



Tuesday, March 28, 2023

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NCHER Annual Conference to be Held June 5-7, 2023 in Fort Lauderdale: Register Today!

NCHER will hold its Annual Conference on June 5-7, 2023 at the Hilton Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The conference, which is open and designed for everyone across the higher education finance industry, will provide attendees with ample opportunities to network, learn, and take information back home that they can use in their current jobs – from hearing about the current trends and hot topics to exploring new and potential business opportunities. The NCHER staff is currently working on a draft program agenda that will be released next week; in the meantime, [register](#) today and take advantage of the Early Bird registration rate. Also, be sure to make your hotel reservations [online](#) by calling (954) 414-2222. When calling the hotel, be sure to mention the NCHER 2023 Annual

Conference in order to guarantee a room rate of \$199 per room, per night.

We look forward to seeing you for some fun and sun in Ft Lauderdale!

FSA Releases Draft of Federal Student Aid Application Materials, Will Receive Public Comment Until May 23rd

Yesterday, the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Federal Student Aid (FSA) released the [Notice of the Draft 2024-25 Federal Student Aid Application Materials](#), which includes the new Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and FAFSA Submission Summary (formerly known as the Student Aid REport). The draft application, which has 46 questions and is 21 pages, is part of an effort by the Department to overhaul the form and the underlying system for distributing billions in federal financial aid since Congress passed the FAFSA Simplification Act in 2020. In today's notice, FSA said that it is including a supplement to the 2024-25 FAFSA clearance package which outlines three common user scenarios to assist with understanding the new online user experience. FSA [released](#) the draft and other supplementary materials last week and, in the notice, says that it will accept comments on the form through May 23, 2023 before finalizing the document.

Durbin-Krishnamoorthi Introduce Protecting Students From Worthless Degrees Act

Last week, Senate Majority Whip Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL-08) introduced the Protecting Students from Worthless Degrees Act, which is aimed at protecting students by ending federal financial aid for unaccredited degree programs. "Unfortunately, too many students are lured in by the false promises of for-profit colleges, believing that they are being trained or educated to do a certain profession," Sen. Durbin said in a [press release](#). "But after being buried in debt, students find that their program does not qualify them to become licensed in their chosen profession. Our bill protects students from these for-profit college scams by prohibiting federal student aid dollars from going to programs that don't meet the professional licensure requirements and leave students with mountains of debt and no job prospects." The legislation would require all programs—including distance education programs—to meet any federal or state licensure requirements and programmatic accreditation that is necessary for graduates to enter their intended field; make institutions of higher education that fail to meet consumer protection requirements ineligible to receive any federal student

financial assistance, including Pell Grants, Stafford Loans, G.I. Bill benefits, or Department of Defense Tuition Assistance funds; and reinstitute certification requirements in any future Gainful Employment rule. The bill is supported by the American Federation of Teachers, The Institute for College Access & Success, and the National Consumer Law Center.

U.S. Department of Education News

For today's Federal Register, click [here](#).

[Press Release: Statement by Secretary Cardona in Response to Congressional Review Act on One-Time Student Debt Relief | U.S. Department of Education](#)

The following announcements were posted to Federal Student Aid's Knowledge Center:

- [Announcement of Intent to Establish Negotiated Rulemaking Committee, Hold Public Hearings, and Seek Comments on Regulatory Topics](#)
 - [\(APP-23-03\) Notice of the Draft 2024-25 Federal Student Aid Application Materials](#)
 - [Comment Request: 2024-2025 Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#)
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General News

[Higher Ed Dive](#) published an opinion from the Student Borrower Protection Center's Mike Pierce arguing that the federal government must act fast to protect students and institutions of higher education from the economic threat from Silicon Valley.

[Forbes](#) reports that House and Senate Republican efforts to repeal the U.S. Department of Education's federal student loan forgiveness plan is gaining steam from Congress. Related, [Business Insider](#) reports on why the latest plan by Republicans to use the Congressional Review Act to block student debt relief likely will not work.

[The Hill](#) reports that House Speaker Kevin McCarthy warned today that there will be "dire ramifications" over the White House's position on not negotiating with Congressional Republicans on seeking budget cuts in exchange for raising the nation's debt ceiling.

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