

TO: Secretary Paige
FROM: Acting COO Candy Kane
RE: FSA Weekly Report
DATE: June 17, 2002

THE WEEK AHEAD

Nothing to report.

KEY NEWS

Collection Recovery: Collection recovery totals for FY 02 have reached \$982.0 million. FSA should surpass \$1.0 billion by June 19. FSA is on target to achieve all recovery goals for FY 02.

Government Paperwork Elimination Act: An exit conference concerning the implementation of GPEA was held on June 5 with OIG's Systems Internal Audit Team, OCIO, and FSA. OIG found the Department has not developed a comprehensive GPEA strategy or provided adequate guidance and oversight of GPEA activities to ensure that all business information processes have been considered for automation. The report did not contain findings regarding FSA's security policy and planning for GPEA. A draft report is expected later this month.

Privacy Act of 1974: GAO is reviewing how agencies have implemented the Privacy Act of 1974. FSA received two surveys specifically for Federal Student Aid Application File (18-11-01) and the Student Account Manager System (18-01-08).

FSA & HUD Neighborhood Networks Partnership: FSA is making major strides towards reaching out to residents of low-income multi-family housing through its partnership with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Neighborhood Networks. Neighborhood Networks is a community-based initiative that uses private/public partnerships to establish community technology centers that bring digital opportunity and lifelong learning to residents of insured and assisted housing. FSA programs are currently featured as a new resource on the Neighborhood Networks Web site <http://www.hud.gov/nnw/nnwindex.html>. The information contains links to the FAFSA and student aid Web sites.

Tom Joyner Morning Show: FSA has partnered with ABC Radio Network's Tom Joyner Morning Show to disseminate federal student aid information. This partnership supports Department and FSA efforts to target financial aid information to low-income and minority audiences to ensure that no child is left behind regarding access to postsecondary education. This includes both audio and Web-based information. Specifically, the show's Web site, www.TomJoyner.com, will provide information about federal student aid, including a rotating banner and a button linked to the FSA Web site. In addition, when visitors to the Web site click on "listen live" during the radio broadcast, they will hear a 30 or 60 second audio statement about federal student aid.

RESOLUTION OF KEY ISSUES

Nothing to report.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES

Nothing to report.

REGULATORY ACTIVITIES

Nothing to report.

POLICY DOCUMENTS

Nothing to report.

GRANT ACTIVITIES

Nothing to report.

ON THE HORIZON

Students Attending Foreign Schools: GAO is initiating a study on student loans and foreign schools. The report will examine: (1) the extent of fraud, waste, and abuse; (2) steps taken by ED to curb such abuses; and (3) any additional steps, such as tighter disbursement controls. An entrance conference is scheduled for later this month.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact Karen Santos Freeman at 377-4001 with any questions.

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