



DAILY BRIEFING

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Weekly Rundown

The NCHER Weekly Rundown, which includes the latest information on important events in Washington, DC, is available today and can be downloaded from the [NCHER website](#).

House Slated to Consider National Defense Authorization Act This Week, Private Student Loan Amendments Filed

Later this week, the U.S. House of Representatives is expected to consider [H.R. 7900, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023](#), which authorizes funding for the U.S. Department of Defense and other national security programs. More than 1,200 amendments have been filed to the bill, including the following:

An [amendment](#) by Rep. Madeleine Dean (D-PA) to direct the holder of a private education loan to discharge the loan in the event of the borrower's death or total and permanent disability

An [amendment](#) by House Financial Services Committee Chairwoman Maxine Waters (D-CA) to eliminate the negative credit reporting for Corinthian private student loans and eliminate the negative credit reporting for cancelled federal student loans.

An [amendment](#) by Rep. Dean to prohibit a debt collector from representing to service members that failure to cooperate with a debt collector will result in a reduction of rank, a revocation of security clearance, or military prosecution.

The House Rules Committee is currently meeting to set debate parameters for the bill and determine which amendments will be made in order and subject to a vote by the full House. NCHER will provide further coverage in future editions of the *NCHER Daily Briefing*.

Sen. Menendez Sends Letter to Education Secretary Cardona Asking for Extension of PSLF Waiver Past October

Last week, Sen. Bob Menendez (D-NJ) sent a [letter](#) to Education Secretary Miguel Cardona requesting that he extend the deadline for borrowers to apply for a waiver under the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program (PSLF) past October 31, 2022. Sen. Menendez that the extension will allow all public servants, including beneficiaries who have improperly received in-school deferments, to receive important relief. "The Department's PSLF Limited Waiver and additional flexibilities were implemented to 'address historical failures in the administration of the federal student loan programs,' [and] while these initiatives help to provide a remedy for 'years of administrative failures,'

they do not provide relief for numerous public servants who were steered into, or improperly kept in, in-school deferments—especially while they were working in PSLF-qualified employment,” the letter says.

Better Future Forward Releases Report Outlining Roadmap to Equitable Student Finance System

Better Future Forward (BFF) recently released a paper titled, [Building An Equitable Student Finance System: A Case and Framework for Action](#). The paper says that the current focus on helping existing student loan borrowers is critical, but the nation must also seek the reforms needed for the higher education system to serve all students equitably and humanely now and into the future. The report says that federal policymakers must recognize persistent barriers that hamper reform efforts. For example, policymakers usually focus on access and not enough attention to protecting students (affordability) and helping them reach high-quality programs (accountability). This narrow thinking has impacted the conversation around income-share agreements (ISAs). “The reality is more complex: ISAs are a tool that can be used in helpful or harmful ways,” the report states. “Also, like loans, they involve a financial obligation, but they are meaningfully different from conventional, fixed-payment private loans, and we need vocabulary to describe these differences. Finally, we need well-designed federal loans and equitable private options to complement them.” The report identifies four things that must be done to create a more equitable student finance system, including the following: The creation of a shared definition of success for an equitable student finance program – one rooted in a clear conception of the problems such programs should be addressing for students.

1. Philanthropy and impact capital providers must play a central role in helping equitable options emerge.
2. The creation of a new vocabulary for risk-sharing tools.
3. Policymakers should create a consumer protection framework designed to support equitable options and prevent abuse.

Federal Reserve Releases Consumer Credit Report, Shows Consumers Continue to Take on Debt

Last week, the Federal Reserve released its monthly [Consumer Credit - G.19 Report](#), which found that consumer credit increased at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.9 percent in May. Revolving credit (mostly credit card debt) increased at an annual rate of

8.16 percent, while nonrevolving credit (mostly auto loans and student loans) increased at an annual rate of 5.2 percent. Total outstanding consumer credit stood at \$4.588 trillion at the end of May 2022, up \$22 billion from April. Revolving credit increased by \$7.5 billion and nonrevolving credit increased by \$14.7 billion. Nonrevolving debt owned by the federal government (mostly Direct Loans) increased by \$2.6 billion.

Department of Education's Proposed Rule on Title IX to be Published in the Federal Register Tomorrow

The U.S. Department of Education will publish its proposed rule pertaining to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance, in the *Federal Register* tomorrow. The official publication will kick off a 60-day public comment on the proposed rule that includes significant changes to the current Title IX regulations. In particular, the proposed rule would do the following:

- Clarifies that Title IX's prohibition of discrimination based on sex includes protections against discrimination based on sex stereotypes and pregnancy and applies to sexual orientation and gender identity.
- Expands the definition of sexual harassment.
- Expands protections for students and employees who are pregnant or have pregnancy-related conditions.
- Permits, but not require, live-hearings and cross examination to adjudicate sex discrimination complaints.
- Establishes new requirements for schools to conduct investigations of all sex discrimination complaints as opposed to only formal complaints of sexual harassment.

The unofficial version of the proposed rule can be found [here](#), and a fact sheet published by the Department can be found [here](#).

U.S. Department of Education News

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

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

- [\(GEN-22-09\) 2023–2024 Award Year: FAFSA Information to be Verified and Acceptable Documentation](#)
 - [\(GENERAL-22-41\) Reminder – Reporting Deadline for Section 117 of the Higher Education Act of 1965](#)
 - [Verification of 2023-2024 Award Year FAFSA Information](#)
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Member News



The Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority sent out a [press release](#) that, over the next two school years, high school juniors and seniors who

want to take dual credit courses before they graduate will have access to more scholarship money. “Kentucky students can now receive scholarship awards for up to 12 college-level dual credit courses during the 2022–2023 and 2023–2024 school years,” Gov. Andy Beshear said. “Taking dual credit coursework is a great way for high school students to get a jump start on college, lessen their high education costs, and reduce the time it takes to earn a degree.”

General News

[Inside Higher Ed](#) continues its coverage of the recently released Notice of Proposed Rulemaking by the U.S. Department of Education to make it easier for borrowers who attended predatory colleges to apply for relief of their federal student debt and to hold institutions of higher education accountable for their wrongdoing - and possibly make them repay the costs too.

[Business Insider](#) reports on the U.S. Department of Education’s proposed regulations to prevent spiraling interest on federal student loans that can make it impossible for borrowers to touch the original balance they borrowed.

[AP News](#) publishes a column reviewing what student and parent borrowers should know about the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program.

[Forbes](#) reports that an extension of the federal student loan pause is looking increasingly likely, but uncertainty remains.

[Inside Higher Ed](#) reports on the “admissions without applications” movement, which continues to grow with a second company offering a service where students create profiles and colleges admit them.

[Higher Ed Dive](#) reports that *U.S. News and World Report* delisted Columbia University from this year’s “Best Colleges” rankings, saying the Ivy League institution failed to validate data it submitted to the publication that it uses to construct the influential database.

[Diverse Issues in Higher Education](#) reports that Miami Dade College will award associate degrees to 18 incarcerated students at Everglades Correctional Institution. These students make up the college’s first class as part of the Second Chance Pell Experiment.

[Higher Ed Dive](#) reports that the College Board is no longer disclosing Advance Placement test results by ethnicity and state. Before last year, anyone could publicly view scores broken down by certain demographics. But not anymore.

[Patch](#) reports that legislation establishing performance quality standards for New Jersey colleges and career programs cleared a divided legislature, advancing to the governor's desk.

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