



the extension of the effective date would be “impracticable, unnecessary, and contrary to the public interest” when the purpose of the extension is to allow for members of the public to submit comments on the substantive rule before that rule goes into effect.

**Scott Turner,**

*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### 34 CFR Part 685

[Docket ID ED–2025–OPE–0016]

RIN 1840–AA28

#### William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program; Correction

**AGENCY:** Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Final rule; correction.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Education (Department) is correcting a final rule that appeared in the **Federal Register** on October 31, 2025 (90 FR 19729). The final rule established regulations governing the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program in the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) program under 34 CFR 685.219.

**DATES:** Effective July 1, 2026.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tamy Abernathy, U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, 5th floor, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 245–4595. Email: [NegRegNPRMHelp@ed.gov](mailto:NegRegNPRMHelp@ed.gov).

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**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In FR Doc. 2025–19729 (90 FR 48966) appearing on page 49000 in the **Federal Register** on Friday, October 31, 2025, the Department provided amendatory instructions revising 34 CFR 685.219 that did not correctly capture the intended change as described in the preamble. The second amendatory instruction stated: “2. Amend § 685.219 by:

a. Adding paragraphs (b)(1) through (b)(35);

b. Revising paragraphs (c)(2) introductory text and (c)(4) . . .”. This amendatory instruction inadvertently duplicates existing definitions already in § 685.219(b)(1) through (b)(35) and the instruction to revise paragraph (c)(4)

incorrectly references a non-existent paragraph.

This correction revises the inaccurate amendatory instructions to address these errors. No changes to the regulatory text itself are necessary; the correction only addresses errors in the placement on that text.

#### Waiver of Proposed Rulemaking, Negotiated Rulemaking, and Delayed Effective-Date

In accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), 5 U.S.C. 553, the Department generally offers interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed regulations. However, the APA provides that an agency is not required to conduct notice-and-comment rulemaking when the agency, for good cause, finds that notice and public comment thereon are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest (5 U.S.C. 553(b)). There is good cause to waive rulemaking here as unnecessary.

Informal notice-and-comment rulemaking is “unnecessary” in those situations in which “the administrative rule is a routine determination, insignificant in nature and impact, and inconsequential to the industry and to the public.” *Utility Solid Waste Activities Group v. EPA*, 236 F.3d 749, 755 (D.C. Cir. 2001) quoting U.S. Department of Justice, *Attorney General’s Manual on the Administrative Procedure Act* 31 (1947) and *South Carolina v. Block*, 558 F. Supp. 1004, 1016 (D.S.C. 1983). The regulatory change in this document is necessary to properly and accurately reflect the outcome of the rulemaking process, by correcting a technical error. The regulatory text that was proposed and explained in the final rule remains the same, but this correction ensures that the definitions are not duplicated in 34 CFR 685.219(b) and that the new paragraph that was added in the final rule appears in the appropriate place in 34 CFR 685.219(c). It is consistent with the substantive rule stated in the preamble, which was the product of the notice and comment process and does not establish any new substantive rule. Therefore, the Department has determined that publication of a proposed rule is unnecessary under 5 U.S.C. 553(b).

In addition, under section 492 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA) (20 U.S.C. 1098a), all regulations proposed by the Department for programs authorized under title IV of the HEA are subject to negotiated rulemaking requirements. Section 492(b)(2) incorporates the good cause exception, including the exceptions for

when it is unnecessary to go through notice and comment. As explained above, the Department finds that notice and comment rulemaking is unnecessary.

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**Nicholas Kent,**

*Under Secretary of Education.*

Accordingly, the Secretary corrects 34 CFR part 685 by making the following correcting amendments:

#### PART 685—WILLIAM D. FORD FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM

■ 1. The authority citation for part 685 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 20 U.S.C. 1070g, 1087a, *et seq.*, unless otherwise noted.

■ 2. Section 685.219 is amended by revising paragraph (b) and adding paragraph (c)(4) to read as follows:

#### 685.219 Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program (PSLF).

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) *Definitions.* The following definitions apply to this section:

(1) *Aiding or abetting* has the same meaning as defined under 18 U.S.C. 2.

(2) *AmeriCorps service* means service in a position approved by the Corporation for National and Community Service under section 123 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12573).