



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

### FOIA Service Center

March 17, 2023

Abigail Alannah Moats  
National Student Legal Defense Network  
1701 Rhode Island Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20036

RE: FOIA Request No. 22-01851-F

Dear Abigail Alannah Moats:

This letter is a final response to your request for information pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, dated February 4, 2022, and received in this office on February 8, 2022. Your request was forwarded to the Office of Finance and Operations to search for documents that may be responsive to your request.

You requested the following:

1. Documents sufficient to show all debts referred to Treasury by the Department for collection, from January 1, 2017, through present, as well as the current status of each debt or collection effort. This request is limited to include only documents regarding referral of debts owed to ED and/or the U.S. Government by institutions of higher education, their affiliates, owners, shareholders, or executives, for actions stemming from an institution's participation in the Title IV student aid programs. This request excludes records reflecting individual student borrower debts.
2. Documents sufficient to show all debts referred to the Department of Justice ("Justice") by Treasury for collection, litigation, or settlement, from January 1, 2017, through present, as well as the current status of each debt or collection effort. This request is limited to include only those debts that have been referred to Justice that stem from an institution of higher education's participation in one or more programs authorized by Title IV of the Higher Education Act. This request includes records related to debts owed by institutions of higher education (including their affiliates, owners, shareholders, or executives) for actions stemming from an institution's Title IV participation, but excludes records related to individual student loans.

In lieu of documents, Student Defense would accept a chart or description providing the requested information. (Date Range for Record Search: From 1/1/2017 To 2/8/2022)

Available for Public Access Link (PAL) download are 71 pages of documents responsive to your request. The documents provided pertain to:

- Documents regarding debts referred to the Department of Justice by the Treasury Department.

You can access your PAL account or register for a PAL account at this link:  
<https://foiaexpress.pal.ed.gov/app/PalLogin.aspx>

Provisions of the FOIA allow us to recover the costs pertaining to your request. The Department has concluded that you fall within the category of Other. However, the Department has provided you with this information at no charge. The Department's release of this information at no cost does not constitute the grant of a fee waiver and does not infer or imply that you will be granted a fee waiver for future requests made under FOIA to the Department.

You have the right to seek further assistance from the Department's FOIA Public Liaison, Robert Wehausen. The Department's FOIA Public Liaison can be reached by email at [robert.wehausen@ed.gov](mailto:robert.wehausen@ed.gov); by phone at 202-205-0733; by fax at 202-401-0920; or by mail at Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW, 7W104, Washington, DC 20202-4500, Attn: FOIA Public Liaison.

If you have any questions, please contact the FSC at (202) 401-8365 or [EDFOIAMANAGER@ed.gov](mailto:EDFOIAMANAGER@ed.gov).

Sincerely,

***Tiffany Tucker***

Tiffany Tucker  
Government Information Specialist  
Office of the Secretary