Title IV Financial Aid Office  (FAO)

The U.S. Department of Education is responsible for drafting and implementing federal regulations in conjunction with the Higher Education Act (HEA). Though the HEA was signed into law in 1965, it constantly needs to be evaluated and reauthorized. The FAO is completely governed by Federal and State regulations. The FAO has experienced a wave of new legislation affecting Title IV aid. The Director receives daily emails regarding upcoming Federal changes and weekly State changes for Title IV aid. These changes are required and must be implemented in a timely fashion to ensure that Modesto Junior College can still administer Title IV financial aid programs. New academic and progress policies being required by the BOG Fee Waiver, ensure clock hour students were being paid correctly and bill back students who were not completing their necessary program goals. As more and more regulations are placed on financial aid, there will be more to verify, process, regulate, award, disburse, and reconcile. The FAO is consistently trying to stay ahead and monitor more procedures, reports, and processes.

_The Higher Education Act (HEA)_ is the federal law that governs the administration of federal student aid programs that are responsible for the majority of financial assistance to postsecondary students. The HEA was originally passed in 1965 and signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson as part of his Great Society domestic agenda. The HEA was designed to strengthen resources for higher education institutions and also provide financial assistance for students. HEA programs and activities fall into four main categories:

1. student financial aid
2. services to help students complete high school and enter and succeed in postsecondary education
3. aid to institutions
4. aid to improve K-12 teacher training at postsecondary institutions

**RECERTIFICATION**

A school may be certified to participate for up to six years. Recertification is the process through which a school that is presently certified to participate in the FSA programs applies to have its participation extended beyond the expiration date of its current Program Participation Agreement (PPA). The Department will notify a school six months prior to the expiration of the school’s PPA. The school must submit a materially complete application before the expiration date listed in its PPA.

([www.ifap.ed.gov/qahome/qaassessments/institutionalelig.html](http://www.ifap.ed.gov/qahome/qaassessments/institutionalelig.html)).