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The Next Gen AgLearn Go-Live Date Moved to Jan 22, 2018
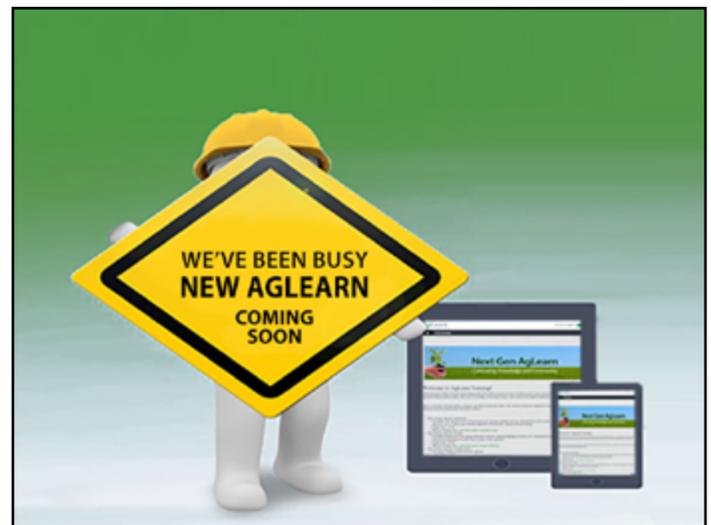
INSIDE THIS ISSUE

More Time and a Smoother Transition to the Next Gen AgLearn:

It's official, the Next Gen AgLearn system will now be available January 22, 2018. This date change will provide everyone more time to prepare for the new system. Read about what Team AgLearn continues to do to improve your learning experience.

Next Gen AgLearn Go-Live Date Moved to January 22, 2018

To ensure a seamless migration from the current legacy AgLearn to the Next Gen AgLearn system, the go-live date has been pushed back. AgLearn's main objective with moving to the Next Gen AgLearn platform is to offer a better learning environment and overall experience for all users. AgLearn Director Jerome Davin stated, "[O]ur team here at AgLearn decided it was in everyone's best interest to extend the Next Gen go-live date to January 22, 2018 to mitigate risks". Davin went on to say, "the decision was made after extensive load testing highlighted application and infrastructure changes were needed to optimize performance. However, please note that legacy AgLearn is not going away and will remain your

Next Gen AgLearn Go-Live Date Moved to January 22, 2018

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learning management system until January 5, 2018". As of January 6, AgLearn will go offline in preparation for the Next Gen AgLearn. Additional updates will be sent out later this year.

In addition to an advanced infrastructure build, the time extension will also allow for:

- Proper implementation of Totara version 10. The new version introduces new functionality, and will assist in a seamless integration of AgLearn services to all users.
- Agency leads to have a larger training window for themselves and their agency staff.
- Complete user acceptance, system, and performance testing.
- Increased communications to build awareness across USDA.
- Proper data migration into Next Gen from the current system.

AgLearn will continue to optimize the delivery of learning to all users. Thank you for your patience and assistance.

More Benefits of Next Gen AgLearn's New Go-Live Date

One critical benefit for employees is your AgLearn leads and administrations will be more capable with executing Next Gen AgLearn processes. Also, since there will now be more time to train administrators, all AgLearn administrators will be better prepared to:

1. Manage Individual Development Plans (IDPs).
2. Establish the SF-182 training request forms.
3. Run various status reports.

More time will also allow Team AgLearn to extensively test all functionality through User Acceptance Testing (UAT) scripts created to assist with Next Gen testing. Agency volunteers will also assist in running through these scripts. This step is vital to ensuring all functionality in the new system operates properly. The new date also allows for more feedback from this testing group. This will ensure that AgLearn is functioning flawlessly on day one of go-live.

FALL 2017

AgLearn's Karen Simpson Sits on a Panel at the DOT Cyber Security Symposium

Team AgLearn is proud to announce that Karen Simpson was selected to sit on a panel at the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Cybersecurity Symposium. Karen Simpson was one of sixteen panelists including DOT's Deputy Chief Information Security Officer and the Chief Information Security Officer, speakers from Cisco, OPM, and the Department of the Treasury. Simpson sat on the Cybersecurity Training and Awareness Panel and offered her expertise on cybersecurity training for feds, information security awareness training and USDA's changes to ISA for new hires and other employees, updating training programs, plans for the updates, and resources available for cybersecurity training.

The Cybersecurity Symposium was open to all Federal agencies. The agenda included training sessions and educational seminars focused on the mission to protect government networks and privacy. The topics align with the FY2018 strategic objective to advance secure and innovative information systems and technology platforms that protect against cyber threats and support efficient use of information and data for financial management.

The symposium took place from October 11-12, 2017, hosted by the Office of the DOT Chief Information Officer (CIO) and the Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) at the DOT Headquarters building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

Visit the **DOT Cybersecurity Symposium** website for more information.

Forest Service is Creating Training Videos for Next Gen

Forest Service has offered to share their expertise in designing video how-to guides with AgLearn. After viewing AgLearn's how-to videos on the functionality of the Next Gen AgLearn, Robin Bergam and Ann Marie Trezza of the Forest Service reached out to AgLearn for collaboration. Forest Service has created several training videos and have become experts on the storyboard creation and overall video best practices. AgLearn happily obliged the offer and is currently working with Robin Bergam to create more Next Gen AgLearn tutorial videos.

The first batch of training videos produced by AgLearn were more popular than expected. In addition to the online courses, the FS-created videos will offer another layer of awareness and support for Next Gen AgLearn. As the new videos are created, AgLearn will alert users of their availability. If you have not seen the first batch of videos, you can view them on YouTube.

Using Ask AgLearn Now

Viewing Your Learning

Finding Learning

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FY 2018 IT Fellows Program is Now Accepting Applications

Submit your applications for the FY 2018 IT Fellows Program by close of business **December 8, 2017**. The IT Fellows Program is composed of five classroom sessions, an intense 120-day rotational assignment, and a team action-learning project. The IT Fellows Program will assist your professional progression and leadership abilities.

Application Process

The application process is competitive and begins with the submission of a completed application. Applications for this year's program are open to all GS 12 through 15 employees. The application can be downloaded from the Files section of the USDA Connect IT Fellows website at

https://connections.usda.gov/communities/community/aglearn/ITFellows.

Submit completed applications with all required documentation to **ITFellows@ocio.usda.gov** by close of business December 8, 2017. Late applications and those that do not include all required documentation will not be considered.