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I implore Congress to provide a one year extension on the implementation of FVT/GE, moving the initial reporting deadline to July 2025 (from the current extension from July 2024 to October 2024). It's no secret the current FAFSA rollout has been fraught with errors and problems that have required a significant amount of time and attention to try and manage on our campuses. Our resources are stretched thin. ED's 400-hour burden estimate for institutions to develop and test the reporting system only reinforces the significant amount of work institutions must complete over the next 15 weeks to meet the October 1 reporting deadline. Doing that, while trying to manage the FAFSA challenges, is a big "ask" for financial aid offices who have been working hours above and beyond what is normally required for our jobs trying to help students and parents navigate the current FAFSA fiasco.

I also have concern over ED's ability to manage FVT/GE on their side. Where is the benefit of having us report to a system that doesn't work. ED's resources have been dedicated towards trying to fix the FAFSA problems, leaving little to ensure FVT/GE is up and running smoothly. The last thing our industry needs now is another system debacle at ED. We are 3½ months from the October 2024 reporting deadline and only received 2 of 6 volumes of the NSLDS FVT/GE User Guide released. That's not a good sign that ED is ready, and it certainly creates problems for schools.

Extending FVT/GE by one year gives everyone time to ensure the system is up and running correctly...functioning. It also allows aid offices to continue working with our current students in getting them through the FAFSA issues we are facing today. The fallout of this will not be over by the October reporting deadline, and we need all the time we can get to serve students negatively impacted by these issues.