



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

FOIA Service Center

Tariq Habash
Student Borrower Protection Center
1025 Connecticut Ave, NW, Suite 717
Washington, DC 20036

February 6, 2019

RE: FOIA Request No. 19-00571-F

Dear Tariq Habash:

This letter is an interim response to your request for information pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, dated December 19, 2018 and received in this office on December 20, 2018.

You requested:

- A state-by-state list of approved employers under PSLF.
- A list of approved employers categorized by type of "qualifying employment" i.e. level of government, 501(c)(3) not-for-profit, other type of not-for-profit.

PLEASE SEE DOCUMENT RECORD FOR DETAILS

In a letter dated January 28, 2019, you received a CD containing 7,666 pages of documents responsive to your request that was responsive to FOIA request 19-00567-F. Those documents are also responsive to this request.

However, certain information has been withheld according to FOIA exemptions, specified below:

- Proprietary information has been withheld under exemption (b)(4) of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 of the FOIA. These provisions require us to withhold proprietary information, which, if disclosed, is likely to cause substantial competitive harm.
- Records or portions of records relating to certain intra-agency information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5) of the FOIA. This exemption permits the withholding of inter- or intra-agency information that could be withheld under civil discovery, including information subject to the deliberative process, attorney-client, or attorney-work product privileges.
- Records or portions of records relating to personal information is exempt pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(6) of the FOIA. Disclosure of this information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.
- Records of portions of records relating to the techniques and procedures that are used for a law enforcement purpose is exempt pursuant to (b)(7)(E) of the FOIA. Disclosure of this information could reasonably be expected to disclose the information pertaining to all law enforcement information that "would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions and could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law."

At this time, the Department is continuing to process your request. You will receive any additional documents under a separate cover letter.

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:

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| Mail | FOIA Public Liaison Office of the Executive Secretariat U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Ave., SW, LBJ 7C132 Washington, DC 20202-4536 | Office of Government Information Services National Archives and Records Administration 8601 Adelphi Road Room 2510 College Park, MD 20740-6001 |
| E-mail | robert.wehausen@ed.gov | OGIS@nara.gov |
| Phone | 202-205-0733 | 301-837-1996; toll free at 1-877-684-6448 |
| Fax | 202-401-0920 | 301-837-0348 |

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.

E-mail: EDFOIAappeals@ed.gov
Fax: 202-401-0920
Mail: Appeals Office
Office of the Executive Secretariat
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW, LBJ 7W106A
Washington, DC 20202-4510

Sincerely,

Elise Cook

Elise Cook
FOIA Analyst
Office of the Executive Secretariat

Enclosures