

Federal Student Aid

An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

Additional COD System Changes for 2021–22 (September 2021) **Attachment to September 2021 Electronic Announcement**

This document highlights the system changes we will implement on Sept. 26, 2021.

Changes Affecting the Direct Loan and TEACH Grant Programs

The following changes will affect the COD System processing of Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant and William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) awards.

Changes to Extended Processing for Downward Adjustments and Non-Financial Changes

With this release, we will update the COD System to allow schools to submit downward adjustments and non-financial changes to Direct Loans and TEACH Grant awards without the need to request Extended Processing when the award year is past the data submission deadline (closeout deadline) or without the need to reopen an award year if they have confirmed closeout (Balance Confirmation) in an open award year (prior to the data submission deadline). Overall, the updated functionality will bring consistency to the edits related to Extended Processing for all programs.

With this change, we will not trigger COD Reject Edit 43 (Award Received Prior to Start of Processing Year or New Award or Increase or Decrease Received After the End of Processing Year Without Extended Processing) or COD Reject Edit 71 (New Disbursement, Increase, or DRI = True Received Prior To Start of Processing Year Or After End Of Processing Year Without Extended Processing) when a school submits downward adjustments or non-financial changes via batch or web.

Note: To submit new or upward adjustments to awards or disbursements, we will continue to require:

- Schools to reopen the program/award year when the school has confirmed closed out and it is prior to the established data submission deadline, or
- Authorized Extended Processing when the program/award year is past the data submission deadline.

Extended Processing Edit Refinements for the Federal Pell Grant Program

Schools can continue to submit downward disbursement adjustments and non-financial award or disbursement changes for Federal Pell Grants without requesting the award year to be reopened or obtaining an extension to the data submission deadline. Edits 43 and 71 will be refined to align editing functionality across all programs. These refinements should have minimal impact to schools when submitting data for the Federal Pell Grant Program and do not require schools to make system or software changes.