



ANNUAL COMPUTER MATCHING ACTIVITY REPORT

Calendar Year 2021

Data Integrity Board
September 2022

Data Integrity Board (DIB) Members – Calendar Year 2021

BOARD CHAIRMAN

Senior Agency Official for Privacy (SAOP)

Kevin Herms, Director, Student Privacy Policy Office
January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

BOARD SECRETARY

Kristen Lefevre – Privacy Lead

Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy
Development Student Privacy Policy Office
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202
Kristen.R.Lefevre@ed.gov

BOARD MEMBERS

Office of the Inspector General (OIG)

Sandra D. Bruce, Inspector General

Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE)

Michelle Asha Cooper, Acting Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education

Federal Student Aid (FSA)

Richard Cordray, Chief Operating Officer

Office of the Chief Information Officer

Jason Gray, Chief Information Officer

Office of the General Counsel

Bucky Methfessel, Senior Counsel for Information and Technology

Changes in DIB Membership

Since the Annual Report for calendar year 2020, there have been several changes to the DIB's membership. Due to personnel changes, the DIB welcomed Michelle Asha Cooper, Acting Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education at OPE, who replaced Robert King. Additionally, Gen. Mark Brown Chief Operating Officer (COO) for FSA was replaced by Robin Minor, Acting COO, who was then replaced by Richard Cordray, COO.

Title: Unregistered Federal Student Aid Applicants

Participating Agencies: Selective Service System and the Department of Education

Purpose: To enable the Department of Education (ED) to identify federal student aid applicants who are ineligible because they have not registered with the Selective Service.

Initial Matching Notice: November 20, 1989, 54 FR 48045

Reissued Matching Notices:

05/14/92 – 57 FR 20724

11/18/94 – 59 FR 59815

05/22/97 – 62 FR 28096

11/15/99 – 64 FR 61957

05/08/02 – 67 FR 30992

11/04/04 – 69 FR 64353

06/01/07 – 72 FR 30657

11/23/09 – 74 FR 61198

05/09/12 – 77 FR 27263

11/25/14 – 79 FR 70264

05/31/17 – 82 FR 25041

Date and Citation of Current Matching Notice: November 21, 2019 – [84 FR 64308](#)

Effective Dates (with 12-month renewal): 18-month CMA ran from January 2, 2020 – July 1, 2021, and then was renewed from July 2, 2021, to July 1, 2022

Note: The Department engaged in early implementation of the FAFSA Simplification Act's removal of the Selective Service requirement for eligibility under title IV, Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA) with an effective date of June 17, 2021, and an implementation date of August 16, 2021.

See: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/06/17/2021-12762/early-implementation-of-the-fafsa-simplification-acts-removal-of-requirements-for-title-iv>.

This implementation consisted of ED removing the Selective Service registration question from the FAFSA. Therefore, once the implementation occurred, ED no longer had the authority to conduct a matching program with the Selective Service. However, ED inadvertently continued to engage in matching past that date without the requisite authority. The Department did not reestablish this matching program. All matching under this CMA has since been terminated.

Title: Verification Division DHS-USCIS-ED

Participating Agencies: Department of Homeland Security, Citizenship and Immigration Services and the Department of Education

Purpose: To enable ED to identify alien students who may be ineligible to receive federal student aid.

Initial Matching Notice: February 20, 1990, 55 FR 5904

Reissued Matching Notices:

09/24/92 – 57 FR 44209

03/23/95 – 60 FR 15428

09/29/97 – 62 FR 50994

03/01/00 – 65 FR 11043

09/19/02 – 67 FR 59056

03/16/05 – 70 FR 12856

09/18/07 – 72 FR 53235

03/15/10 – 75 FR 12226

09/14/12 – 77 FR 56824

09/16/14 – 79 FR 55441

03/20/17 – 82 FR 14355

Date and Citation of Current Matching Notice: September 13, 2019 - [82 FR 48333](#)

Effective Dates (with 12-month renewal): 18-month CMA ran from October 21, 2019 – April 20, 2021, and then was renewed from April 21, 2021 – April 20, 2022.

Title: Drug Trafficking or Possession, Student Aid Denial

Participating Agencies: Department of Justice and the Department of Education

Purpose: To detect individuals convicted of drug trafficking or possession who had their right to federal student financial assistance denied by the court.

Initial Matching Notice: February 5, 1992, 57 FR 4542.

Reissued Matching Notices:

11/03/94 – 59 FR 55084

06/24/97 – 62 FR 34047

03/08/00 – 65 FR 12222

05/13/03 – 68 FR 25585

10/25/05 – 70 FR 61608

05/09/08 – 73 FR 26377

11/16/10 – 75 FR 69988

05/21/13 – 78 FR 29748

11/16/15 – 80 FR 70768

06/01/18 – 83 FR 25446

Date and Citation of Current Matching Notice: December 3, 2020 - [85 FR 78127](#)

Effective Dates: January 4, 2021 – July 3, 2023.

Note: The Department engaged in early implementation of the FAFSA Simplification Act's removal of drug conviction requirements for eligibility under title IV, Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA) with an effective date of June 17, 2021, and an implementation date of August 16, 2021. See:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/06/17/2021-12762/early-implementation-of-the-fafsa-simplification-acts-removal-of-requirements-for-title-iv>.

However, the early implementation of the "drug conviction" question via the FAFSA Simplification Act, P.L. 116-2600, is not related to the DOJ CMA. Rather, ED's authority to match with DOJ is under the Controlled Substance Act. Section 421(a)(1) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 862(a)(1)), which includes provisions regarding the judicial denial of Federal benefits. The provisions within the Controlled Substance Act were not repealed by the FAFSA Simplification Act and therefore ED's continued match with DOJ maintain the necessary authority and routine use.

Title: Credit Alert Interactive Voice Response System (CAIVRS)

Participating Agencies: Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Education

Purpose: To detect individuals with delinquent student loan obligations who attempt to obtain federal loans.

Initial Matching Notice: September 24, 1992, 57 FR 44195

Reissued Matching Notices:

06/19/95 – 60 FR 32019

01/05/98 – 63 FR 247

08/16/00 – 65 FR 49995

02/26/03 – 68 FR 8920

06/29/05 – 70 FR 37423

06/18/08 – 73 FR 34780

07/05/11 – 76 FR 39119

07/21/16 – 81 FR 47403

Date and Citation of Current Matching Notice: March 04, 2020, [85 FR 12801](#)

Effective Dates (with 12-month renewal): 18-month CMA ran from April 3, 2020 – October 2, 2021, and then was renewed from October 3, 2021 - October 2, 2022.

Note: Moving forward, HUD is the recipient agency coordinating the ED/HUD CMA, including the Federal Register Notice, currently under development at HUD.

Title: Social Security Number and Citizenship Status

Participating Agencies: Social Security Administration and the Department of Education

Purpose: To verify social security number and citizenship status and death indicators (when applicable) of federal student aid applicants and parent(s) of dependent students.

Initial Matching Notice: June 7, 1994, 59 FR 29431

Reissued Matching Notices:

12/01/95 – 60 FR 61687

07/14/98 – 63 FR 38064

02/12/01 – 66 FR 9825

08/29/03 – 68 FR 52011

02/22/06 – 71 FR 9109

08/08/08 – 73 FR 46253

03/02/11 – 76 FR 11435

09/06/13 – 78 FR 54875

03/01/16 – 81 FR 10609

09/11/18 – 83 FR 45910

Date and Citation of Current Matching Notice: March 8, 2021- [86 FR 13355](#)

Effective Dates: April 11, 2021 – October 10, 2022.

Title: Veteran Status

Participating Agencies: Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Education

Purpose: To verify the veteran status of federal student aid applicants who indicate that they are veterans on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®).

Initial Matching Notice: October 14, 1998, 63 FR 55100

Reissued Matching Notices:

04/24/01 – 66 FR 20644

10/30/03 – 68 FR 61795

05/03/06 – 71 FR 26078

11/10/08 – 73 FR 66604

05/31/11 – 76 FR 31317

11/29/13 – 78 FR 71591

06/01/16 – 81 FR 35003

12/04/18 – 83 FR 62568

Date and Citation of Current Matching Notice: [May 6, 2021, 86 FR 24394](#)

Effective Dates: July 3, 2021 – January 2, 2023.

Title: Children of military personnel who have died as a result of U.S. military service in Iraq or Afghanistan since September 11, 2001

Participating Agencies: Department of Defense and the Department of Education

Purpose: To provide ED with information to identify children whose parent or guardian was a member of the Armed Forces of the United States and died as a result of performing military service in Iraq or Afghanistan after September 11, 2001, in order to determine if they are eligible for a greater amount of financial assistance under Title IV of the HEA.

Initial Matching Notice: November 19, 2009, 74 FR 59969

Reissued Matching Notices:

06/28/12 – 77 FR 38610

01/02/15 – 80 FR 37

06/30/17 – 82 FR 29856

07/27/18 – 83 FR 35626

Date and Citation of Current Matching Notice: January 29, 2021 - [86 FR 7547](#)

Effective Dates: March 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022.

Title: Total and Permanent Disability Discharge Benefits

Participating Agencies: Social Security Administration and the Department of Education

Purpose: To enable the Department to send notices to certain borrowers of loans under title IV of the HEA and Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant recipients whom SSA identifies as disabled informing them that the Department will discharge the borrowers' title IV loans or TEACH Grant service or repayment obligations no earlier than 61 days from the date that the Department sends the notification to the borrower, unless the borrower chooses to have their loans or service obligations discharged earlier or chooses to opt out of the Total and Permanent Disability (TPD) discharge within 60 days from the date that the Department sends the notification to the borrower.

Initial Matching Notice: November 6, 2015, 80 FR 68865

Reissued Matching Notice:

07/19/18 – 83 FR 34126

Date and Citation of Current Matching Notice: August 23, 2021 - [86 FR 47092](#)

Effective Dates: September 22, 2021 – March 21, 2023.

Title: Total and Permanent Disability Discharge Benefits

Participating Agencies: Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Education

Purpose: To proactively send notices to borrowers who VA has designated as (1) having a service-connected disability rating that is 100 percent disabling, or (2) being totally disabled based on an individual unemployability rating, informing them that ED will discharge the borrower's title IV loans or TEACH Grant service obligations no earlier than 61 days from the date that ED sends the notification to the borrower, unless the borrower chooses to have their title IV loans or TEACH Grant service obligations discharged earlier or chooses to opt out of the TPD discharge within 60 days from the date that ED sends the notification to the borrower. ED's notices also will inform these borrowers that ED has accepted information obtained from the VA in lieu of the borrower's submission of a VA Statement with the borrower's TPD loan discharge application, thereby simplifying the TPD discharge process for borrowers.

Initial Matching Notice: December 7, 2016, 81 FR 88235

Reissued Matching Notices:

10/10/18 – 83 FR 50903

Date and Citation of Current Matching Notice: April 29, 2021 - [86 FR 22640](#)

Effective Dates: May 31, 2021 – November 30, 2023.

Title: Benefit Eligibility for Imminent Danger Pay (IDP) and Hostile Fire Pay (HFP)

Participating Agencies: Department of Defense and the Department of Education

Purpose: To enable the Department to provide no-interest accrual benefits on qualifying loans made under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, during the time those service members were deployed to locations qualifying for IDP and HFP.

Initial Matching Notice

November 20, 2019, [84 FR 64052](#)

Effective Dates: December 20, 2019 – June 19, 2022.

Calendar Year 2021

1. For each of the ten matching programs that were active in calendar year 2021, the Department fully adhered to the terms of the matching agreements, except the Selective Service CMA, as detailed below.
2. For each of the Department's ten matching programs that were active in calendar year 2021, disclosures of agency records for use in, and the purposes of, the matching programs continued to be justified.
3. For each of the Department's ten matching programs that were active in calendar year 2021, a cost/benefit analysis was performed, and each resulted in a favorable ratio.
4. The Data Integrity Board did not waive a cost/benefit analysis for any of the matching programs.
5. The Data Integrity Board did not reject any matching agreements.
6. ED may have violated the Selective Service CMA in August 2021 after ED early implemented provisions of the FAFSA Simplification Act (P.L. 116-2600) specific to student eligibility (i.e., requirements related to Selective Service registration and drug-related convictions) under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA). Congress provided ED the authority to early implement such provisions by publishing a notice in the federal register (June 2021) regarding the early implementation that would remove the student eligibility requirements for title IV aid 60 days after publication. Therefore, once the implementation occurred, ED no longer had the authority to conduct a matching program with the Selective Service. However, such determination to terminate the matching program with the Selective Service System (SSS) was not made until Spring 2022 when ED initiated standard procedures to renew the CMA with SSS during ongoing implementation of the FAFSA Simplification Act and FUTURE Act. Once ED became fully aware of the effects of early implementing the FAFSA Simplification Act by removing the Selective Service requirement, strategies were implemented to mitigate applicant impact on the FAFSA® and comply with the statutory provisions under the Privacy Act. However, ED inadvertently violated the agreement by continuing to engage in matching past that date without the requisite authority. The Department did not reestablish this matching program. All matching under this CMA has since been terminated. A complete list of the Department's matching activities can be found at <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/om/pirms/cma.html>.