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NEWS RELEASE: U.S. Department of Education Extends Clery Act Deadlines

July 10, 2020

Today, the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Postsecondary Education published an [Electronic Announcement](#) offering flexibility with the deadline to distribute the Annual Security Report (ASR) and Annual Fire Safety Report (AFSR) to current students and employees.

In compliance with 34 C.F.R. 668.41(e)(1), an institution of higher education is required to distribute its Annual Security Report (and, if required to publish one, an Annual Fire Safety Report) to current students and employees by October 1 each year. However, due to the ongoing effects of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the Department has granted institutions flexibility with meeting the deadline for the 2020 reports. As stated in the announcement, "The Department is extending the date for institutions to distribute their Annual Security Reports (ASRs) and Annual Fire Safety Reports (AFSRs) to required recipients to **December 31, 2020**. We encourage institutions to distribute their reports on the normal schedule if possible."

Additionally, the Department has also extended the deadline to submit crime and fire statistics to ED via the Campus Safety and Security Survey in accordance with 34 C.F.R. 668.41(e)(5). Typically, the data collection survey opens in mid-August and remains open for 8 weeks until the survey closes in mid-October (usually about 2 weeks after the October 1 deadline). However, as indicated in today's announcement, "the annual crime and fire statistics survey will now be open from November 18, 2020 through **January 14, 2021**."

The Department also noted in the announcement that "The Department encourages schools to take appropriate steps to ensure the health and safety of their students and employees, to continue to act in accordance with their campus safety policies and procedures, and to advise the campus community about changing conditions that may affect their safety or any major changes to safety policies or practices."

About NACCOP

The National Association of Clery Compliance Officers and Professionals (NACCOP) provides a professional association for Clery Compliance Officers and Professionals to collaborate with each other, share resources and best practices. Members are also offered opportunities to participate in professional development engagements which support colleges and universities in their efforts to comply with the Clery Act. NACCOP delivers members with resources to enhance their knowledge of the Clery Act by offering education and training opportunities for the employees who are acting as Clery Compliance Officers on college and university campuses as well as information about Clery related news and legislative updates.

For more information, or to join NACCOP, visit www.naccop.org.

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