

How is the government shutdown affecting financial aid?

The Government Shutdown is not affecting spring 2019 Financial Aid Disbursements.

As of today, Department of Education (ED) operations and student aid program funding continue without disruption. Disbursements are still scheduled to go out as planned. Also, your ability to apply for new federal aid (Federal Pell Grant, FSEOG, or Direct student loans) is not affected at this time. Your FAFSA can still be submitted, and most of the Department of Education financial aid websites are still up and running.

How has the government shutdown impacted financial aid programs?

Right now, the biggest impact has been to the **IRS and the accessibility of the IRS Tax Transcripts**. The Data Retrieval Tool is still functioning and available through FAFSA for eligible students. However, the "Get Transcript Online" and "Get Transcript by Mail" services at www.irs.gov are currently offline and not available for use. Also, the local IRS Office in San Marcos is closed due to the government shutdown.

Students who still need to submit their IRS Tax transcripts are encouraged to use the Data Retrieval Tool on FAFSA, if eligible; otherwise it may delay the processing of your financial aid application until these issues are resolved.

Additionally, Federal student loan servicers are still up and running, so you can still make all of your student loan payments and receive customer service if you have questions. So yes, your student loan payments are **still due**. Bummer, I know!

What Can I Do About The Government Shutdown?

Contact your Senators! Let them know how the shutdown is affecting you.

[Dianne Feinstein](#) - (D - CA)

331 Hart Senate Office Building Washington DC 20510

(202) 224-3841

Contact: www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/e-mail-me

[Harris, Kamala D.](#) - (D - CA)

112 Hart Senate Office Building Washington DC 20510

(202) 224-3553

Contact: www.harris.senate.gov/contact