Where Can I Find the Answer?

Regulatory Reference Guide

OCAP

Oklahoma College Assistance Program

Policy, Compliance and Training (PCT)
405.234.4432 or pct@ocap.org
www.ocap.org

Resource/Tool	Description	Search Tips
Common Manual www.commonmanual.org	Unified student loan policy manual produced, published and maintained through the Common Manual Governing Board. The manual is an introduction and overview of participation in the federal Stafford student loan programs. It is designed to help train new financial aid and student loan personnel and to assist in answering questions about federal regulations.	From the Common Manual website, click on the *Common Manual* tab on the right-hand listing to view the current version. Click on the *Archives* tab to view previous versions. Be sure to select the correct year. To subscribe to the listserve, click the *Subscribe to Public Listserve* tab and follow the instructions.
Dear Partner/Colleague Letters (DCL) and Electronic Announcements https://fsapartners.ed.gov/home/	U.S. Department of Education (ED) communications that explain and clarify the ED's guidance regarding federal regulations and statutes.	The most recent DCLs and announcements are displayed in the center of the page. To find previous DCLs and announcements, scroll down to the *Letters and Announcements* section.
Federal Register https:/fsapartners.ed.gov/home/	A federal government publication published each weekday (except federal holidays) that lists regulations, regulatory amendments, notices and proposed regulatory changes for all federal executive agencies.	The most recent Federal Register notices are displayed in the center of the page. To find previous DCLs and announcements, scroll down to the *Laws and Regulations* section.
Federal Student Aid (FSA) Handbook https://fsapartners.ed.gov/home/	A multi-volume annual publication produced by ED that provides detailed information about administration of the Title IV federal student aid programs and institutional eligibility to participate in these programs.	The FSA Handbook for the three most recent award years can be accessed by scrolling down to the *Handbook* section and clicking *Current Handbook*. For prior years, click on *Archives*.
FinAid www.finaid.org	FinAid was established in the fall of 1994 as a public service. The site has grown into a comprehensive online collection of information regarding student financial aid. Access to FinAid is free for all users and there is no charge to link to the site.	You can access information regarding scholarships, loans, savings, military aid and more directly from the home page. For specific information geared toward financial aid administrators and educators, click the *FAA's/Educators* button at the bottom of the page.

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Partner Connect Knowledge Center (formerly IFAP) https://fsapartners.ed.gov/home/	ED's website for Federal Student Aid (FSA), which includes access to DCLs, Common Originations and Disbursement (COD), Pell Grant, Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and Renewal FAFSAs and Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).	The home page has links to several topics. If you dont see what you are looking for, you can use the *Search* and *Advanced Search* functions on the left side of the page.
Library of Congress Legislative Information – THOMAS http://thomas.loc.gov	The leadership of the 104th Congress directed the Library of Congress to make federal legislative information freely available to the public.	The THOMAS home page contains a search box for bill text (the full text of legislation) for the current Congress. Users can search by keyword or bill number (e.g. S. 1932). If you know the number of the bill you are searching for, type it in the box, select *bill number* and click on the search button. You will be linked directly to the text of the bill, or if there is more than one version of the bill, to a list of those versions.
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) www.nasfaa.org	National organization of financial aid professionals that provides information about regulatory and statutory changes, and sub regulatory guidance, along with comprehensive analysis of industry trends.	The NASFAA search feature allows users to customize Web searches based on keywords, categories and/or date published. Note: Many of the features and functions on the NASFAA website are for members only.
National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) http://nces.ed.gov	NCES is the primary federal entity for collecting and analyzing data related to education. Its publications include: The Condition of Education, The Digest of Education Statistics and Projections of Education Statistics.	The NCES home page offers a *What's New* section, as well as tabs to information such as *Publications and Products*, *Surveys and Programs*, *Data and Tools* and *School Search*.
National Council of Higher Education Resources (NCHER) www.ncher.us	NCHER is to provide superior advocacy, communications, regulatory analysis and engagement, and operational support to its members so they may effectively help students and families develop, pay for, and achieve their career, training, and postsecondary educational goals.	The NCHER website provides a search function on the top bar of the website. Many features and functions on the NCHER website are available to members only.

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Oklahoma Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (OASFAA) www.oasfaaok.com	OASFAA promotes the professional preparation, appointment, effectiveness, recognition and association of student financial aid administrators and counselors in institutions of higher learning.	OASFAA's home page provides links to its *News Page* as well as its *Events Page*. If you wish to subscribe to the OASFAA listserve, click the *Mailing List* tab at the top of the screen, scroll down to the *OASFAA Mailing List* section and click on *Subscribe Here*.
Oklahoma College Assistance Program (OCAP) www.ocap.org	OCAP provides college access, aid awareness, financial literacy and student loan management programs and services for students and parents.	OCAP's home page provides quick access to topics including *Paying for College*, *Repaying Your Loans*, *Campus and Community Partners*, and *Publications and Forms*. There are also resources listed along the left side of the page. To subscribe to OCAP's newsletters, click on *Campus and Community Partners* and then click the blue *Sign-Up* button.
Southwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (SWASFAA) www.swasfaa.org	SWASFAA is the regional financial aid association for Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. SWASFAA promotes the professional preparation, effectiveness, recognition and association of student financial aid administrators, postsecondary institutions, government agencies, foundations, private business and others concerned with the support and administration of student financial aid.	The SWASFAA home page provides quick access to its *SCAN Newsletter*, *Calendar*, *Membership Services*, *Legislative Issues* and *Links and Resources*. Some of the features and functions on the SWASFAA website are for members only.
U.S. Department of Education (ED) www.ed.gov	Executive branch of the federal government that establishes policy for, administers and coordinates most federal assistance to education.	ED's home page has a *Search* and *Advanced Search* function at the top of the page as well as a topical bar along the right side of the page.

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Questions? Contact OCAP's PCT Department!

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