

29 September 2015

## Dear International School Partner:

This year the U.S Department of Education (ED) is hosting its annual Federal Student Aid Training Conference at the Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, NV, from Tuesday, December 1 - Friday, Dec. 4, 2015. **Please note:** the first foreign school session will be prior to the official start of the conference on **Monday, November 30, 2015**.

The conference provides the forum for ED to share with the financial aid community the most up-to-date information on the Title IV Federal Student Aid (FSA) programs. There will be interesting sessions covering a wide range of topics from the implementation of programmatic requirements to technologies associated with our information systems. The FSA Training Conference will include more than 60 sessions scheduled across four days. More information about the conference and the planned sessions may be found at the link below.

We are pleased to announce there will be several sessions designed specifically for our international school partners. The first session will be offered prior to the official start of the conference on Monday, November 30, 2015 from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM. The *Foreign Schools Orientation* will provide an overview of its compliance and oversight functions, including institutional eligibility, compliance audit resolution, program review, financial analysis and method of payment. This session will also cover SAIG Enrollment and reporting requirements, highlights of GE reporting requirements, and best practices for foreign schools to consider when developing policies and procedures manuals. The session will close with a roadmap of recommended conference sessions for foreign school attendees.

Two foreign school sessions will be offered during the conference. The *Foreign Schools Program Participation Potpourri* will address important participation requirements to include consumer disclosures, SAP and R2T4. There will be an in depth review of resources to include FSA COACH, Foreign School Assessments, and the Foreign Schools Handbook. The *Foreign School Q&A* session will provide an opportunity for foreign school participants to ask questions of Departmental policy and operations staff, and members of the Foreign Schools Team. Additionally, Foreign Schools Team members will be available at the *Ask-a-Fed for Foreign Schools*.

Printed conference materials and handouts will <u>not</u> be provided on-site at the conference. The materials will be posted on our conference website, and we ask that you print or download to your mobile device any documents that you would like to access during the conference.



Information about the conference and the registration process is posted on the FSA Training Conference website at <a href="http://fsaconferences.ed.gov/">http://fsaconferences.ed.gov/</a>. There is no registration fee for this conference; however, attendees are responsible for their lodging, meals and travel expenses.

We look forward to seeing and visiting with you at the conference.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Frola, Director

Multi-Regional and Foreign Schools Participation Division