

Schubart, Joe

From: Schubart, Joe
Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2002 10:31 AM
To: 'don smith'
Subject: RE: Comments on Income Contingent Repayment Plan Alternative Documentation of Income

Dear Mr. Longfellow,

Thank you for correctly spotting that two different information collections were published using an identical title. The one on page 57584 of the Federal Register should have been titled the "Direct Loan Income Contingent Repayment Plan Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information".

Fortunately, the included narrative is correct. I hope that this did not inconvenience you. We will be publishing an additional notice for both of these information collections after the 12th of November and will take care to properly identify them then.

Thanks for your attention and insights.

Best Wishes

Joe Schubart
Information Collection Team Leader

-----Original Message-----

From: don smith [<mailto:dntrysmth@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2002 2:57 PM
To: joe.schubart@ed.gov
Subject: Comments on Income Contingent Repayment Plan Alternative Documentation of Income

Dear Mr. Schubart,

I stumbled upon your EDICS website while researching ways to repay my student loans. Nevertheless, I want to thank you for the opportunity to allow me to comment on your information collection.

Comment One.

Federal Register notices at 67 FR 57583 and 67 FR 57584 have the same title with different abstract information. The abstract information in 67 FR 57583 refers to alternative documentation of income, for which your EDICS website provide forms and other documentation that supports this name associated with the information collection called alternative documentation of income. The abstract information in 67 FR 57584 refers to written consent to disclose certain tax return information which the attachments on your EDICS website support. Is the title in 67 FR 57584 a mistake or are 67 FR 57583 and 67 FR 57584 duplicates?

Comment Two.

This comment is regarding 67 FR 57584 with the files

that contain the form that provides the IRS with written consent to disclose certain tax return information to the Department of Education.

While researching ways to repay my student loans, I discovered loan consolidation and income contingent repayment plan. The consolidation website has a form called Repayment Plan Selection (loanconsolidation.ed.gov/forms/rps.pdf) that asked me to provide family size if I select the income contingent repayment plan.

In 67 FR 44817, I discovered that the Department of Education will use my family size to calculate my income contingent payment. The charts in 67 FR 44817 suggest that something called income percentage factor are based on IRS income tax filing status and the examples in 67 FR 44817 show that family size is used to determine my discretionary income. The IRS has filing status, family size and adjusted gross income on a federal tax return-all three pieces of information are required to calculate an income contingent payment.

Please provide answer to the following questions.

1. Are income percentage factors based on my IRS income tax filing status or the number of exemptions?

2. Is there a specific reason why the US Department of Education does not collect family size and filing status on the IRS written consent to disclose certain tax return information form?

If filing status and family size are placed on the IRS written consent to disclose certain tax return information form, I would only have to complete the Federal Direct Consolidation Loan Application and Promissory Note and the Income Contingent Repayment Plan Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information. Thus, reducing my burden and the burden of others who choose income contingent and student loan consolidation.

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Micheal D. Longfellow, Student
Georgetown Law Center

Do you Yahoo!?
Faith Hill - Exclusive Performances, Videos & More
<http://faith.yahoo.com>