



## United States Department of Education

Office of the Secretary

FOIA Service Center

September 20, 2023

Margaret Moran  
Student Defense  
1701 Rhode Island Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20036

RE: FOIA Request No. 23-00712-F

Dear Margaret Moran:

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 January 9, 2023, and received in this office on January 10, 2023. Your request was forwarded to Federal Student Aid to search for documents that may be responsive to your request.

You requested the following:

“Student Defense requests that, within twenty business days, the Department produce documents sufficient to show:

1. The total number of borrower defense applications filed from December 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022, broken down by institution;
2. The total number of borrower defense applications granted between December 1, 2022, and December 31, 2022, broken down by institution;
  - a. Of the granted applications, the total number that received monetary relief, broken down by institution;
  - b. Of the granted applications, the total dollar amount discharged, broken down by institution;
3. The total number of borrower defense applications denied between December 1, 2022, and December 31, 2022, broken down by institution.
4. The total number of borrower defense applications pending decision as of December 31, 2022, broken down by institution.”

Available for Public Access Link (PAL) download is a fully releasable Excel spreadsheet responsive to your request. The document is as follows:

- FSA Response 23-00712-F

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 granted your request for a fee waiver; therefore, the Department has provided you with this information

at no charge. The Department’s release of this information at no cost 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 assistance and/or dispute resolution services from the Department’s FOIA Public Liaison or the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The FOIA Public Liaison is responsible, among other duties, for assisting in the resolution of FOIA disputes. OGIS, which is outside the Department of Education, offers mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to appeals or litigation. They can be contacted by:

Mail	FOIA Public Liaison Office of the Secretary U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Ave., SW, LBJ 7W104 Washington, DC 20202-4500	Office of Government Information Services National Archives and Records Administration 8601 Adelphi Road Room 2510 College Park, MD 20740-6001
E-mail	<a href="mailto:robert.wehausen@ed.gov">robert.wehausen@ed.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:OGIS@nara.gov">OGIS@nara.gov</a>
Phone	202-205-0733	202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448
Fax	202-401-0920	NA

You have the right to appeal this decision by writing to the address below, 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. Using the services described above does not affect your right or the deadline to file an appeal. Your appeal must be in writing and must include detailed statement of all legal and factual bases for the appeal; it should be accompanied by this letter, a copy of your initial letter of request, and any documentation that serves as evidence or supports the argument you wish the Department to consider in making an administrative determination on your appeal.

Appeals may be submitted using the on-line form available at [www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/foia/foia-appeal-form.pdf](http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/foia/foia-appeal-form.pdf).

E-mail: [EDFOIAappeals@ed.gov](mailto:EDFOIAappeals@ed.gov)

Fax: 202-401-0920

Mail: Appeals Office  
Office of the Secretary  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW, LBJ 7W104  
Washington, DC 20202-4536

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

Sincerely,

Elise Cook  
Elise Cook  
Government Information Specialist  
Office of the Secretary