

Yes, it is the law.

Males must register for Selective Service, but presently there is no draft. This is not new. Males register at 18 and, I believe it is the case that if they fill out a FAFSA, they are registering themselves at the same time. For those not going to college or not filling out a FAFSA, they register through the govt. website.

<https://www.sss.gov/>

INSTRUCTIONS: For men, age 18 through 25, to register online requires a valid social security number in our system. If you cannot register online because there is an error with your social security number, or you are an immigrant male, use the fillable registration form to complete, print, sign and date, and mail.

To amplify Lora's response, the law says the all males must register with Selective Service within 30 days of their 18th birthday, even though there has been no draft in this country since 1973. In other words, there is a 60-day window from 30 days before their 18th birthday until 30 days after their birthday. The Selective Service website that explains this is here: <https://www.sss.gov/Registration/Why-Register>.

However, late registrations are accepted up until a man's 26th birthday. Therefore, in practice late registration will not interrupt federal financial aid until the male student reaches the age of 26, after which financial aid administrators will not be able to process the request for federal aid.

As for our responsibility, we should be knowledgeable of the Selective Service law, as should all citizens of the United States, and mention it to our male students and their parents. But there is no reason to push the panic button, or manage a student's Selective Service registration timetable (unless he is approaching 26), because in the end it is the individual's decision when to register and outside of our counseling responsibilities.

I wanted to share information about registering for the Selective Service. At the attached link, it names states that have passed legislation starting around the year 2000 to connect driver's licenses with optional or automatic links to Selective Service registration to increase compliance. Also, to verify registration for the Selective Service, males may type in their last name and social security number on this website. Many students may have registered when they received their learner's permit or driver's license.

<https://www.sss.gov/Registration/State-Commonwealth-Legislation>

North Carolina: A state legislation was signed into law on October 17, 2002, by Gov. Michael Easley, which states a person under the age of 26, who is required to be registered with Selective Service under federal law and who applies for a state driver's license or renewal, permit, or state I.D. card, is automatically registered with the Selective Service System. This law became effective on April 1, 2003. The start date when Selective Service began receiving electronic data transmissions from these applications was November 3, 2003.

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