

# 2021 Virtual Federal Student Aid Training Conference Resource Center Descriptions

<b>Resource Center</b>	
Resource Center Station Name	Station Description
<b>Ask-A-Fed</b>	<p>The Ask-a-Fed staff will answer your questions regarding <i>Title IV</i> programs and policies. You will have 20 minutes one-on-one with a Training Officer. Any questions regarding the following topics (Ask-an-OIG Agent, <i>Clery Act</i> Ask-a-Fed, Experimental Sites Initiative, Federal Loan Servicers, Foreign Schools Ask-a-Fed, FSA Partner Connect, StudentAid.gov and the myStudentAid Mobile App, and Electronic Application for Approval (E-App) to Participate in the Federal Student Financial Aid Programs and School Eligibility) should be directed to the responsible station(s) following the guidance on the conference Resource Center page. Questions about specific conference sessions should be directed to the presenter or the Q&amp;A link provided during the session. The Ask-a-Fed staff will be answering questions with individual attendees via Microsoft TEAMS on a first-come, first-served basis.</p>
<b>Ask-an-OIG Agent</b>	<p>OIG Investigation Services is a team of law enforcement professionals responsible for criminal, civil, and administrative investigative activities relating to ED's programs and operations—from examining allegations of wrongdoing to aggressively pursuing those who seek to enrich themselves with federal student aid funds. You will be able to speak directly to an OIG criminal investigator who will be ready to answer any questions you may have regarding federal student aid fraud schemes.</p>
<b><i>Clery Act</i> Ask-a-Fed</b>	<p>The Clery Group will be available to answer questions about your school's campus safety, fire safety, and substance abuse prevention policies and procedures. The Department wants to help your school to strengthen its safety and compliance programs. This is an excellent</p>

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	<p>opportunity to discuss issues and get answers to your questions.</p>
<p><b>Electronic Application for Approval (E-App) to Participate in the Federal Student Financial Aid Programs and School Eligibility</b></p>	<p>Institutions use the Electronic Application for Approval (E-App) to participate in the Federal Student Financial Aid Programs, to apply for initial participation, recertification, to get approval after a change in ownership, expansion of institutional eligibility, and to report any updates to the institution's current information. Expansions include adding new programs or new locations. Updates include changes to the name, address, or officials of the institution. The E-App is also the place to report your institution's emergency contact information. Stop by, let us confirm that your school information is current, and, if needed, assist in preparing your application. Staff members will be available to assist with any questions you have regarding the E-App, or anything related to your school's eligibility.</p>
<p><b>Experimental Sites Initiative</b></p>	<p>The Experimental Sites Initiative (ESI), authorized under the <i>Higher Education Act</i> (HEA), provides an opportunity for the Department to evaluate new policy approaches for the <i>Title IV</i>, HEA programs by waiving or modifying certain legal requirements. The ESI homepage (<a href="https://experimentalsites.ed.gov/exp/index.html">https://experimentalsites.ed.gov/exp/index.html</a>) provides an overview of the various experiments as well as implementation and reporting guidance to schools participating in the experiments. Both schools participating in the current experiments and schools interested in participating in future experiments are invited to learn more about ESI from this online resource. The Department recently accepted letters of interest for a third and final cohort of institutions interested in participating in the Second Chance Pell experiment. The deadline to submit a letter of interest was Oct. 28, 2021. Future invitations to participate in</p>

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	<p>other experiments will be published in the Federal Register and announced on <a href="https://fsapartners.ed.gov/home/">https://fsapartners.ed.gov/home/</a>.</p>
<p><b>Federal Loan Servicers</b></p>	<p>The Federal Loan Servicers staff will answer your general or specific questions regarding loan servicing.</p>
<p><b>Foreign Schools Ask-a-Fed</b></p>	<p>THIS STATION IS FOR FOREIGN SCHOOLS ONLY. The Foreign Schools staff will answer your general or specific questions regarding <i>Title IV</i> programs and policies as they relate to foreign schools. This service is provided for schools located outside the United States.</p>
<p><b>FSA Partner Connect</b></p>	<p>FSA launched FSA Partner Connect, the first one-stop digital platform for partners in March 2021. Do you have a Partner Connect question? We are here to help! Join us during our office hours and get real-time answers to improve your understanding of the current and upcoming Partner Connect features. SEE WORD DOCUMENT</p>

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<p><b>Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)</b></p>	<p>The completion of all Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) surveys, in a timely and accurate manner, is mandatory for all institutions that participate or are applicants for participation in any federal financial assistance program authorized by <i>Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965</i>, as amended. The completion of the surveys is mandated by <i>20 USC 1094, Section 487(a)(17)</i>. For those institutions not required to complete this survey based on the above requirements, completion is voluntary and authorized by <i>P.L. 103-382, National Education Statistics Act of 1994, Sec. 404(a)</i>.</p>
<p><b>Knowledge Center</b></p>	<p>With the launch of FSA Partner Connect on March 28, 2021, Federal Student Aid (FSA) transitioned its online repository of federal student aid guidance to the Knowledge Center (<a href="https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center">https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center</a>) and retired its previous Information for Financial Aid Professionals Website. The Knowledge Center capitalizes on newer technology and a modernized web interface. Incorporating feedback from our partners, FSA’s transition to Knowledge Center afforded a new look, feel, and layout to pages and publications, easier access to current and historical content, and more robust and relevant search functionality. A comprehensive set of training resources about FSA Partner Connect, including webinars, tutorials, and quick reference job aids focused on Knowledge Center, is available on the <a href="#">FSA Training Center</a> website. Refer to the <a href="#">March 11, 2021, Training Announcement</a> for details about how to access the training resources, including how to create a username and password for the FSA Training Center if you do not already have one. After logging in, select Training Courses from the main menu bar, then FSA Partner Connect from the drop-down menu. To assist in meeting FSA Partner Connect Knowledge Center goals and supporting increased website use, FSA will periodically publish “Helpful Information About” announcements</p>

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	<p>that provide bite-sized nuggets of information about different features of the <a href="#">FSA Partner Connect website</a>.</p>
<p><b>SAIG Enrollment, FAA Access to CPS Online, and EDESuite: EDExpress and DL Tools</b></p>	<p>Central Processing System/Student Aid Internet Gateway (CPS/SAIG Help Desk) specialists will be available to assist with questions concerning your SAIG Enrollment, FAA Access to CPS Online, or FAFSA® processing. If you have questions about your current enrollment status, how to modify or add new services, or perform yearly active confirmation, please visit us. We can also provide assistance with the EDESuite of software products as well as our CPS web products.</p>
<p><b>StudentAid.gov and the myStudentAid Mobile App</b></p>	<p>Have a question about StudentAid.gov or the myStudentAid mobile app, or you aren't able to attend the walkthrough at the general session? The team will also be available via Microsoft Teams during the times listed to answer your questions and provide demonstrations of features as requested.</p>

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