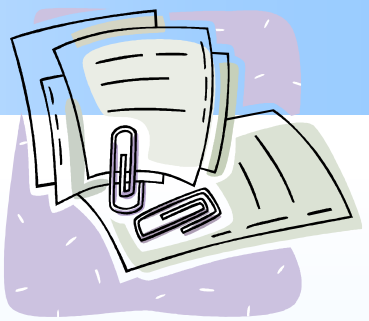
General Session

# 2005-2006 Application Processing System Update

Bill Leith
Marilyn LeBlanc
Teri Hunt

Electronic Access Conference
Orlando, Florida
Las Vegas, Nevada
2004

# Today's Topics



- Application Processing Statistics
- Important Dates
- What's New for 2005-2006?
  - School Application Products
  - Student Applications and the ED PIN
  - Student Application Output
  - Central Processing System (CPS) and Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR)
  - Other Noteworthy News
- Questions?

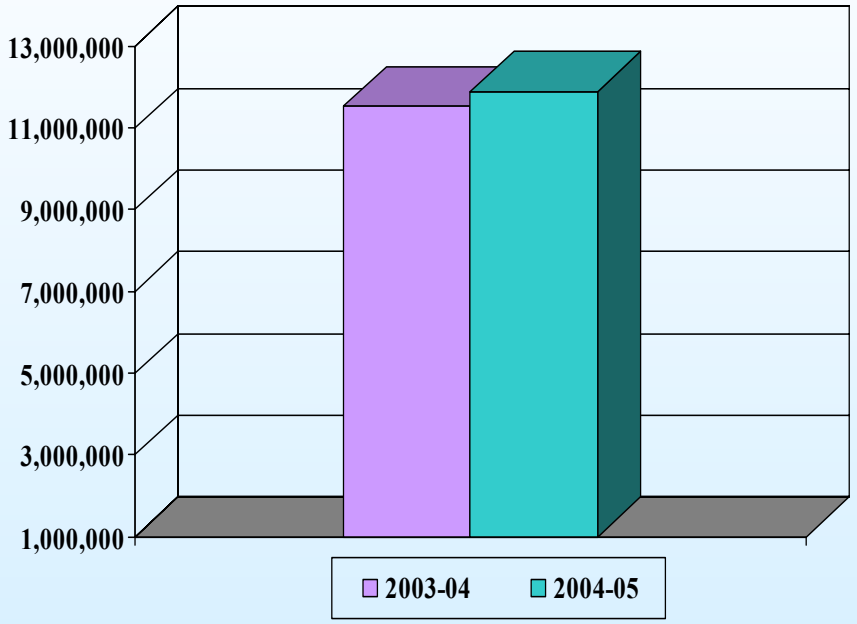
Electronic Access Conference
Orlando, Florida
Las Vegas, Nevada
2004

# Other Application Processing System Sessions

- #5 - FAA Access to CPS Online for EDExpress Users (hands on)
- #14 - What Your Students Need to Know about 2005-2006 Changes to FOTW and the ED PIN
- #16 - 2005-2006 ISIR Record Update
- #49 - FAA Access to CPS Online and the ISIR Datamart
- #21-24 - EDExpress sessions

# Application Volume
## 2003-04 and 2004-05

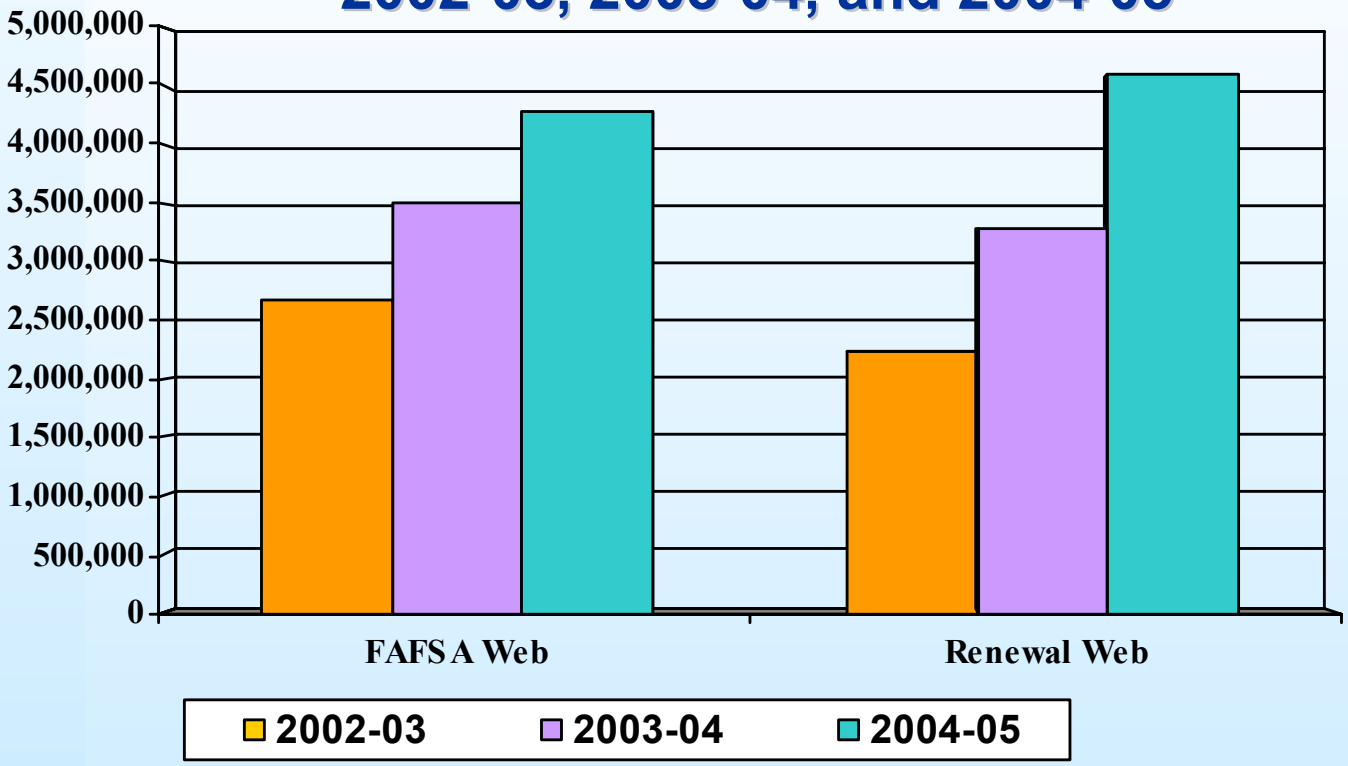
- **11,533,158**
  2003-04 FAFSAs processed as of November 14, 2003 (week 46)
- **11,891,959**
  2004-05 FAFSAs processed as of November 14, 2004 (week 46)




**That's a 3.1% increase!**

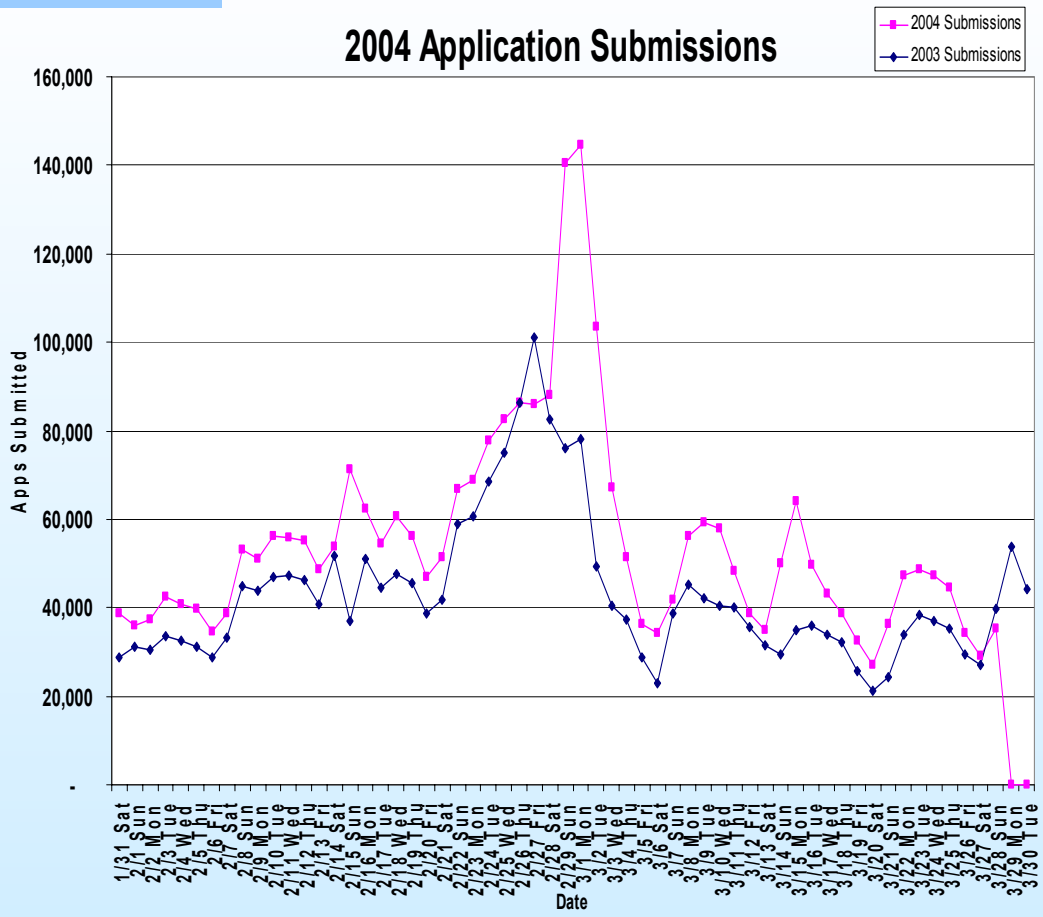
# Web Applications

## For the first 46 weeks of processing for 2002-03, 2003-04, and 2004-05



# Peak Processing Statistics

- Capacity Issues:
  - School Deadline Dates
  - State Deadline Dates
- Peak Deadline date March 1st, Application Submission Statistics:
  - 144,522 Electronic apps submitted
  - 60 Transactions Per Second
  - 26,545 Concurrent users



# Important Dates

- Draft ISIR Layout available on IFAP

- Renewal Application Process Announcement and Guide on IFAP and FSADownload

Nov

- School Electronic Process Guide on IFAP and FSADownload (FAA Access, EDExpress, ISIR Datamart)
- Announcement explaining application processing system changes on IFAP and FSADownload

# Important Dates

Nov

- Guide to ISIRs
- FAFSA on the Web Pre-Application Worksheet
- Federal School Code List mailed

- Student Web Application Products Guide on IFAP and FSAdownload

- **Jan 1:** FAFSA on the Web
  Renewal FAFSA on the Web
  Corrections on the Web
- **Jan 1:** FAA Access to CPS Online
- **Jan 3:** Application processing system starts up

Electronic Access Conference
Orlando, Florida
Las Vegas, Nevada
2004

# Important Dates
## FAFSA on the Web Toolkits

### Mailed in November to --

- Postsecondary schools
- High schools
- State agencies
- Libraries
- PTAs
- TRIO Centers
- Gear Up
- NCAN

### Toolkits include –

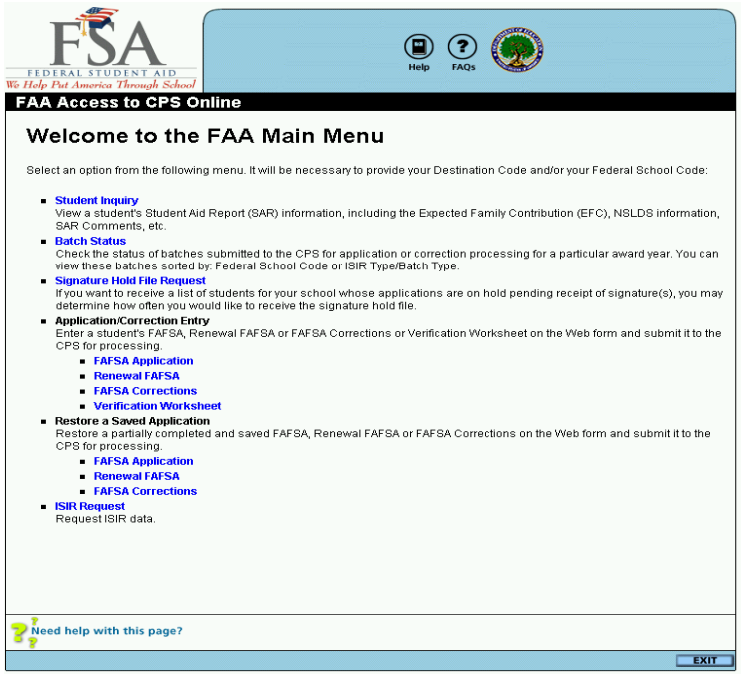
- FOTW Brochure
- PIN Brochure
- Poster
- Tips Card
- Bookmark
- Web-Link Graphics Flyer
- FAA Access Flyer

# School Application Products

- FAA Access to CPS Online
- ISIR Datamart
- R2T4 on the Web
- ISIR Analysis Tool on the Web
- EDExpress

# School Application Products

## FAA Access to CPS Online




- Implemented in May 2001
- Current version allows FAAs to --
  - Enter and submit FAFSA and Renewal FAFSA data
  - View students' SAR information
  - Correct applicant data
  - Request ISIRs from Datamart

URL: [fafsa.ed.gov/faa/faa.htm](fafsa.ed.gov/faa/faa.htm)

# School Application Products

## FAA Access to CPS Online

- FAA Access offers many useful features, including –
  - Verification Tool
    - Calculates tolerances
    - Displays total “net” error
  - Estimated taxes paid calculator
  - Real-time corrections results, including Official Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

# FAA Access to CPS Online

## New for 2005-06

- Many improvements implemented based on community feedback and suggestions
- Simplified form entry and reduced required key strokes in application and correction entry
  - Initial cursor focus moved first entry field
  - Intermediate step links in entry removed
  - “Born Before…?” question will pre-populate based on answer to date of birth question

# FAA Access to CPS Online

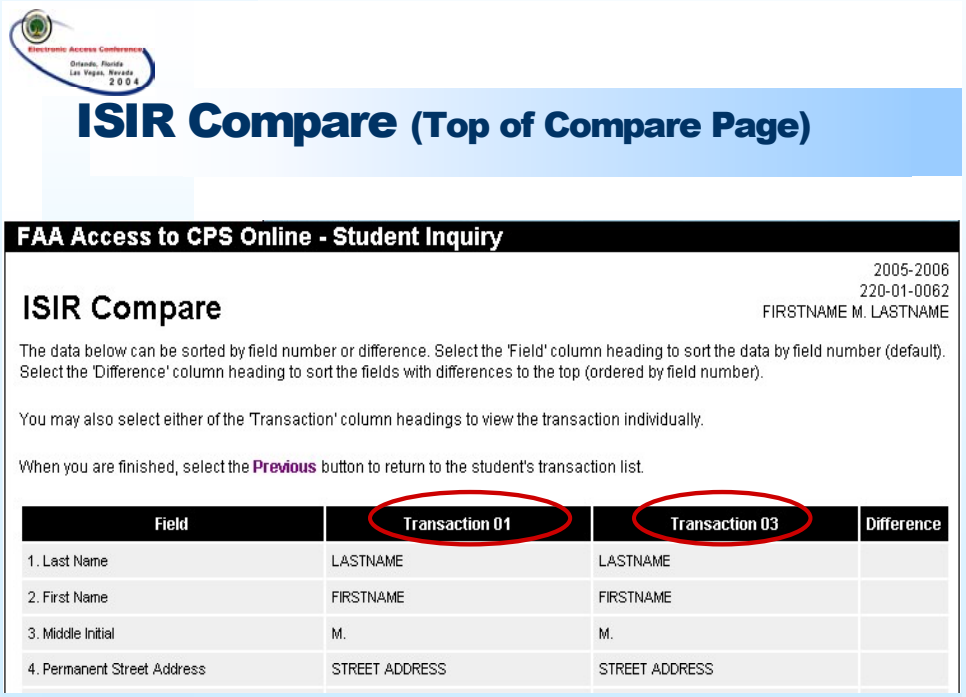
## New for 2005-06

- Simplified correction process –
  - New format allows users to see original and corrected field values
  - Schools required to enter Housing Plans for their school only
  - Increased functionality for Verification Tool (formerly called Verification Worksheet)
    - Can save Verification information in electronic format (HTML, Text) and store in student's file
    - Have option to submit or not submit verification corrections

# FAA Access to CPS Online

## New for 2005-06

### ISIR Compare (Top of Compare Page)



FAA Access to CPS Online - Student Inquiry

ISIR Compare

2005-2006
220-01-0062
FIRSTNAME M. LASTNAME

The data below can be sorted by field number or difference. Select the 'Field' column heading to sort the data by field number (default). Select the 'Difference' column heading to sort the fields with differences to the top (ordered by field number).

You may also select either of the 'Transaction' column headings to view the transaction individually.

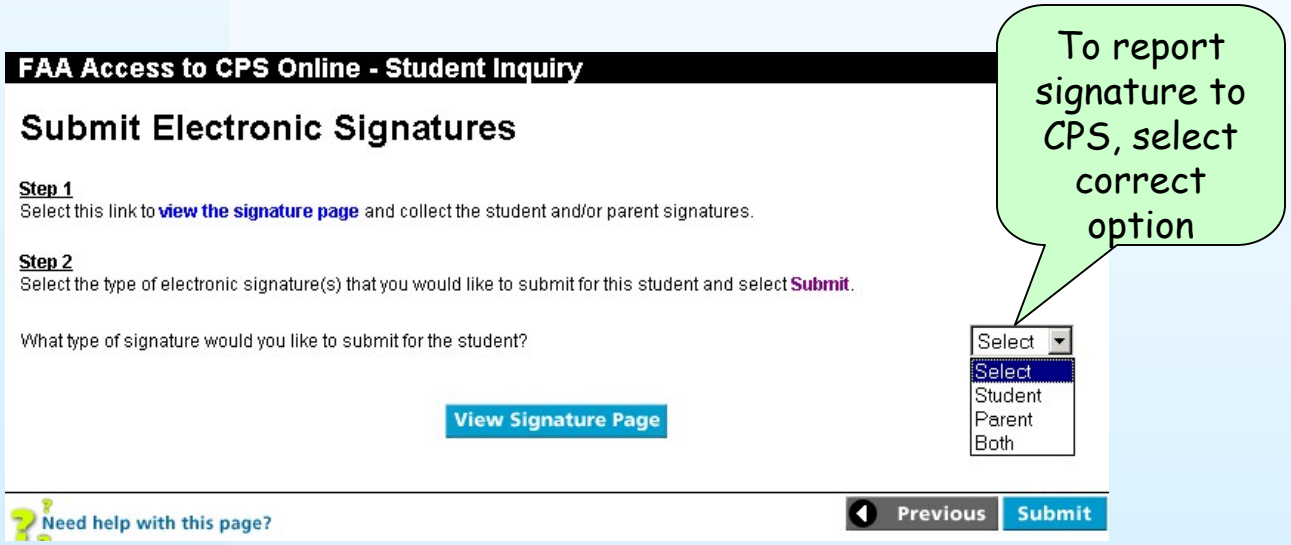
When you are finished, select the **Previous** button to return to the student's transaction list.

| Field | Transaction 01 | Transaction 03 | Difference |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Last Name | LASTNAME | LASTNAME | |
| 2. First Name | FIRSTNAME | FIRSTNAME | |
| 3. Middle Initial | M. | M. | |
| 4. Permanent Street Address | STREET ADDRESS | STREET ADDRESS | |

- In Student Inquiry users have option to display two transactions side-by-side
  - Can choose to view data in field order
  - Can move fields that differ to top of grid

# FAA Access to CPS Online
## New for 2005-06

- FAAs can apply electronic signatures to records in Signature Hold File




- Ability to perform FAA overrides for certain non-verifiable rejects

# FAA Access to CPS Online

- Provides Access to –
  - ISIR Datamart
  - R2T4 on the Web
  - ISIR Analysis (IA) Tool on the Web

# FAA Access to CPS Online

## ISIR Datamart

- Improvements to ISIR Datamart Request Process --
  - Option added for schools to request ISIRs resulting from corrections they submitted
  - Users can submit multiple ISIR requests per day to the Datamart
  - Users can label requests for easy identification
- ISIR Datamart covered in detail at other conference sessions

# Return of Title IV Funds on the Web

- Implemented in September 2004
- Calculates Return of Title IV Funds when student withdraws
- Includes six reports to track status of students as they move through R2T4 process

# ISIR Analysis Tool on the Web

- June 2004: Phase I Release includes functionality to --
  - Request specific or random samples of “initial” and “paid-on” ISIR transactions from ISIR Datamart
  - Define and populate user-specified fields
  - Use School Verification Flag field
  - Perform Data Validation
- October 17, 2004: Phase II Release adds ability to generate standard and customized reports

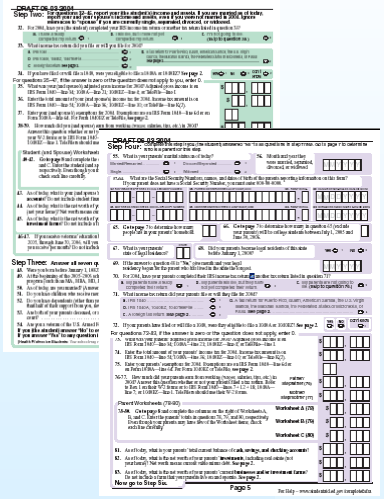
# EDExpress and EDESuite

- Simplified FAA Access Entry from EDExpress --
  - Demographic data will pre-populate initial FAA Access application
  - Will provide direct navigation to R2T4 and IA Tool on the Web
- SSCR for Windows, Release 2.0
  - Released in July 2004

# Student Applications and PIN

- Paper FAFSA
- Renewal FAFSA and Renewal Application Process
- FAFSA on the Web and Renewal FAFSA on the Web
- The ED PIN

# 2005-06 Paper FAFSA

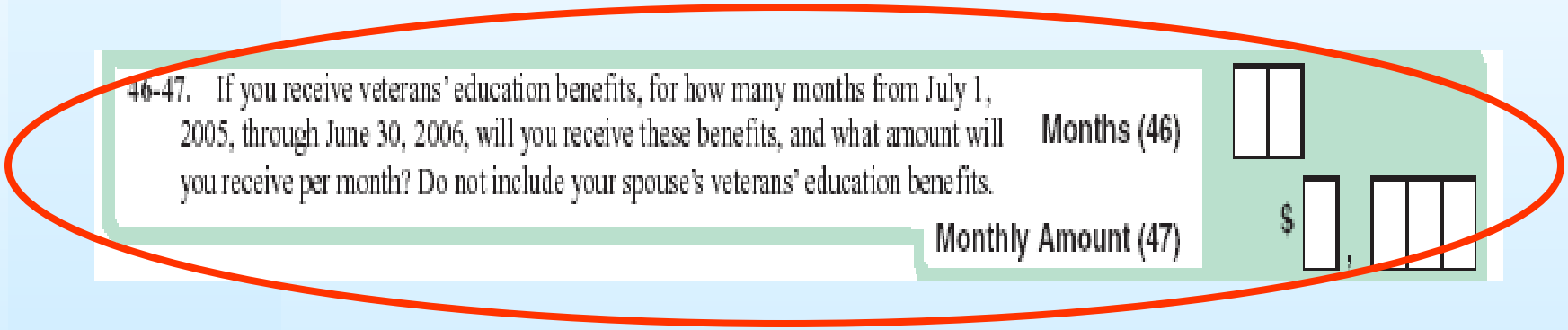


- 2005-06 FAFSA
  - **Green for Students (Pantone 344U)**
  - **Purple for Parents (Pantone 263U)**
- Includes return receipt postcard and insert
- Design and layout remain the same
- No new questions
- Questions follow same order
- Updated IRS line items and state deadlines
- Added gray-shaded “MMDD” or “MMDDYY” in all date fields to help applicants complete correctly

# 2005-06 Paper FAFSA

## Page 4, Step Two

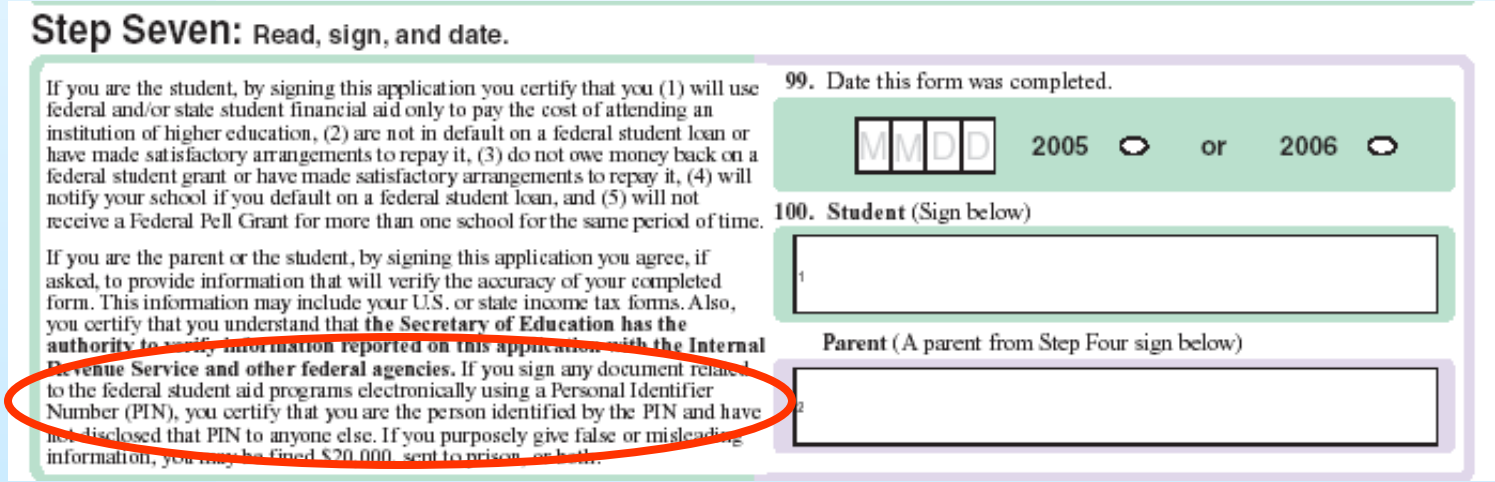
- Changed graphic design around Veterans' Education Benefits to distinguish from student asset questions



# 2005-06 Paper FAFSA

## Page 6, Step Seven

- Added sentence to Certification Statement telling students and parents not to disclose PIN to anyone



**Step Seven:** Read, sign, and date.

If you are the student, by signing this application you certify that you (1) will use federal and/or state student financial aid only to pay the cost of attending an institution of higher education, (2) are not in default on a federal student loan or have made satisfactory arrangements to repay it, (3) do not owe money back on a federal student grant or have made satisfactory arrangements to repay it, (4) will notify your school if you default on a federal student loan, and (5) will not receive a Federal Pell Grant for more than one school for the same period of time.

If you are the parent or the student, by signing this application you agree, if asked, to provide information that will verify the accuracy of your completed form. This information may include your U.S. or state income tax forms. Also, you certify that you understand that **the Secretary of Education has the authority to verify information reported on this application with the Internal Revenue Service and other federal agencies.** If you sign any document related to the federal student aid programs electronically using a Personal Identifier Number (PIN), you certify that you are the person identified by the PIN and have not disclosed that PIN to anyone else. If you purposely give false or misleading information, you may be fined $20,000, sent to prison, or both.

99. Date this form was completed.

MM DD 2005 ○ or 2006 ○

100. **Student** (Sign below)

1

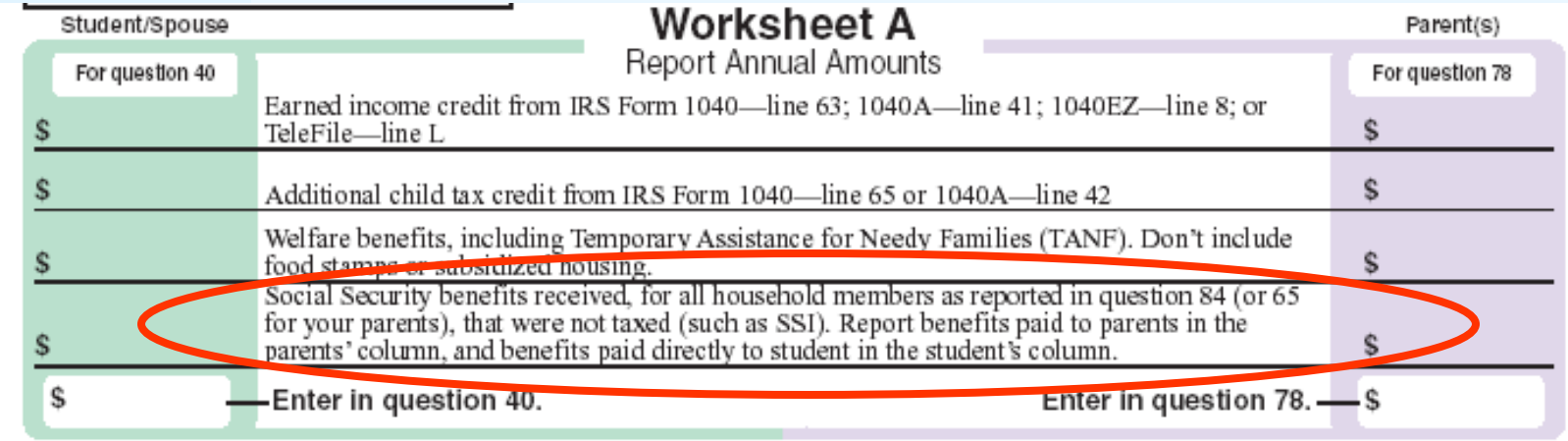
**Parent** (A parent from Step Four sign below)

2

# 2005-06 Paper FAFSA

## Page 8, Worksheet A

- Added guidance about how to report Social Security Benefits for students and parents



| Student/Spouse | Worksheet A<br>Report Annual Amounts | Parent(s) |
|---|---|---|
| For question 40 | | For question 78 |
| $ | Earned income credit from IRS Form 1040—line 63; 1040A—line 41; 1040EZ—line 8; or TeleFile—line L | $ |
| $ | Additional child tax credit from IRS Form 1040—line 65 or 1040A—line 42 | $ |
| $ | Welfare benefits, including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). Don't include food stamps or subsidized housing. | $ |
| $ | Social Security benefits received, for all household members as reported in question 84 (or 65 for your parents), that were not taxed (such as SSI). Report benefits paid to parents in the parents' column, and benefits paid directly to student in the student's column. | $ |
| $ —Enter in question 40. | | Enter in question 78. —$ |

# Future Changes to the FAFSA

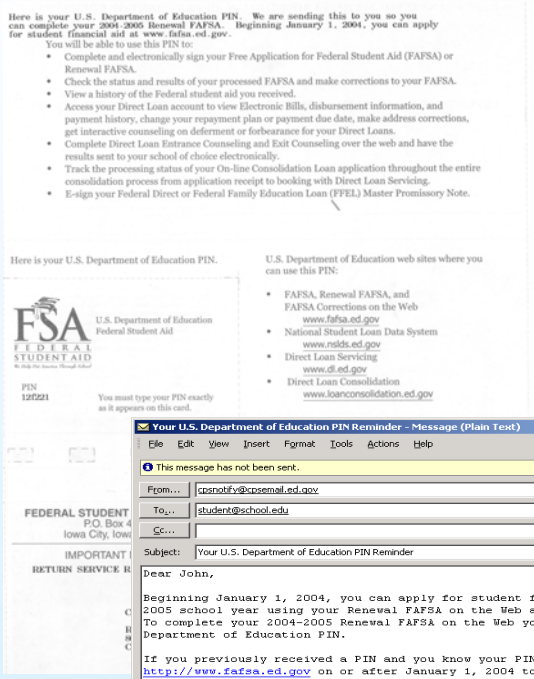
- In 2005-06, six school choices remain on paper FAFSA
- May need to reduce number of school choices on future paper FAFSAs
  - Continuing space issues on paper form
  - IRS income verification match may require additional data to be collected on the FAFSA
- Let us know what you think about having
  - fewer school choices on paper and six or more choices on the Web?
  - differences between paper and electronic forms?

# 2005-06 Paper Renewal FAFSA

- Includes changes made to paper FAFSA
- Unless school requests paper Renewal FAFSAs, “reminders” sent to all applicants eligible to participate in renewal process
- Paper Renewal FAFSA requests made through FAA Access to CPS Online

# 2005-06 Paper Renewal FAFSA

- Renewal Reminders
  - Students with valid e-mail addresses on their 2004-05 FAFSA receive e-mail reminders
  - Students with no e-mail address will receive paper PIN Mailer reminders
- See IFAP Electronic Announcement, 2/9/04



# 2005-06 Paper Renewal FAFSA
## Parent Information

- Will pre-print parent identifiers from student's 2004-05 FAFSA if parent identifiers matched with SSA
  - To protect privacy, only last four digits of parent's SSN will print

**XXX-XX-1234**

- Will not pre-print parent SSN, last name, first initial, or date of birth if parent identifiers did not match with SSA

# Renewal Application Process

## Important Dates

**August 2004** — Network message sent to schools to remind students to update addresses in CPS

**September 7, 2004** — Announcement and Guide posted on IFAP and FSAdownload

**10/4 - 10/29** — Schools request paper Renewal FAFSAs, instead of reminders, to be sent to students who are eligible to participate in Renewal Process

# Renewal Application Process

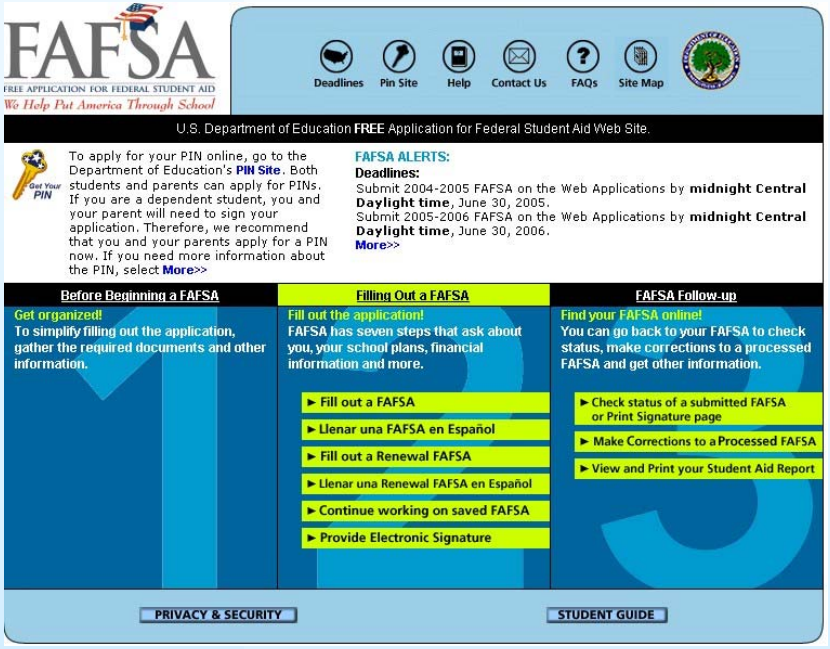
## Important Dates

**11/5 - 12/17** Renewal reminders sent to students

**11/5 - 12/17** CPS mails Renewal FAFSAs to students

# FAFSA on the Web

## www.fafsa.ed.gov




- Apply
- Reapply
- Go to PIN Web site
- Check status of FAFSA
- View SAR information
- Make corrections

# FAFSA on the Web and Renewal FAFSA on the Web
## New for 2005-06

- Redesigned Home Page
  - Easier to read
  - Provides more information about the PIN and encourages students and parents to apply
  - Changed name of “Student Access” to “View and Print your Student Aid Report”
- 2005-06 Pre-Application Worksheet available on FOTW November 28, 2004
- New Spanish language version of Renewal FOTW

# FAFSA on the Web and Renewal FAFSA on the Web
## New for 2005-06

- Chat icon renamed “Live Help”
- Pop-up message will appear after April 15 if student or parent indicates tax information is “estimated”
- From FAFSA on the Web confirmation page, parents with multiple children in college can transfer their information to other children’s applications

# FAFSA on the Web and Renewal FAFSA on the Web
## New for 2005-06

- Students and parents can apply for a PIN from FOTW, without exiting application
- Separate questions ask each parent if they want to apply for PIN
- Like paper FAFSA, certification page includes a statement not to disclose PIN

# FAFSA on the Web and Renewal FAFSA on the Web
## Edit Changes

- Students and parents who --
  - Report same amount in more than one income field prompted to verify accuracy before amounts accepted
  - Report taxes paid amount equal to or exceeding AGI receive reject 3 or 12, with prompt to see FAA
- Existing cross-year edits performed during application entry
- Clearer text used in reject override pop-up boxes
  - Answer is correct
  - Change my answer

# PIN Web Site Changes

- New audit system tracks user activity, such as date and time PIN used to sign FAFSA
- "Challenge Question" added for all users (including FAAs)
  - Additional security to protect PIN applicants/holders
  - Beginning January 1, 2005
    - New PIN recipients required to select and answer "Challenge Question" to activate PIN
    - Current PIN holders asked to select and answer "Challenge Question" to authenticate PIN
  - "Challenge Question/Answer" may be supplied in lieu of PIN to update or change information on PIN Web Site

# PIN Web Site Changes

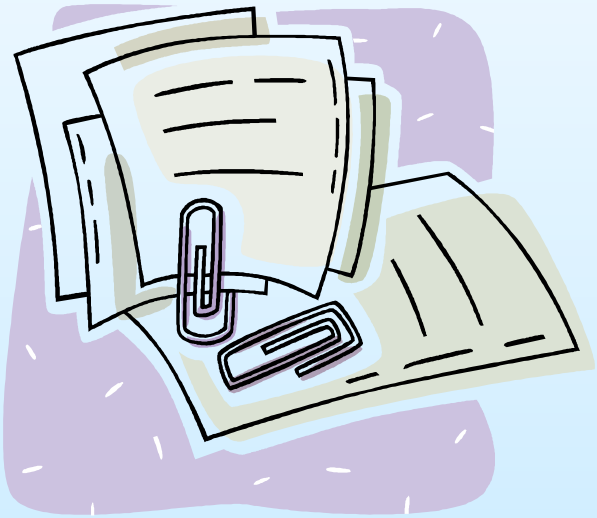
- FSA will disable PINs --
  - After 3 unsuccessful authentication attempts and PIN holder does not select and answer “Challenge Question” in three tries
  - After a 30-month period of inactivity
  - When there is a match with the “Death Master File”

# PIN Web Site Changes

- Added “Active Agreement” text to PIN Application page
  - Users asked to affirm they will not share their PIN with anyone
  - If active affirmation not provided, PIN application will not be processed

# Student Application Output

- Student Aid Report (SAR)
- E-mail Notifications



# 2005-06 Student Aid Report (SAR)

- Paper SARs will be printed on green paper
- Only last four digits of parent's SSN will display on paper and electronic SARs
- Changes to NSLDS History Information
  - Now called "Summary of Federal Loans"
  - Aggregate loan information only
  - Tells students how to get more information from NSLDS about their loans
  - Provides standard text about estimating loan repayment amounts based on total borrowed

# E-Mail Correspondence

- Renewal FAFSA e-mail reminders include information about new PIN terms and conditions and challenge question requirements
- When e-mails with links to SAR information on the Web returned as undeliverable, paper SAR or SAR Acknowledgement mailed to student
- Spanish e-mail notifications sent to students and parents who submit Spanish-language applications and provide valid e-mail addresses

# 2005-06 CPS and ISIR Changes

- Database Matches
- Edits
- Rejects and Overrides

# CPS Changes
## SSA Death Master File

- FSA will regularly match CPS records to SSA's Death Master File
  - If applicant is found in file, student's record re-sent to SSA for matching
    - If SSA does not find applicant in Date of Death (DOD) file, no further action
    - If SSA finds applicant in DOD file –
      - CPS sends a system-generated transaction to school(s)
      - New Source/Type Code
      - Will not send a SAR to student

# CPS Changes
## New Edits/Comments

- New warning edit/comment when student's/father's earned income is equal to spouse's/mother's
- New Verification Selection Change Flag for applicants selected for verification on transaction 02 or higher
- No changes to current cross-year edits

# CPS Changes
## New Rejects

- Verifiable reject D, E, and F added for name not matching SSA (SSN Match Flag = 3)
- Student or parent must correct or verify name to eliminate reject
- Corrected/verified data resent to SSA for matching
- If good match results not received for student, SAR C Flag set and must be resolved
- SAR comments revised to clarify what students should do if they do not receive “good” SSA name match results

# CPS Changes
## New Rejects

- New verifiable rejects J and K –
  - No “good” SSN match result received for at least one parent
  - Either parent reported all zeroes in SSN field, and
  - Parent(s) indicated on FAFSA they will file an income tax return
- Taxes paid equal to or greater than AGI
  - Reject 12 applies to parents only
  - New reject 3 for dependent and independent students

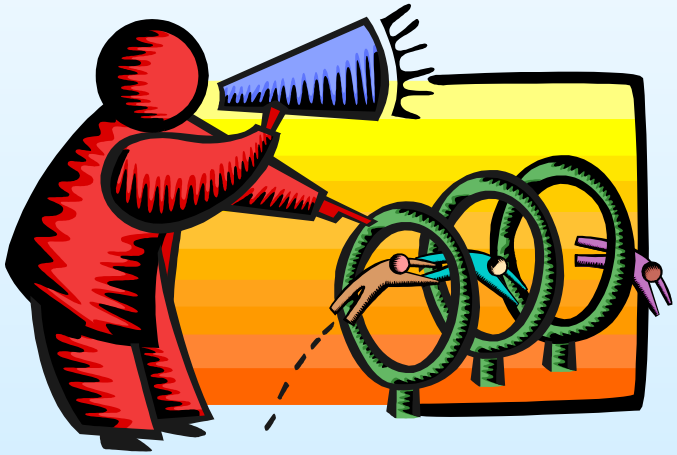
# CPS Changes
## New Reject Overrides

- Added reject override codes for
  - Rejects J and K (parent's SSN all zeroes), but filed a 2004 income tax return
  - Rejects 3 and 12 (taxes paid equal to or greater than AGI)
    - Override codes for FAA use only

# ISIR Changes

- ISIRs in flat file format only in 2005-06
- Two new NSLDS postscreening reason codes --
  - Reason Code 14 = Active bankruptcy
  - Reason Code 15 = PLUS MPN status change

# Other Noteworthy News and Issues



# VA Database Match Modified

- Will no longer assume FAFSA question 54, Are you a veteran?, to No if VA indicates student is not a qualifying veteran (match flag 2) or not in VA database (match flag 3)
- For match flags 2, 3, and 4, will set comment and SAR C flag if record is independent only because of VA status
- Will implement in January 2005 for both 2004-05 and 2005-06 cycles

# 2005-06 FAFSA/IRS Notification Process

- After April 15, 2005, ED will notify FAFSA filers via e-mails and letters to compare income information on FAFSA with 2004 tax return and update FAFSA, if necessary
- Notices sent to parents of dependent students and dependent and independent undergraduate students who –
  - Were not selected for verification
  - Have EFCs less than or equal to 6000
  - Have not had an FAA Adjustment done

# Other Noteworthy News

## The Multi-Year Applicant Database

- Collects and stores applicant data for multiple years
- Ability to cross-reference data for applicants across multiple years
- Data show edits result in increased corrections to questionable answers

# Demonstration Sites

## FAFSA on the Web and FAA Access

- On November 28, 2004, FAFSA on the Web and FAA Access demonstration sites available
  - To access sites, go to http://fafsademo.test.ed.gov
  - Enter:
    - User Name: eddemo
    - Password: fafsatest
- Click on FOTW or FAA Access buttons at bottom of screen to access demo site
- Available until next December

# Upcoming Conferences

- Spring Conference in Reno, Nevada
  - March 22 – 24, 2005

Electronic Access Conference
Orlando, Florida
Las Vegas, Nevada
2004

# Questions?