

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3706

April 16, 2024

The Honorable Miguel Cardona
Secretary
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20003

Dear Secretary Cardona,

Thank you for your commitment to a successful implementation of the FAFSA Simplification Act. Unfortunately, the rollout thus far has created challenges and delays for Institutions of Higher Education and students alike. However, I am thankful for the Department's diligence in communicating with institutions about your work to fix problems as they arise.

At a time when financial aid staff are already managing backlogs due to the nearly seven-month delay to the FAFSA process, additional administrative flexibility and streamlining will allow Institutions to comply with the Department's financial aid requirements more effectively.

Recently, the Department announced that the Financial Value Transparency and Gainful Employment reporting requirements will be delayed from July 31, 2024 to October 1, 2024. At that point, Institutions will be expected to submit new and extensive student and program level reports, backdated for up to seven years, to comply with these new requirements. I am grateful for the Department's flexibility in implementing these new and demanding requirements. However, this delay is insufficient to allow Institutions to appropriately fulfill their obligations under the new regulations.

To that end, I respectfully request that you further delay implementation of the Financial Value Transparency and Gainful Employment and related regulatory package to July 1, 2025, and make the first batch of reports due on July 31, 2025.

Giving institutions additional time to comply with these extensive new requirements will benefit students and families by allowing financial aid administrators to focus on delivering the financial aid packages students need to make informed choices regarding higher education enrollment.

Sincerely,



Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress