# **COD System Changes for 2023–24**

This document highlights the system changes we will implement on April 2, 2023.

# **Changes Affecting All Programs**

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

## Field Length Updates for Some Common Record Tags

Beginning April 2, 2023, we will update the allowable field length of several tags. **Important:** The structure and length of the COD XML Common Record Schema 5.0a **is not** changing, only the allowable length of specific tags that will be accepted by the COD System for the 2023–24 award year and forward: Attendance Cost, Financial Award Amount, Disbursement Amount, and Endorser Amount.

The length of the Attendance Cost tag for Pell Grants and Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants will be increased to nine characters for the 2023–24 award year and forward. The tag will continue to be eight characters for 2022–23 and prior.

Financial Award Amount, Disbursement Amount, and Endorser Amount for Direct PLUS Loans will be updated to allow a maximum amount of \$999,999.99 for the 2023–24 award year and forward. The maximum amount for these tags will continue to be limited to \$99,999.99 for 2022–23 and prior.

Several report layouts will be updated to accommodate the changes to these tags. Details are described in the section below. New layouts can also be found in the <u>2023–24 COD Technical</u> <u>Reference</u> (Volume 6). **Note:** While only the 2023–24 COD Technical Reference will be updated with the new layouts, the field length changes will apply to reports for **all** prior award years as well.

#### **Student Eligibility Code Updates**

With this release, we will update the COD System to align with new Student Eligibility Codes. This includes changes to valid values for certain Common Record tags, changes to COD System edits, and changes to several reports.

#### **Common Record Tags**

We will add, remove, or modify the valid values that can be submitted in the Student Eligibility Code tag as follows. These changes apply to the 2023–24 award year and forward.

- A new valid value of "15 Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary (CTP) Program" will be added.
- The value of "03 State Approved Process" will be reinstated. **Note:** When the "03" value is submitted in the Student Eligibility Code tag, **both** the Ability to Benefit State Code tag and the Ability to Benefit Completion Date tag will also be required to be submitted for all programs.

- The value of "11 ATB-Test Completed 1st enrolled 7/1/12 to 6/30/15" will be removed. **Note:** This value will remain available for 2022–23 and prior.
- The value of "13 ATB-College Credits 1st enrolled 7/1/12 to 6/30/15" will be removed. **Note:** This value will remain available for 2022–23 and prior.
- The value of "12 ATB-Test Completed 1st enrolled 7/1/15 or after" will be modified to be "12 ATB-Test Completed 1st enrolled 7/1/12 or after".
- The value of "14 ATB-College Credits 1st enrolled 7/1/15 or after" will be modified to be "14 ATB-College Credits 1st enrolled 7/1/12 or after".

In addition, we will add a new value to the Ability to Benefit Test Code tag. Schools will be able to submit a value of "13 – Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Assessment" for applicable students. If "13" is used, the Ability to Benefit Completion Date tag must also be submitted with a date within the valid date range of 6/26/2020 to Present.

## **COD System Edits**

We will modify several COD System edits to align with the Student Eligibility Code changes. All edits will be returned at the award level.

- Reject Edit 195 (Missing Ability to Benefit State Code or Ability to Benefit Completion Date) This edit will be triggered if a school submits a Student Eligibility Code value of "03" but one or both required tags is not included with the submission.
- Reject Edit 196 (Invalid Completion Date for the Submitted Student Eligibility Code) This edit will be returned if the Ability to Benefit Complete Date tag is submitted with an invalid value.
- Reject Edit 197 (Missing Ability to Benefit Test Administrator Code, and/or Ability to Benefit
  Test Code, and/or Ability Benefit Completion Date) This edit will be triggered if a school
  submits a Student Eligibility Code value of "01" or "12" but the school does not include any of
  the additional required tags.
- Reject Edit 198 (Incorrect Student Eligibility Code submitted) This edit will be triggered if the Student Eligibility Code is submitted for an award year in which the code is not valid. It will also be triggered when additional tags are submitted but they are invalid based on the submitted Student Eligibility Code value.
- Warning Edit 199 (HS Diploma or Equivalent Field on corresponding CPS transaction does not match Student Eligibility Code submitted) – This warning will be triggered if the Student Eligibility Code value submitted on the award does not match the HS Diploma of Equivalent field on the CPS record.
- Reject Edit 996 (Invalid Value) This edit will be triggered if the Student Eligibility Code does not contain a valid value. It will also be triggered if the Ability to Benefit State Code is submitted (when required) with an invalid state code.

Detailed business rules for the Student Eligibility Codes and the related tags and edits are found in the 2023–24 COD Technical Reference.

#### **COD System Reports**

COD System report changes are described in the section below.

## **Changes Affecting the Direct Loan Program**

The following changes will affect COD System processing of Direct Loans.

### Annual Student Loan Acknowledgment - No COD System Updates

Borrower completion of the Annual Student Loan Acknowledgment prior to disbursement is not required for the 2023–24 award year and beyond. All processing related to the Annual Student Loan Acknowledgment will continue under existing business rules. **Note:** After April 2, 2023, Annual Student Loan Acknowledgment responses (message class: CRIB) will default to the 2023–24 award year.

# Changes Impacting the Pell Grant and Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant Programs

The following changes will affect COD System processing of Pell Grant and/or Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant awards.

## Pell Grant Payment and Disbursement Schedules for the 2023-24 Award Year

<u>Dear Colleague Letter GEN-23-02</u> provides the payment and disbursement schedules for determining Pell Grant awards for the 2023–24 Award Year for full-time, three-quarter-time, half-time, and less-than-half-time students. All 2023–24 Pell Grant awards must be based on the schedules attached to GEN-23-02.

We will implement the 2023–24 Pell Grant payment and disbursement schedules in the COD System during this release. **Important:** The COD System will implement the 2023–24 Pell Grant payment and disbursement schedules **before** the CPS reprocessing for certain applicants (those with an EFC greater than 6206 and less than or equal to 6656). As a result, for students who are **newly** Pell-eligible based on the CPS reprocessing, **schools must wait until after the April 25 CPS reprocessing to send these Pell Grant origination records to the COD System**; this will ensure schools can use the new, Pell-eligible CPS transaction number for the reprocessed records. If a school submits the Pell Grant record with an ineligible CPS transaction number before the April 25 CPS reprocessing, it will be rejected.

**Note for EDExpress Users:** EDExpress for Windows 2023–24, Release 2.0, scheduled for release in April 2023, will add Pell Grant functionality for the 2023–24 award year. We will communicate EDExpress Release 2.0 information through forthcoming electronic announcements.

## **Changes to COD System Reports**

Several COD System report layouts will be updated to accommodate the related program changes listed above. A high-level summary of the layout changes is listed in the table below. Schools or software vendors should adjust import file formats as needed in accordance with these updates. Additional details are in the 2023–24 COD Technical Reference.

The March month-end School Account Statement (SAS) will be run on April 1, 2023 (before the system implementation) and will be distributed to schools in the existing file layouts. The April month-end SAS is expected to run on May 6, 2023 (after the system implementation) and will be distributed to schools in the new file layouts. Pell Year-to-Date (YTD), Direct Loan Rebuild, TEACH Grant Rebuild, or Disbursement Detail on Demand files requested via the COD System's New Report Requests page **after 8 a.m. Eastern time on Friday, March 31, 2023**, will be provided in the **new** formats.

**Note:** The field length changes will impact reports for **all** award years. The Student Eligibility Code (and related field) changes will be for 2023–24 award year and forward.

Report	Field Length Changes	Student Eligibility Code (and related field) Changes
Pell YTD	Attendance Cost field will increase to nine digits (inclusive of decimal).	03 and 15 will be added. 11 and 13 will be removed.
		12 and 14 will be updated.
		Ability to Benefit Test Code field: 13 will be added.
Direct Loan Rebuild	Financial Award Amount, Disbursement Amount, Disbursement Net Amount, and Total Net Booked Loan Amount fields will increase to six digits (with no decimal).	03 and 15 will be added.
		11 and 13 will be removed.
		12 and 14 will be updated.
		Ability to Benefit Test Code field: 13 will be added.
TEACH Grant Rebuild	Not Applicable	03 and 15 will be added.
		11 and 13 will be removed.
		12 and 14 will be updated.
		Ability to Benefit Test Code field: 13 will be added.

Report	Field Length Changes	Student Eligibility Code (and related field) Changes
Direct Loan School Account Statement (SAS)	Loan Detail, Loan Level Section:	Not Applicable
	Actual Gross Amount and Actual Net Amount fields will increase to six digits (with no decimal).	
	Loan Detail, Disbursement Level Section:	
	Disbursement Actual Gross Amount, Disbursement Actual Net Amount, Total Gross Amount, and Total Net Amount fields will increase to six digits (with no decimal).	
	Disbursement Actual Net Adjustment Amount field will increase to seven digits (with no decimal).	
	For Fixed Length formats, the field length updates will impact field positions in subsequent fields, but the Total Record Length will remain unchanged.	
	<b>Note:</b> EDExpress and Direct Loan (DL) Tools will be updated to accommodate the changes to fixed-length file formats as follows:	
	EDExpress for Windows 2023–24: In late April 2023, DL Tools functionality will be combined into the EDExpress software. This will support updated SAS file formats.	
	• DL Tools 22.0 (2020–21 through 2022–23 award years): A new release is coming soon to support updated SAS file formats.	
	Archived software for older years: A     File Converter tool will be provided that     will convert the new formats for import     into older DL Tools software.	
	More information about these software changes will be provided soon.	

Report	Field Length Changes	Student Eligibility Code (and related field) Changes
Direct Loan SAS Disbursement Detail on Demand	Disbursement Actual Gross Amount, Disbursement Actual Net Amount, Total Gross Amount, and Total Net Amount fields will increase to six digits (with no decimal).  Disbursement Actual Net Adjustment Amount field will increase to seven digits (with no decimal).  For Fixed Length formats, the field length updates will impact field positions in subsequent fields, but the Total Record Length will remain unchanged.	Not Applicable