**Q&A BO25: FSA Partner Connect Preview**

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| Question | Response |
| If we have links saved to DCLs or Handbook chapters from the current IFAP website, will those links be redirected in the new FSA Partner Connect or will we need new links? | Yes, all of the links will redirect from existing IFAP to the new FSA Partner Connect Knowledge Center. |
| Will there still be an option to download the FSA Handbook to use offline? | The entire handbook can be downloaded in one PDF by navigating to the “PDF Download” and selecting the link corresponding to the entire handbook. The handbook opens in a new browser tab and can be downloaded using the browser download function. |
| Will EDconnect go away with the FSA Partner Connect? | EDConnect will be available after the launch of the FSA Partner Connect. You will be able to access the EDConnect functionality through Partner Connect. |
| Is there a test FSA Partner Connect site that we can take a test drive with? | There is no test site currently available for FSA Partner Connect, but there are several demos available for you to view on the FSA Conference Website. Also stay tuned for communications on our upcoming training prior to the launch in March! Our training approach will include webinars, job aids, and other tutorials. |
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| Is FSA Partner Connect behind a firewall which requires a login ID and password? Currently the FSA Handbook is available on the web to anyone. | Partner Connect includes info from many FSA websites and systems. Any information that is publicly available today will continue to be available to everyone! That includes all content from today's IFAP site and the FSA Handbook! There is privileged system info that requires login, and users with the appropriate system access will login to Partner Connect using their existing AIMS credentials. |
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| Can you remind the timeline for rolling out Partner Connect? | FSA Partner Connect is going live in March 2021!  Stay tuned for communications on our upcoming training prior to the launch in March! Our training approach will include webinars, job aids, and other tutorials. |
| What will schools that are branch campuses see on their dashboard? The 'Main Campus' data or their specific branch data? | The Partner Dashboard will include school information for the associated OPEID that the user has selected at log-in. If you have a main campus OPEID and a branch campus OPEID that you are also affiliated with; you will be able to easily toggle between each OPEID from the top navigation header on FSA Partner Connect. |
| Will we still have to go into each system at least once every 90 days to prevent being made inactive or can we just go into one i.e. just COD or NSLDS? | Partner Connect is bringing a lot of improvements but users will still need to maintain specific system access by logging in at least once every 90 days. If a user does not access a specific system for 90 calendar days, FSA will disable the user's access to that system. The number of days of inactivity is unique to each system the user is authorized to access. |
| Will foreign schools have the same accesses? | Information that is publicly available today will continue to be available to everyone including foreign schools! That includes all content from today's IFAP site and the FSA Handbook! Foreign school users will also have access to functionality behind log-in, once they have been processed through SAIG enrollment. Once complete, Partner Connect access can be granted by your Primary Administrator. |
| Will using a token for validation still be required? | You will log in to Partner Connect using your existing AIMS credentials. So, yes, you will still need to use your Two-Factor Authentication token. |
| Will Friday's session 26 for DPA's give any info I can give to staff for training/getting familiar with this? I'm super excited! THis looks awesome! | Glad you are excited! Friday's session will not cover training, but stay tuned for future training announcements! |
| What will happen to EDExpress? Will schools still be able to use it for ISIRs, DL Pell Originations and Disbursements?? | EDExpress will still be available and you will be able to access EDExpress directly from Partner Connect! |
| Where can you find the studentaid.gov student view? | Users with the appropriate access can view the "StudentAid.gov Student View" by searching for a student via the Student, Parent and Borrower Accounts under Partner Connect Services. Then you can select the “Student View Link” to be directed to the StudentAid.gov student view. |
| If we currently have access to NSLDS/COD, do we use that same log in account when Partner Connect rolls out in March? | You will log in to Partner Connect using your existing AIMS credentials. That is the same FSA User ID and password as you would for NSLDS or COD. |
| Follow up Question regarding redirecting current IFAP links to the new FSA Partner Connect Knowledge Center- Thanks for putting up re-directs. Will those redirects be permanent? | The IFAP redirects will be available for the foreseeable future. |
| Does the DPA have to set up each user for a school? | The Primary or Secondary Administrator for each school will grant FSA Partner Connect access to users. To streamline the process, Administrators will have the option to grant access to multiple users "in bulk" if the users have access to the school in the SAIG Enrollment System. |
| What is the best way to point students to see their loan totals? Is it loan simulator, studentaid.gov or something else? | StudentAid.gov would be the best place for students to find information about their student loans. For more information on StudentAid.gov, please visit "StudentAid.gov and the myStudentAid Mobile App" section within the the resource center. |
| A much needed improvement - thanks! | You're welcome! Glad you are excited about Partner Connect! |
| Thank you again for all your hard work on putting this together! I was grateful to be included on the partner review this summer and really appreciate the thoughtfulness of your approach and the new product! | We are appreciate all of the insight and feedback that the Partner Experience Council provides. We will continue to leverage the Council as we roll out more improvements; so stay tuned! |
| We have multiple OPEID's. Will they be integrated in the systems or will we have separate logins for each? | You will log in to Partner Connect using your existing AIMS credentials. Once you are logged in, all of the organizations that you have been granted access to will be accessible. You will be able to easily toggle between each OPEID from the top navigation header in FSA Partner Connect. |
| Can you put the code back up for the council? | You can access the Partner Experience Council Participation signup through this link:  https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=O8bmDqtOSEe3StHcIvwaJN8uV-btvLFDpXa\_4P7AvitUQUMwUlJJS0dDVkVTM1JHOEFEODY5WkVJWS4u |
| I'm still new, but how does this effect using EDConnect, EDExpress and DL Tools? | FSA Partner Connect does not impact EDConnect, EDExpress, or DL Tools at this time. |
| Is Next gen also partner connect - I am already on the next gen committee? | Yes! FSA Partner Connect is a part of FSA's Next Gen efforts.  If you signed up for the Partner Experience Council in the past, you are already on our council! Thank you for your help!! |
| Is there a way to find out if a parent plus loan has been in default? | Yes, FSA Partner Connect will have the default lookup on the Student, Parent, and Borrower Account Profile. |
| How far back will handbooks and other posts be archived? | The archived handbooks you have access to today will still be available in the new Knowledge Center on FSA Partner Connect. |
| I might have missed while taking notes, did you mention that FSA webenroll will be replaced with FSA partner connect? | No, FSA Partner Connect will not replace the www.fsawebenroll.ed.gov at this time. You will be able to access the Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG) functionality through FSA Partner Connect. |
| On the current IFAP website when viewing PDF documents like the handbook it no longer opens a new browser tab that then allows you to download, documents immediately try to download. I see in one of the Q&A you said the new site will open in a new browser tab that can then be downloaded. Can the current IFAP website go back to that way too please? | IFAP will be replaced by the new Knowledge Center. Check out the demos in the resource center to see the new Knowledge Center design! |
| Is Partner Connect intended to (eventually) be a replacement for COD, NSLDS, etc.? Or another system with some overlap in functionality? | FSA's long-term goal is to have all of the websites and systems integrated into Partner Connect so that users have centralized access to everything FSA! |
| Will it eventually eliminate edconnect and edexpress? | FSA's long-term goal is to have all of the websites and systems that schools and other partners use today integrated into Partner Connect so that users have centralized access to everything FSA! |
| Do we need a written approval to add an additional accreditor? | If you are changing or adding an institutional accreditor, you need approval. If you are adding a programmatic accreditor you may report it if the accreditor is approved for Title IV, but you are not required to report programmatic accreditors and do not need approval. |
| I have an OPEID, how do I get a TIN? | The TIN is the 9-Digit Taxpayer Identification Number assigned to the school by the IRS. It is also known as the Employer Identification Number (EIN). |
| If the program hasn't changed but the length or the program has, do we still need to update the ECAR? | If an institution changes the credit/clock hours of a program, it does need to be reported on the E-App. If the program is being taught out and ended at a certain length, the institution would enter an end-date for that program, and add the new program at the new length. If the program is being changed for enrolled students, the institution would update the current program on the E-App. |
| How early, before your recertification date, can you submit a recertification application? | Recertification Applications can be submitted no earlier than 6 months before the PPA expiration date. See slides 40 & 41 for reference. |
| If the program remains the same but the length of the program has changed, do we still need to update the ECAR e.g. due to Covid the first year has been shortened? | I think you are referring to the April 3, 2020 Electronic Announcement which provided instructions for requesting an academic year length waiver for student award calculations. You should follow those instructions if that applies.  If you are not required to otherwise report your degree programs, you would not need to report the change to the weeks of those programs. |
| If a clock hour program has increased the number of weeks it takes to complete the program, do we need to report that? The clock hours remained the same and it is still a full-time program. Example: 600-hour program was 18 weeks is now 25 weeks. | If changing the normal FT weeks of a program, the change needs to be reported on the E-App. If the program is being taught out and ended at a certain length, the institution would enter an end-date for that program, and add the new program at the new length. If the program is being changed for enrolled students, the institution would update the current program on the E-App. |
| When you were discussing the "acknowledgement" type of updates, do each one of those updates need to be made within 10 days of the change? And if so, is a signature on section L required for each individual update? | All updates must be reported to FSA via the E-App within 10 days of the action taking place. Each E-App submission requires a signature by the President/CEO. |
| The Program Review is usually done for the actual and the recent closed year. For how long should we maintain the ISIR evidence in our records and should we only have the ISIR for which the transaction was paid or all the ISIR's of that student (the ones that had errors, etc)? | Thanks for your question. Program records relating to the period covered by the program review must be retained until the later of: resolution of the loans, claims or expenditures questioned in the program review; or the end of the retention period otherwise applicable to the record under 34 CFR § 668.24(e). And schools should retain all ISIRs in the form in which they were originally received. |