

Notice of Federal Student Financial Aid Penalties for Drug Law Violations

How Disclosed: Information provided to each student in a separate written notice

HEOA Sec. 488(g): amended HEA Sec. 485 (20 U.S.C. 1092); added HEA Sec. 485(k) HEOA amendment effective August 14, 2008

34 CFR 668.40

Each institution must provide to each student, upon enrollment, a separate, clear, and conspicuous written notice that advises the student that a conviction for any offense, during a period of enrollment for which the student was receiving Title IV, HEA program funds, under any federal or state law involving the possession or sale of illegal drugs will result in the loss of eligibility for any Title IV, HEA grant, loan, or work-study assistance (HEA Sec. 484(r)(1)); (20 U.S.C. 1091(r)(1))

Each institution must provide a notice in a timely manner to each student who has lost eligibility for Title IV, HEA assistance as a result of the penalties under HEA Sec. 484(r)(1). The notice must be a separate, clear, and conspicuous written notification of the loss of eligibility and must advise the student of the ways in which the student can regain eligibility under HEA Sec. 484(r)(2); (20 U.S.C. 1091(r)(2)).

Effective July 1, 2000, students are ineligible for Title IV federal financial aid funds if convicted of an offense involving the possession of an illegal substance that occurred during a period of enrollment for which the students were receiving federal student aid (grants, loans and/or work-study). The ineligibility period is:

- First Offense = 1 year
- Second Offense = 2 years
- Third Offense = Indefinite

For convictions involving sale of an illegal substance, the ineligibility period is:

- First Offense = 2 years
- Second Offense = Indefinite

A student may regain eligibility by successfully completing a drug rehabilitation program that complies with criteria established by the U.S. Department of Education. Contact the Financial Aid Office for further details. Report any convictions involving an illegal substance on question #23 of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).