

# EducationQuest Foundation

## Special Bulletin

*Important information about Department of Education PIN changes, the Guidance Counselor Enrichment Scholarship and Countdown to College in Spanish*

January 7, 2005

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### Department of Education announces PIN changes

The Department of Education has announced two significant changes in its Personal Identification Number (PIN) process.

The changes include the implementation of a **PIN Terms and Conditions Activation Agreement** and a **Challenge Question and Response**, both effective December 26. The changes affect current PIN holders and those who apply for a PIN.

#### **PIN Terms and Conditions Activation Agreement**

This agreement explains the importance of keeping the PIN in a safe place and not sharing the PIN with anyone. PIN users and applicants are required to agree with the terms and conditions before they can continue using their PIN or submit their PIN application.

#### **Challenge Question and Response**

To increase the security of the PIN, current PIN users and applicants must select and answer a challenge question. They may choose from a selection of nine predefined questions such as "What is the name of your elementary school?"

For further details about these PIN changes, see the [Department of Education announcement \(PDF\)](#).

## February 2005

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### It's FAFSA Time!

If you're a college-bound senior, it's time to complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The process can go smoothly if you're prepared and know where to get help.

EducationQuest Foundation, with college planning offices in Kearney, Lincoln and Omaha, will help you complete the FAFSA for free. Their offices are open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am - 5:00 pm. During February, they're also open Saturdays from 9:00 am - noon. To make an appointment, call:

- Kearney - 308-234-6310 or 800-666-3721
- Lincoln - 402-475-5222 or 800-303-3745
- Omaha - 402-391-4033 or 888-357-6300

To complete and file the FAFSA on your own, visit [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). Call an EducationQuest location if you need assistance over the phone.

Follow these tips to prepare for FAFSA time:

- **Apply for a Department of Education PIN** (Personal Identification Number) for you and your parent at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov). It will serve as your electronic signature when you file the FAFSA electronically.
  - **Apply for admission before you complete the FAFSA**. Colleges only send award letters to students they have accepted for admission.
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