In May 2021, ED announced that institutions may use FAFSA information to help identify and communicate to students their possible eligibility for certain government programs created during the COVID-19 pandemic. The programs include the Emergency Broadband Benefit program run by the Federal Communication Commission, the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program, run by the Department of Labor, and a program which created a special enrollment period for uninsured or under-insured Americans to seek insurance through the Marketplace, run by the Department of Health and Human Services. While these are not direct disclosures of FAFSA data, and therefore not included in the flow chart, schools are permitted to use FAFSA data to conduct direct outreach to students about these programs.

*Question updated after passage of Department of Defense and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2019