitigation Measure and Waiver Authority of Federal Code Regulations, to the extent consistent with aviation safety for personnel of the Federal Government for use performance-based requirements for carriage of Property by unmanned aircraft systems for compensation or hire.

This will allow for the Administrator shall prioritize the review and adjudication of requests to establish FAA Recognized Identification Areas at Fixed Sites for community based Organization. This will also allow for an Act to Codify, Revise, and Amend the Laws Regulating to the Judiciary as amended, for the Supreme Court's requirement, for any such case certified, for its review and determination, by Laws of the United States, or in favor of the title, right, privilege, or immunity claimed under the Constitution, treaty, statute, commission, or authority of the United States, on my behalf and by this written statement of Request and Consent, and seek Legal Counsel support from the Department of Justice and Deputy Attorney Generals for any required Filing of Appeals, Motions for Petitions, for Jurisdiction to review Final Judgment and determinations of certiorari with the same power and authority and with the effect as of brought by appeal, necessary for the scope of review.

Please accept my Final Declaration of Rule Making Policy as my Final Decision, Opinion, and Judgment for my Record of Decision, to all for the immediate implementation upon review and release of notifications by the Secretaries of Labor, Commerce, Interior, War, Transportation, OMB, Energy, State, Environmental Protection Agency, Education, Veterans Affairs, DHH, OPM, and all agencies and departments relevant, to allow for jurisdiction to the Special Master Proposed Order confirming the United States's Disclaimer of certain marine submerged lands within the Tongass National Forest and any submerged lands that are subject to the exceptions that were under the jurisdiction of an agency other than the U.S. Department of Agriculture on the date of filing of the complaint in this action, designated by the Bureau of Land Management and supplemental documentation, for the urgency needs. THANK YOU

**FSA Response to 4<sup>th</sup> Comment:**

Thank you for your comment. It is important to clarify that, under current regulations, the Department of Education's legal authority is strictly limited to matters governed by the Higher Education Act (HEA) and those that fall within the jurisdiction of the Department of Education. The Department of Education

does not possess the legal authority to verify or update records that are outside the scope of the HEA or the Department's jurisdiction. Requests for verification or updates related to other agencies or programs cannot be addressed by the Department of Education.

**5<sup>th</sup> Commentator: Anonymous;  
email: inesangel011@gmail.com**

**5<sup>th</sup> Comment on FR Doc # 2026-05615**

where's the e-verify student loan your company's suppose to have by now, I want to turn in my financial aid ASAP.

**FSA Response to 5<sup>th</sup> Comment:**

Thank you for your comment. The E-Verify system requirements are not part of this information collection request nor under the jurisdiction of the Department of Education. The Department of Education requests that this inquiry be reported to the appropriate help desk so the issue can be logged, researched and resolved. Please contact the Federal Student Aid Information Center (FSAIC) at 1-800-433-3243.