

Chapter 4

Foreign Veterinary Schools and Nursing Schools

In addition to the eligibility requirements discussed in Chapter 1 and Chapter 2, foreign veterinary schools and foreign nursing schools must comply with additional requirements to be eligible to participate in the Direct Loan Program.

Foreign Veterinary Schools

To be eligible to participate in the Direct Loan Program, a foreign veterinary school must be either a freestanding foreign institution or a component of a foreign university that has as its sole mission the providing of an educational program that leads to the degree of doctor of veterinary medicine or the equivalent. Both nonprofit and for-profit foreign veterinary schools may participate in the Direct Loan Program.

Foreign Veterinary Schools

20 U.S.C. 1002(a)(2)(A), 34 CFR 600.56

Definition of a foreign veterinary school

34 CFR 600.52, 600.56(a)

Criteria for participation

34 CFR 600.56(a)

- A foreign veterinary school is eligible to apply to participate in the Direct Loan Program if, in addition to satisfying the general eligibility criteria applicable to all foreign schools, it:
- provides, and in the normal course requires its students to complete, a program of clinical and classroom veterinary instruction that is:
 - supervised closely by members of the school’s faculty, and provided in facilities adequately equipped and staffed, to afford students comprehensive clinical and classroom veterinary instruction through a training program for foreign veterinary students; and
 - approved by all veterinary licensing boards and evaluating bodies whose views are considered relevant by the Department;
 - has graduated classes during each of the two twelve-month periods immediately preceding the date the Department receives the school’s request for an eligibility determination;
 - employs for the program only those faculty members whose academic credentials are the equivalent of credentials required of faculty members teaching the same or similar courses at veterinary schools in the United States; and
 - effective July 1, 2015, foreign veterinary schools must be accredited or provisionally accredited by an organization

acceptable to the Department for the purpose of evaluating veterinary programs to participate in the Direct Loan program. The Department's Guidelines for Requesting an Acceptability Determination for a Foreign Veterinary Accrediting Agency is available at

https://surveys.ope.ed.gov/erecognition/wwwroot/documents/Foreign_Vet_Agency_Guidelines.pdf

For-profit foreign veterinary school

34 CFR 600.54(f)

NEW The list of veterinary organizations evaluated by the Department and the Department's decision regarding the acceptability of the organization for purposes of evaluating veterinary programs for participation in the Direct Loan program are available at <https://www.ed.gov/accreditation/search.aspx>.

For a for-profit foreign veterinary school:

- no portion of the program may be at what would be an undergraduate level in the United States; and
- Direct Loan program eligibility does not extend to any undergraduate/graduate joint degree program.

Location of the Program

No portion of the foreign veterinary educational program offered to U.S. students, other than the clinical training portion of the program, may be located outside of the country in which the main campus of the foreign veterinary school is located.

All participating foreign veterinary schools, regardless of institutional structure (public, private non-profit and for-profit), must provide a listing of all clinical training sites of their educational programs that have been approved by all veterinary licensing boards and evaluating bodies whose views are considered relevant by the Secretary. To be eligible for Direct Loan funds, U.S. students who attend a public or non-profit foreign veterinary school may complete clinical training portion of its program at an approved facility located inside or outside of the country in which its main campus is located, but U.S. students attending for-profit foreign veterinary schools must complete their clinical training at an approved veterinary school located in the United States.

Public or private nonprofit foreign veterinary school

34 CFR 600.56(b)(2)(ii)

U.S. students who attend a non-profit foreign veterinary school may complete their clinical training at an approved veterinary school located:

- in the United States;
- in the home country (i.e., the country in which the main campus of the foreign veterinary school is located); or
- outside of the United States or the home country, if:
 - the location is included in the accreditation of a veterinary program accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), or
 - no individual student takes more than two electives at the location and the combined length of the elective does not exceed eight weeks.

Foreign Nursing Schools

Both public and private nonprofit and for-profit foreign nursing schools may participate in the Direct Loan Program. To be eligible to participate in the Direct Loan Program, a foreign nursing school must be either a freestanding foreign institution or a component of a foreign university that is an associate degree school of nursing, a collegiate school of nursing, or a diploma school of nursing. These terms are defined as follows:

Associate degree school of nursing: A school that provides primarily or exclusively a two-year program of postsecondary education in professional nursing leading to a degree equivalent to an associate degree in the United States.

Collegiate school of nursing: A school that provides primarily or exclusively a minimum of a two-year program of postsecondary education in professional nursing leading to a degree equivalent to a bachelor of arts, bachelor of science, or bachelor of nursing in the United States, or to a degree equivalent to a graduate degree in nursing in the United States, and including advanced training related to the program of education provided by the school.

Diploma school of nursing: A school affiliated with a hospital or university, or an independent school, which provides primarily or exclusively a two-year program of postsecondary education in professional nursing leading to the equivalent of a diploma in the United States or to equivalent indicia that the program has been satisfactorily completed.

Foreign Nursing Schools

20 U.S.C. 1002(a)(2)(A), 34 CFR 600.57(a)

Definition of a foreign nursing school

34 CFR 600.52, 600.57

Criteria for participation

34 CFR 600.57(a)

A foreign nursing school is eligible to apply to participate in the Direct Loan Program if, in addition to satisfying the general eligibility criteria applicable to all foreign schools:

- the nursing school is an associate degree school of nursing, a collegiate school of nursing, or a diploma school of nursing;
- the nursing school has an agreement with a hospital located in the United States or an accredited school of nursing located in the United States that requires students of the nursing school to complete the student’s clinical training at the hospital or accredited school of nursing;
- the nursing school has an agreement with an accredited school of nursing located in the United States providing that students graduating from the nursing school located outside of the United States also receive a degree from the accredited school of nursing located in the United States;
- the school provides (including under the agreements required for clinical training and the receipt of a degree from a U.S. nursing school) and in the normal course requires its students to complete, a program of clinical and classroom nursing instruction that is:

- supervised closely by members of the school's faculty, and provided in facilities adequately equipped and staffed to afford students comprehensive clinical and classroom nursing instruction, through a training program for foreign nursing students; and
- approved by all nurse licensing boards and evaluating bodies whose views are considered relevant by the Department;
- the nursing school certifies only Federal Direct Stafford Loan program loans or Federal Direct PLUS program loans for students attending the nursing school;
- the nursing school reimburses the Department for the cost of any loan defaults for current and former students included in the calculation of the institution's cohort default rate during the previous fiscal year;
- the nursing school annually either:
 - obtains, at its own expense, all results achieved by students and graduates who are U.S. citizens, nationals, or eligible permanent residents on the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN), together with the dates the student has taken the examination, including any failed examinations, and provides such results to the Department; or
 - obtains a report or reports from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSB), or an NCSB affiliate or NCSB contractor, reflecting the percentage of the school's students and graduates taking the NCLEX-RN in the preceding year who received a passing score on the examination, or the data from which the percentage could be derived, and provides the report to the Department;

Cost of a loan default

34 CFR 600.57(b) and (c) The cost of a loan default is the estimated future cost of collections on the defaulted loan. The Department continues to collect on the Direct Loan after a school reimburses the Department until the loan is paid in full or otherwise satisfied, or the loan account is closed out.

Passing score

34 CFR 600.52 A passing score is the minimum passing score as defined by the NCLEX-RN.

- the nursing school determines the consent requirements for and requires the necessary consents of all students accepted for admission who are U.S. citizens, nationals, or eligible permanent residents to enable the school to comply with the collection and submission requirements for NCLEX-RN data;
- not less than 75 percent of the school's students and graduates who are U.S. citizens, nationals, or eligible permanent residents who took the NCLEX-RN in the year preceding the year for which the institution is certifying a Federal Direct Stafford Loan or a Federal Direct PLUS Loan, passed the examination;
- the school has graduated classes during each of the two twelve-month periods immediately preceding the date the Department receives the school's request for an eligibility determination; and
- the school employs only those faculty members whose academic credentials are the equivalent of credentials required of faculty members teaching the same or similar courses at nursing schools in the United States.

For a for-profit foreign nursing school:

- no portion of the program may be at what would be an undergraduate level in the United States; and
- Direct Loan program eligibility does not extend to any undergraduate/graduate joint degree program.

For-profit foreign nursing school

Location of the program

34 CFR 600.57(d)]

The submission of NCLEX-RN pass rate information

All documentation must be submitted in electronic format via the secure Partner Eligibility and Oversight Services (PEOS) Document Center at <https://cod.ed.gov/>.

If the original supporting documents are not in English, certified English translations of the documents must be provided.

Location of the program

No portion of the foreign nursing program offered to U.S. students may be located outside of the country in which the main campus of the foreign nursing school is located, except for clinical sites located in the United States.

Protection of Personally Identifiable Information

Personally Identifiable Information (PII) being submitted to the Department must be protected. PII is any information about an individual which can be used to distinguish or trace an individual's identity (some examples are name, social security number, date and place of birth).

PII being submitted electronically or on media (e.g., CD-ROM, floppy disk, DVD) must be encrypted. The data must be submitted in a .zip file encrypted with Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) encryption (256-bit is preferred). The Department uses WinZip. However, files created with other encryption software are also acceptable, provided that they are compatible with WinZip (Version 9.0) and are encrypted with AES encryption. Zipped files using WinZip must be saved as Legacy compression (Zip 2.0 compatible).

The Department must receive an access password to view the encrypted information. The password must be e-mailed separately from the encrypted data. The password must be 12 characters in length and use three of the following: upper case letter, lower case letter, number, special character. A manifest must be included with the e-mail that lists the types of files being sent (a copy of the manifest must be retained by the sender).

Hard copy files and media containing PII must be:

- sent via a shipping method that can be tracked with signature required upon delivery
- double packaged in packaging that is approved by the shipping agent (FedEx, DHL, UPS, USPS)
- labeled with both the "To" and "From" addresses on both the inner and outer packages
- identified by a manifest included in the inner package that lists the types of files in the shipment (a copy of the manifest must be retained by the sender).

PII data cannot be sent via fax.

Consumer Information Requirements

Consumer Information - The information that a school must provide about financial aid and its campus, facilities, student athletes, and gainful employment programs as well as information to promote campus security and fire safety and prevent drug and alcohol abuse, as required under [HEA Sec. 485\(f\)](#) and [34 CFR 668.41-49](#).

Exemption for foreign schools:

[Federal Register Notice 11/28/2018](#) - Waiver of Certain Consumer Information Requirement for Foreign Institutions of Higher Education.

The following chart describes the requirements for the consumer information that a school must provide to students, the Department, and others. If an exemption or waiver applies for foreign schools, it is highlighted with a notation that the requirement is waived or exempted.

Topic: Institutional and Financial Assistance Information for students

At a minimum, the school must publish and make available to current and prospective students a description of all federal, state, local, private, and institutional need-based and non-need-based student financial assistance programs available to them. A school must annually provide a NOTICE directly (one-on-one distribution) to all enrolled students describing the availability of the required consumer information. The notice must contain a brief description of the various disclosures and how to obtain the full disclosures. If a disclosure is posted to a website, the notice must provide the exact electronic address and provide a statement that paper copies are available.

Requirement	Applicability for Foreign Schools
General requirement – Describe the terms and conditions of the loans students receive under the William D. Ford Federal Direct Student Loan Program; terms and conditions, loan limits.	Required
Application process –The procedures and forms by which students apply for assistance, student eligibility requirements.	Required
Award amount determination – Criteria for determining the amount of a student's award, method by which financial assistance disbursements are made and the frequency of those disbursements.	Required
ED materials – Schools are required to provide information published by the U.S. Department of Education to students any time information regarding loan availability is provided.	Required
Student eligibility requirements – enrolled in eligible program with at least half-time status.	Required
Student rights and responsibilities – terms of any loan received by a student as part of the student's financial assistance package; Criteria for continued student eligibility under each program – what students must do to be making satisfactory academic progress (SAP). The institution must include criteria by which students who have failed to maintain satisfactory progress may re-establish their eligibility for financial assistance. An institution must provide a student with a link to its Financial	Required

Entrance and exit counseling for student loan borrowers. Institutions must ensure that this loan counseling is provided to students and must keep documentation of their compliance with this requirement for each borrower, as required by 34 CFR 685.304 .	Required
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Student Body Diversity	Waived
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Topic: Institutional Information

Requirement	Applicability for Foreign Schools
Academic information - The academic programs of the institution, including current degree programs and other educational and training programs; The instructional, laboratory, and other physical facilities which relate to the academic program; The institution's faculty and other instructional personnel; and any plans by the institution for improving the academic programs of the institution.	Required
Accreditation and licensing information - The names of associations, agencies or governmental bodies that accredit, approve, or license the institution and its programs and the procedures by which documents describing that activity may be reviewed by any enrolled or prospective student upon request.	Waived
Copyright infringement (including unauthorized peer-to-peer file sharing) policies and penalties - Institution has developed and implemented written plans to effectively combat the unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material by users of the institution's network, without unduly interfering with educational and research use of the network, that include: The use of one or more technology-based deterrents; Mechanisms for educating and informing its community about appropriate versus inappropriate use of copyrighted material; Procedures for handling unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material, including disciplinary procedures; and Procedures for periodically reviewing the effectiveness of the plans to combat the unauthorized distribution of copyrighted materials by users of the institution's network.	Waived
School Cost - The cost of attendance, including - (i) Tuition and fees charged to full-time and part-time students; (ii) Estimates of costs for necessary books and supplies; (iii) Estimates of typical charges for room and board; (iv) Estimates of transportation costs for students; and (v) Any additional cost of a program in which a student is enrolled or expresses a specific interest.	Required
Disability-related services and facilities - A description of the services and facilities available to students with disabilities, including students with intellectual disabilities.	Required
Net price calculator	Exempted
The Financial Aid Shopping Sheet - All schools that have agreed to adopt the Principles of Excellence for Educational Institutions serving Service Members, Veterans, Spouse, and other family members—otherwise it is voluntary	Voluntary as indicated in chart

Refund policy - Any refund policy with which the institution is required to comply for the return of unearned tuition and fees or other refundable portions of costs paid to the institution.	Required
Return of funds requirements - A summary of the requirements for the return of title IV loan assistance, Treatment of title IV funds when a student withdraws.	Required
Study Abroad information - A statement that a student's enrollment in a program of study abroad approved for credit by the home institution may be considered enrollment at the home institution for the purpose of applying for assistance under the title IV, HEA programs.	Required
Transfer of credit policies and articulation agreements - A description of the transfer of credit policies established by the institution which must include, at a minimum - (i) Any established criteria the institution uses regarding the transfer of credit earned at another institution; (ii) A list of institutions with which the institution has established an articulation agreement; and (iii) Written criteria used to evaluate and award credit for prior learning experience including, but not limited to, service in the armed forces, paid or unpaid employment, or other demonstrated competency or learning.	Waived
Withdrawal procedures (34 CFR 668.22(I)(3)) - The “date of the institution's determination that the student withdrew” for an institution that is not required to take attendance is - (i) For a student who provides notification to the institution of his or her withdrawal, the student's withdrawal date as determined under paragraph (c) of this section or the date of notification of withdrawal, whichever is later; (ii) For a student who did not provide notification of his or her withdrawal to the institution, the date that the institution becomes aware that the student ceased attendance; (iii) For a student who does not return from an approved leave of absence, the earlier of the date of the end of the leave of absence or the date the student notifies the institution that he or she will not be returning to the institution; or (iv) For a student whose rescission is negated under paragraph (c)(2)(i)(B) of this section, the date the institution becomes aware that the student did not, or will not, complete the payment period or period of enrollment. (v) For a student who takes a leave of absence that is not approved in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section, the date that the student begins the leave of absence.	Required
Written arrangements (consortium and contractual agreements) with other institutions - Written arrangements between eligible institutions or with a consortium of eligible institutions, under which the other eligible institution or consortium provides part of the educational program to students enrolled in the first institution or provides part of the educational program of students enrolled in the eligible institution under a study abroad program.	Required

Topic: Drugs & Alcohol Prevention

Requirement	Applicability for Foreign Schools
Annual distribution and biennial review of institution's drug abuse prevention program	Waived
Notice of Federal Student Financial Aid Penalty for Drug Law Violations	Waived

Topic: Consumer Information for Student Athletes

Requirement	Applicability for Foreign Schools
Athletic program participation rates and financial support data - Any coeducational institution of higher education that participates in an FSA program and has an intercollegiate athletic program is required to submit an Equity in Athletics Report. It is referred to as the EADA report - Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act.	Waived

Topic: Student Right-to-Know Act

Requirement	Applicability for Foreign Schools
Reporting rates to IPEDS (Integrated Postsecondary Educational System)	Exempted
Completion or graduation rates Note: your school's graduation rates will not display on the IPEDS College Navigation Site	Waived
Job placement rates and related information	Waived
Transfer-out rate	Waived
Retention rate	Waived
Graduate and professional education in which graduates of the institution's four-year degree programs enroll	Waived

Topic: Clery/Campus Security Act

Requirement	Applicability for Foreign Schools
The Daily Crime log	Waived
Fire Safety Report	Waived
Fire Log	Waived
Security policies, crime statistics, and report	Exempted

Emergency response and evacuation procedures	Exempted
Timely warning of crimes and emergency notification	Exempted
Security Report - Missing Person Notification Policy	Waived
Programs to prevent dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking	Exempted
Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)	Exempted

Topic: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) - US students only

Requirement	Applicability for Foreign Schools
Each school must annually provide notice to all enrolled students about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The right to review their educational records, to request amendment of records, to consent to disclosures or personally identifiable information and to file complaint with the U.S. Department of Education. Procedures for reviewing educational records and requesting amendment of records. If applicable, information about the school’s policy regarding disclosures to school officials with legitimate educational interest in the educational records. 	Required

Topic: Safeguarding Customer Information

Requirement	Applicability for Foreign Schools
Schools participating in the FSA programs are subject to the information security requirements established by the FTC for financial institutions. Schools must adopt an information security program and draft detailed policies for handling financial data covered by the law, such as parents’ annual income, and take steps to protect the data from falling into the wrong hands. The administrative, technical, or physical safeguards you use to access, collect, distribute, process, protect, store, use, transmit, dispose of, or otherwise handle customer information-PII.	Required

Topic: Fire Safety Reports and Student Housing

Requirement	Applicability for Foreign Schools
Fire safety policies, statistics, and report	Waived

Topic: Misrepresentation

(Defined as a false, incorrect, misleading statement made directly or indirectly to a student, any member of the public, an accrediting agency, a state agency, or the Department. Misrepresentation includes any statement that omits information in such a way as to make the statement false, erroneous, or misleading. A statement may still be misleading even if it is true on its face).

Requirement	Applicability for Foreign Schools
Nature of educational program - This definition applies to statements made by an eligible institution, the school's representatives, or any ineligible institution, organization, or person with whom the eligible institution has an agreement to provide educational programs or those that provide marketing, advertising, recruiting or admission service. Misrepresentation includes the dissemination of a student endorsement or testimonial that a student gives either under duress or because the school required the student to make such an endorsement or testimonial to participate in a program.	Required
Nature of Financial charges - Misrepresentation concerning the nature of an eligible institution's financial charges includes but is not limited to false, erroneous or misleading statements concerning— offers of scholarships to pay all or part of a course charge; whether a particular charge is the customary charge of the course; cost of program and institutional refund policy if the student does not complete the program.	Required
Employability of graduates - A school, one of its representatives, or a related party engages in substantial misrepresentation when it does so about the nature of its education program, its financial charges, or the employability of its graduates; availability or nature of any financial assistance offered to students; and the student's right to reject any particular type of financial aid or other assistance.	Required

Topic: Loan Disclosures

Requirement	Applicability for Foreign Schools
Exit Counseling - Direct loan student borrower who is graduating, leaving school, or dropping below half-time enrollment is required to complete exit counseling. If the student drops out without notifying your school, you must confirm that he has completed online counseling or mail exit counseling material to him at his last known address within 30 days.	Required
Providing borrower information at separation - Personal information collected for exit counseling provided by school must be given to students' loan servicer within 60 days. No permission is needed since students granted authorization when they signed the promissory note.	Required
Private Education Loans - School or affiliated organization that provides information regarding a private education loan from a lender or prospective borrower must inform the prospective borrower that he may qualify for FSA loans and that the terms and conditions of FSA loans may be more	Required

favorable than the provisions of private education loans.

Schools as private lender – If a school solicits, makes, or extends private education loans, it is considered to be a private education lender that is subject to the Federal Reserve’s regulations on private educational lenders.	Required
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Preferred lender list – For any year in which the school has a preferred lender list arrangement, it will at least annually compile, maintain, and make available for students attending the school and the families of such student a list in print or other medium of the specific lenders for private education loans that the school recommends, promotes, or endorses in accordance with such preferred lender arrangement.	Required
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Code of conduct concerning loans – Each school must prominently publish on its website a code of conduct that prohibits a conflict of interest with the responsibilities of an agent of the school with respect to private education loans. The code of conduct must prohibit - revenue sharing arrangement with any lender, receiving gifts from a lender, contracting arrangements, directing borrowers to a particular lender, offer of funds for private loans, advisory board compensation.	Required
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Topic: Gainful Employment Disclosures

Requirement	Applicability for Foreign Schools
Note: The GE provisions are being renegotiated and more information will be provided once the process is complete.	Vacated
Non-degree programs for public and non-profit institutions	Vacated
For-profit institutions - Medical, Veterinary and Nursing programs	Vacated

Constitution Day

Requirement	Applicability for Foreign Schools
Section 111 of Division J of Pub. L. 108-447, the "Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005," Dec. 8, 2004	Waived
Section 111 requires that Constitution Day be held on September 17 of each year, commemorating the September 17, 1787, signing of the Constitution. However, when September 17 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, Constitution Day shall be held during the preceding or following week.	

Vaccinations Policy

Requirement	Applicability for Foreign Schools
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HEOA Section 488(a)(1)(E): amended HEA Section 485(a)(1) (20 U.S.C. 1092(a)(1)): added HEA Section 485(a)(1)(V)

Waived

Schools must make available to current and prospective students information about school policies regarding vaccinations.

Textbook information

Requirement

Applicability for Foreign Schools

20 U.S.C. 1015b

Waived

Schools must ensure that students have access to affordable course materials by decreasing costs to students and enhancing transparency and disclosure with respect to the selection, purchase, sale, and use of course materials. All involved parties, including faculty, students, administrators, institutions of higher education, bookstores, distributors, and publishers, are encouraged to work together to identify ways to decrease the cost of college textbooks and supplemental materials for students while supporting the academic freedom of faculty members to select high quality course materials for students.

Voter Registration Form

Requirement

Applicability for Foreign Schools

HEOA Section 493(a)(1) amended HEA Section 487(a)(23) (20 U.S.C. 1094(a)(23)): added HEA Section 487(a)(23)(D)

Waived

- Make the voter registration form widely available to students at the school.
- Request the forms from the state 120 days prior to the deadline for registering to vote within the state.

This requirement does not apply to schools in states that do not have a voter registration requirement or that allow voters to register at the time of voting.

Resources:

Statutory Authority – Chapter 28, Higher Education Resources and Student Assistance Subchapter IV- Student Assistance Part G- General Provisions Relating to Student Assistance Programs § 1092 Institutional and Financial assistance information for students (HEA § 485)

Institutions are required to provide a long list of disclosures, statistics and other information, and reports to current and prospective students, their families, and others. This information informs students to aid in their selection of a school and other decisions.

Regulations – [34 CFR 668 Subpart D](#), Student Consumer Information Services, [34 CFR 668.41](#) Reporting and disclosure of information

Department of Education References – [FSA Handbook, Vol. 2, Chapter 6 Consumer Information and School Reporting](#)