



WEBER & ASSOCIATES

THE WEBER REPORT - Important Special Edition

Weber & Associates, Inc. Newsletter

June 18, 2015



In This Issue

Frustration and Concerns With Enrollment Reporting

IRS Data Breach Could Effect Your Institutions Verification Process

Email Malware

Quick Links

[Our Website](#)

[Blog](#)

[More About Us](#)

[More Articles & Information](#)

Hello,

Welcome to The Weber Report. We are pleased to share with you important news and information to help you with your financial aid management. Thanks for the opportunity to share our expertise with you!

Frustration and Concerns With The Enrollment Reports? You are NOT Alone!

As many of you have experienced the new Enrollment Reporting System implemented by NSLDS has been less than desirable. Many of the institutions we serve have received unpleasant letters stating that your institution is out of compliance and that the bi-monthly report have not been sent "putting your institution out of compliance". Once you have called Weber & Associates to inquire and sometimes, rightfully expressing concern, research has proven that your institution's reports were submitted and received in a timely manner. We continue to monitor our representation of your institution.

The major reason for this supplement to our monthly Weber Report is to share information we have received from the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, NASFAA which reports that many of the nation's financial aid administrators in their membership are having additional problems with the new enrollment management system.

Some of the problems reported in a 3 page letter from the NASFAA President/CEO to the Chief Operating Officer at the U.S. Department of Education are listed below:

- Timing lags inherent in the (NSLDS) system are leading to students going into repayment or default before they should



For more information about how our financial aid processing and management services can help your institution, please contact us today.

Give us a call:
888-857-8690

Question of the Month



Q: Where can I find information regarding the Campus Safety and Security Report?

A: The U.S. Department of Education's newly revised online tutorial is an audio/visual companion to The Handbook for Campus Safety and Security Reporting (available by clicking on the link below). It is designed to be used after reading the handbook to help you apply the HEA safety-and-security-related reporting requirements to your institution. Within the training you'll find examples, scenarios, questions and answers, and references to specific parts of the handbook.

To view the Handbook for Campus Safety and Security

- ED urges schools to include students who have received Title IV aid from other school on their enrollment rosters, which is not an option, the only way the school would know if the student had Title IV aid from another school is if that student completes a FAFSA and the school reviews their history on the ISIR or if the school or NSLDS for the students SFA history
- The Department of Education's Electronic Announcement (EA) of March 12 states that the current 60-day enrollment requirements provide enrollment information that is sufficiently timely. The NASFAA letter states that the "EA downplays the inherent limitations of the current enrollment reporting process
- The NASFAA letter further states For example, the EA states "As long as a school is fully compliant with enrollment reporting requirements, borrower information should generally be accurate and up to date in NSLDS". NASFAA continues the EA "fails to consider how notoriously and unacceptably slow NSLDS is to update its systems.... Regardless of how often schools report enrollment, the time lags and general chunkiness of the process precludes the ability to have accurate, updated enrollment information for a significant percentage of borrowers in the NSLDS system.
- The NASFAA president admonishes Federal Student Aid "to acknowledge the full scope of these enrollment reporting issues and conduct a comprehensive review of its systems and procedures.

WHAT SHOULD YOU INSTITUTION DO?

Question each new enrollee regarding their attendance and recent loans at a prior institution and have those with prior loan complete a Loan Deferment Form and Submit it to NSLDS immediately upon that student's enrollment at your institution. This will assure you that your students will not be held in default on a prior loan while they are attending your institution.

Don't let the inefficiencies at NSLDS cause problems for your students or your institution. If your institution receives a letter from NSLDS please contact us for further research.

IRS Data Breach Could Have A Serious Effect On Your Institutions Verification Process

Due to the IRS data breach announced on June 2, 2015, they have temporarily shut down access to the electronic transcript request process, which includes the data retrieval tool on the FAFSA, until security is enhanced.

[click here.](#)

To view the revised online tutorial [click here](#)

**"Alone we can
do so little;
together we
can do so
much."**

-Helen Keller

**REMINDER: DID
YOU SEND YOUR
MONTHLY BANK
STATEMENT?**

The Department of Education is working with the IRS on this issue and will keep us informed via Dear Colleague Letters on the IFAP site.

At this time, transcripts can only be obtained by either requesting online or with the Form 4506-T via regular mail. These forms can be located on the IRS website and are also available on your VFAO in the "Downloadable Forms" section.

For filers that were not able to use the Data Retrieval tool prior to June 9, this will have an impact on their verification process. As soon as you identify that a tax transcript is needed, have the filer go online to request their transcript or complete and mail the form to the appropriate tax office.

Please note that timely requests of the transcript are extremely important as there may be a delay in the return of the transcript due to the fact that they are being delivered by regular mail.

We will immediately update you with any new information from ED on this situation.

IMPORTANT: Email Malware

We continue to have email spoofing issues. It is very important that everyone understand that our network has NOT been hacked and our security has not been compromised. Some group of people are tracking emails coming from weberassociatesinc.com or vfao.com and are using email header information to send emails acting as if they are us. These emails are originating from somewhere outside of Weber's network. The attachment being sent is malware and will attempt to infect your computer if you try to open it. Fortunately virus protection will stop its installation on most system. However, **DO NOT** attempt to open any attachment from anyone that might be questionable. If it's not a PDF or TIFF you should be careful. **NEVER** open anything that is .ZIP, .EXE, or .COM.

Some Weber employee's are receiving these same spoofed emails on their personal email addresses from many other organizations, so this is not isolated to Weber. This is an ongoing problem on the Internet that effects large numbers of people. We are aware of this situation and are actively notifying all appropriate agencies to try and help stem the flow of these emails.