

§ 1018b. Administrative simplification of student aid delivery

(a) In general

In order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the student aid delivery system, the Secretary and the Chief Operating Officer shall encourage and participate in the establishment of voluntary consensus standards and requirements for the electronic transmission of information necessary for the administration of programs under subchapter IV.

(b) Participation in standard setting organizations

(1) The Chief Operating Officer shall participate in the activities of standard setting organizations in carrying out the provisions of this section.

(2) The Chief Operating Officer shall encourage higher education groups seeking to develop common forms, standards, and procedures in support of the delivery of Federal student financial assistance to conduct these activities within a standard setting organization.

(3) The Chief Operating Officer may pay necessary dues and fees associated with participating in standard setting organizations pursuant to this subsection.

(c) Adoption of voluntary consensus standards

Except with respect to the common financial reporting form under section 1090(a) of this title, the Secretary shall consider adopting voluntary consensus standards agreed to by the organization described in subsection (b) for transactions required under subchapter IV, and common data elements for such transactions, to enable information to be exchanged electronically between systems administered by the Department and among participants in the Federal student aid delivery system.

(d) Use of clearinghouses

Nothing in this section shall restrict the ability of participating institutions and lenders from using a clearinghouse or servicer to comply with the standards for the exchange of information established under this section.

(e) Data security

Any entity that maintains or transmits information under a transaction covered by this section shall maintain reasonable and appropriate administrative, technical, and physical safeguards—

- (1) to ensure the integrity and confidentiality of the information; and
- (2) to protect against any reasonably anticipated security threats, or unauthorized uses or disclosures of the information.

(f) Definitions

(1) Clearinghouse

The term “clearinghouse” means a public or private entity that processes or facilitates the processing of nonstandard data elements into data elements conforming to standards adopted under this section.

(2) Standard setting organization

The term “standard setting organization” means an organization that—

(A) is accredited by the American National Standards Institute;

(B) develops standards for information transactions, data elements, or any other standard that is necessary to, or will facilitate, the implementation of this section; and

(C) is open to the participation of the various entities engaged in the delivery of Federal student financial assistance.

(3) Voluntary consensus standard

The term “voluntary consensus standard” means a standard developed or used by a standard setting organization described in paragraph (2).

(Pub. L. 89-329, title I, §143, as added Pub. L. 105-244, title I, §101(a), Oct. 7, 1998, 112 Stat. 1615.)

Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Prior sections 1018b to 1018f were omitted in the general amendment of this subchapter by Pub. L. 102-325. Section 1018b, Pub. L. 89-329, title I, §143, as added Pub. L. 100-418, title VI, §6201, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1515, related to use of funds.

Section 1018c, Pub. L. 89-329, title I, §144, as added Pub. L. 100-418, title VI, §6201, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1515; Pub. L. 101-610, title II, §221(a), (b), Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 3180, related to applications.

Section 1018d, Pub. L. 89-329, title I, §145, as added Pub. L. 100-418, title VI, §6201, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1516, related to technical assistance and coordination contracts.

Section 1018e, Pub. L. 89-329, title I, §146, as added Pub. L. 100-418, title VI, §6201, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1516; Pub. L. 101-305, §5, May 30, 1990, 104 Stat. 258; Pub. L. 101-610, title II, §221(c), Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 3180, related to authorization of appropriations.

Section 1018f, Pub. L. 89-329, title I, §147, as added Pub. L. 100-418, title VI, §6201, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1516, defined “public community agency”, “institution of higher education” and “Secretary”.

PART E—LENDER AND INSTITUTION REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO EDUCATION LOANS

§ 1019. Definitions

In this part:

(1) Agent

The term “agent” means an officer or employee of a covered institution or an institution-affiliated organization.

(2) Covered institution

The term “covered institution” means any institution of higher education, as such term is defined in section 1002 of this title, that receives any Federal funding or assistance.

(3) Education loan

The term “education loan” (except when used as part of the term “private education loan”) means—

- (A) any loan made, insured, or guaranteed under part B of subchapter IV;
- (B) any loan made under part D of subchapter IV; or
- (C) a private education loan.

(4) Eligible lender

The term “eligible lender” has the meaning given such term in section 1085(d) of this title.

(5) Institution-affiliated organization

The term “institution-affiliated organization”—

(A) means any organization that—

(i) is directly or indirectly related to a covered institution; and

(ii) is engaged in the practice of recommending, promoting, or endorsing education loans for students attending such covered institution or the families of such students;

(B) may include an alumni organization, athletic organization, foundation, or social, academic, or professional organization, of a covered institution; and

(C) notwithstanding subparagraphs (A) and (B), does not include any lender with respect to any education loan secured, made, or extended by such lender.

(6) Lender

The term “lender” (except when used as part of the terms “eligible lender” and “private educational lender”)—

(A) means—

(i) in the case of a loan made, insured, or guaranteed under part B of subchapter IV, an eligible lender;

(ii) in the case of any loan issued or provided to a student under part D of subchapter IV, the Secretary; and

(iii) in the case of a private education loan, a private educational lender as defined in section 1650 of title 15; and

(B) includes any other person engaged in the business of securing, making, or extending education loans on behalf of the lender.

(7) Officer

The term “officer” includes a director or trustee of a covered institution or institution-affiliated organization, if such individual is treated as an employee of such covered institution or institution-affiliated organization, respectively.

(8) Preferred lender arrangement

The term “preferred lender arrangement”—

(A) means an arrangement or agreement between a lender and a covered institution or an institution-affiliated organization of such covered institution—

(i) under which a lender provides or otherwise issues education loans to the students attending such covered institution or the families of such students; and

(ii) that relates to such covered institution or such institution-affiliated organization recommending, promoting, or endorsing the education loan products of the lender; and

(B) does not include—

(i) arrangements or agreements with respect to loans under part D of subchapter IV; or

(ii) arrangements or agreements with respect to loans that originate through the auction pilot program under section 1099d(b) of this title.

(9) Private education loan

The term “private education loan” has the meaning given the term in section 1650 of title 15.

(Pub. L. 89-329, title I, §151, as added Pub. L. 110-315, title I, §120, Aug. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 3117.)

Editorial Notes**PRIOR PROVISIONS**

A prior section 1019, Pub. L. 89-329, title I, §119, as added Pub. L. 96-374, title I, §101(a), Oct. 3, 1980, 94 Stat. 1383, authorized appropriations for education outreach programs, prior to the general amendment of this subchapter by Pub. L. 99-498.

§ 1019a. Responsibilities of covered institutions, institution-affiliated organizations, and lenders**(a) Responsibilities of covered institutions and institution-affiliated organizations****(1) Disclosures by covered institutions and institution-affiliated organizations****(A) Preferred lender arrangement disclosures**

In addition to the disclosures required by subsections (a)(27) and (h) of section 1094 of this title (if applicable), a covered institution, or an institution-affiliated organization of such covered institution, that participates in a preferred lender arrangement shall disclose—

(i) on such covered institution’s or institution-affiliated organization’s website and in all informational materials described in subparagraph (C) that describe or discuss education loans—

(I) the maximum amount of Federal grant and loan aid under subchapter IV available to students, in an easy to understand format;

(II) the information required to be disclosed pursuant to section 1019b(a)(2)(A)(i) of this title, for each type of loan described in section 1019(3)(A) of this title that is offered pursuant to a preferred lender arrangement of the institution or organization to students of the institution or the families of such students; and

(III) a statement that such institution is required to process the documents required to obtain a loan under part B of subchapter IV from any eligible lender the student selects; and

(ii) on such covered institution’s or institution-affiliated organization’s website and in all informational materials described in subparagraph (C) that describe or discuss private education loans—

(I) in the case of a covered institution, the information that the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System requires to be disclosed under section 1638(e)(11) of title 15, for each type of private education loan offered pursuant to a preferred lender arrangement of the institution to students of the institution or the families of such students; and