

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID (Subpart E; FR pgs 66954-58)

A number of changes, many technical, were made to the NPRM.

Rationale for Regulation: The department is implementing a more systematic, and supposedly simpler method by which institutions will verify FAFSA information. Also, the department agrees with concerns about students trying to improve the academic standing.

Key Provisions of the Regulation:

- Significant changes involving the calculation and delivery of student financial aid have been made. The FAFSA verification process is substantially refocused on specific data items that must be verified, rather than all items on specific FAFSAs. Student aid administrators should review these regulations to prepare for the process changes.
- Within limitations, repeated course work counts toward a full-time course load.
- Requirements for determining a student's withdrawal date are specified and "academic attendance" is defined.
- To give institutions enough time to adapt to the new process, the verification regulations are not effective until July 1, 2012.

NASFAA provides a detailed explanation for financial aid administrators at <http://www.nasfaa.org/publications/2010/rmfinalrulesverification110910.html>.

Regulatory Language: The language is quite lengthy and can be found on the pages listed above.