



# DAILY BRIEFING

Monday, September 26, 2022

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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](#).

## NCHER Webinar on U.S. Department of Education's Unified Servicing and Data Solution

NCHER will hold a webinar on the U.S. Department of Education's Unified Servicing and Data Solution (USDS) next Thursday, September 29, 2022 at 11:00 am ET. Following the submission of bids to Federal Student Aid (FSA), the webinar will provide the membership

with an overview of USDS and discuss FSA's financial aid architecture and contract arrangements, including both front-end assistance and loan servicing, and how they are proposing that everything fit together. The speaker will be Tom Green, Chief Executive Officer of Exeter Government Services LLC. Tom has a long history of involvement in government contracting in general, and student loan programs in particular, including at CDSI where he stood up the Direct Loan Program back in the early 1990's. **Note: the deadline to register for the webinar is this Wednesday, September 28th at 5:00 pm ET.** For additional information or to register for the webinar, click [here](#).

## FSA Releases *Federal Register* Notice on National Student Loan Data System

On Thursday, the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Federal Student Aid (FSA) published a [notice in the \*Federal Register\*](#) making changes to the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS). The notice adds new contractor locations and makes other minor technical changes such as replacing the word "borrowers" with "individuals" and replacing "students and borrowers" with "applicants and recipients of aid under title IV of the HEA." The notice also adds a note stating that, "Different parts of the HEA use the terms 'discharge,' 'cancellation,' or 'forgiveness' to describe when a borrower's loan amount is reduced in whole or in part by the Department. To reduce complexity, this system of records notice uses the term 'discharge' to include all three terms ('discharge,' 'cancellation,' and 'forgiveness'), including, but not limited to, discharges of student loans made pursuant to specific benefit programs." The notice sets the deadline for public comments as October 24, 2022.

## House Education and Labor Committee Member Adams Discusses Potential Funding Increases for HBCUs

Last week, House Education and Labor Committee Member Rep. Alma Adams (D-NC), founder of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Caucus, spoke to leaders during the National HBCU Week Conference where she said that there may be additional funding for college infrastructure included in the final version of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act that is still under negotiation in Congress. Rep. Adams suggested that House and Senate Appropriations Committee Democratic leaders are working to get increased infrastructure funding for HBCUs and said that the House version of the bill includes \$225 million and the Senate version of the legislation includes \$65 million in such funding

for HBCUs. The infrastructure funding that Rep. Adams mentioned is envisioned in [H.R. 3264, the Institutional Grants for New Infrastructure, Technology, and Education \(IGNITE\) for HBCU Excellence Act](#), which was introduced by Rep. Adams in May of 2021. The IGNITE for HBCU Excellence Act requires the U.S. Department of Education to award grants to HBCUs to improve campus facilities. Rep. Adams expressed the urgency of working with Congress to pass the IGNITE for HBCU Excellence Act since “this 117th Congress is quickly ending.”

## U.S. Department of Education News

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

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

- [Notification of Campus-Based Funding for the 2022–23 Award Year](#)
- [\(GENERAL-22-72\) NSLDS Professional Access – Additional Information About the Modernized Website #9](#)
- [\(CB-22-16\) Notification of Campus-Based Funding for the 2022–23 Award Year](#)
- [System of Record Notice: National Student Loan Data System](#)

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## General News

[The Hill](#) reports that House and Senate Appropriations Committee leaders are struggling to reach a final deal on a Continuing Resolution to keep the federal government open past the weekend, when the fiscal year starts on October 1st.

[WRDW](#) reports that the application needed for student and parent borrowers to apply for the next round of federal student loan forgiveness is set to launch next month, but the U.S. Department of Education has not yet announced what date the launch will happen.

[The Hill](#) reports that Mark Kantrowitz, a veteran expert on student financial, recently spoke to the news organization's Best New Ideas in Money Festival where he said that legal challenges to the White House's federal student loan forgiveness program are expected and could present a real obstacle.

[NerdWallet](#) reports that 20 million people, or nearly 45 percent of federal student loan

borrowers, will see their debt wiped away through the White House's federal student loan cancellation plan, according to a press release issued by the Biden Administration. However, for the 23 million borrowers with debt left over, now is the time to develop a payoff plan.

[U.S. News and World Report Money](#) provides a complete guide to refinancing student loans.

[Business Insider](#) reports that the Biden Administration is finally delivering on its long-promised relief to more than 40 million Americans with federal student loans, half of whom will see their debt wiped out completely. But experts say that student loans are just one piece of a household debt crisis, which debilitates millions of Americans.

[NPR](#) reports that Historically Black Colleges and Universities received a windfall of federal funds when Congress passed the COVID relief package and details how they are spending it.

[Higher Ed Dive](#) reports that student lists from providers like the College Board and ACT systematically exclude underrepresented students, according to a series of reports released last week by The Institute for College Access and Success.

[The New York Times](#) reports on the discount data that some colleges and universities will not publish. For students and families who want to know how few students pay full price, or the odds of getting merit aid, the so-called Common Data Set can help, but some schools do not post it.

An online version of this Daily Briefing is available to view and print from the [Daily Briefing Section](#) of the [NCHER e-Library](#).

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