



# Fact Sheet

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION & THE WORKFORCE DEMOCRATS

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The Hon. Bobby Scott • Ranking Member

## **H.R. 5528 – Simplifying the Application for Student Aid Act**

H.R. 5528 makes permanent an Executive Action taken last year by President Obama that allows income from the previous year's tax return to be used to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

### **Under the Simplifying the Application for Student Aid Act:**

- Students and parents will be able to apply for financial aid when filling out college applications without worrying that they have not filed the current year's tax returns used to complete the FAFSA. Prior to this change, some families could not fill out the FAFSA on time, which delayed the receipt of critical financial aid for students.
- This important change will make process of applying to college simpler for millions of students and their parents. As students start filling out the FAFSA during the college application process and learning about their federal student aid eligibility, they will be able to make more informed decisions about where to pursue their college education.
- FAFSA access will be expanded through the creation of a mobile app. The bill will require the Department to study the provision of the FAFSA in additional languages, to simplify the process for non-native English speakers.