

# Session #BC3

# Student Eligibility

David Bartnicki  
U.S. Department of Education  
FSA New Financial Aid Administrator Pre-Conference Training

# Student Eligibility

What are the different requirements a student must meet in order to be eligible to receive Title IV federal financial aid?

# Title IV Student Eligibility Checklist

- ✓ Student is a regular student enrolled, or accepted for enrollment, in an eligible program at an eligible institution (including an eligible additional location or branch campus)
- ✓ Student is not enrolled in an elementary or secondary school
- ✓ Student filed a Statement of Educational Purpose in accordance with the instructions of the Secretary of Education, i.e., completes a FAFSA® form

# Title IV Student Eligibility Checklist

- ✓ Student satisfies the citizenship or eligible non-citizenship requirements
- ✓ Student has a valid Social Security number
- ✓ Student satisfies the Selective Service registration requirements
- ✓ Student has a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent
- ✓ Student is not ineligible due to a conviction for possession or sale of illegal drugs

# Title IV Student Eligibility Checklist

- ✓ Student does not:
  - ✓ Have any federal student loans in default
  - ✓ Have loan amounts that exceed annual or aggregate limits
  - ✓ Owe any grant overpayments
  - ✓ Have property subject to a judgement lien for a debt owed to the United States
  - ✓ Have a conviction of—or pled nolo contendere or guilty to—a crime involving fraud in obtaining Title IV, HEA assistance
- ✓ If student selected for verification (by the school or CPS/ED), all verification requirements or exclusions have been met

# Title IV Student Eligibility Checklist

- ✓ Any discrepancies in information (conflicting information) that the institution receives from different sources with respect to a student's application for financial aid under Title IV, HEA programs have been resolved
- ✓ If student requests professional judgment (PJ), information reviewed according to school's PJ policy and, if warranted, updates made to student's FAFSA data or cost of attendance
- ✓ Student is maintaining satisfactory academic progress according to the institution's published standards of satisfactory academic progress

# Title IV Student Eligibility Checklist

- ✓ Student satisfies the Title IV program-specific requirements
  - ✓ Pell Grant Program
  - ✓ Federal Direct Loan Program
  - ✓ Federal Work-Study (FWS) Program
  - ✓ Federal Supplemental Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) Program
  - ✓ Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program
  - ✓ Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant Program

# Group Activity

**Activity #1** – Citizenship and Eligible Non-Citizens

**Activity #2** - High School Diploma or Equivalent

# Activity #1 – Discussion Questions

1. What, if anything, can David do to prove his U.S. Citizenship?
2. Where would the school typically go next to begin the process of verifying Maria's immigration documentation for Title IV purposes?
3. What are the different *eligible noncitizen statuses* Maria would need to demonstrate to be eligible for Title IV aid?

# Activity #2 – Discussion Questions

1. Under what circumstances does the *Department of Education* require a school to verify a student's high school completion or equivalence for Title IV purposes?
2. Is Michael eligible for Title IV aid, and, if so, what kinds of documentation would the school have to obtain to demonstrate Michael's Title IV eligibility?
3. Under FSA University's High School Validity policy, what kinds of information can the school obtain to help determine if the high school in question is valid or a diploma mill? What if the school is closed?

# Learning Title IV Tips

- Read...read...and read some more!
- Shadow colleagues and/or develop mentor relationships
- Attend training
- Do not be afraid to ask questions
- Review past school audit and program review findings

*There is no Title IV aid college degree.*

*Learning to become a competent financial aid administrator is accomplished through on-the-job training.*

*Learning about Title IV aid is a lifelong commitment.*

# Questions & Answers