



COD Processing Update

January 24, 2014

NEWS/UPDATES

- **2013-2014 COD System Peak Processing Reminders (12/12/13)**

In January 2014, we will begin another peak processing period for the 2013-2014 Award Year.

In a [December 12, 2013 Electronic Announcement on the IFAP Web site](#), Federal Student Aid provides COD System peak processing reminders to assist schools with planning and processing.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this peak processing period.

- **COD Common Record XML Schema Version 4.0a Now Available (10/30/13)**

In Spring 2014, Federal Student Aid plans to implement Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System functionality that will support the 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 for the 2014-2015 Award Year. In conjunction with this implementation, Federal Student Aid will begin using a new version of the COD Common Record Extensible Markup Language (XML) Schema. The new schema version is 4.0a.

For complete information about the new schema version, refer to [“COD Common Record XML Schema Version 4.0a”](#) posted on the IFAP Web site.

If you have questions about the schema, contact the COD School Relations Center.

CURRENT ISSUES

DIRECT LOANS

Borrowers Receiving Incorrect Error Messages about School Participation in Online Counseling Options (01/24/14)

Federal Student Aid has determined that some borrowers may be impacted by an issue that occurs during the counseling flows completed via the StudentLoans.gov Web site. The system is incorrectly using consolidation loan information pulled from the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) to determine if a school is participating in the various

online counseling options. Because consolidation loans do not have school codes, a borrower receives an error message stating that the school is not participating in the online counseling.

Federal Student Aid is working to fix the issue as soon as possible. In the meantime, a borrower can ignore the message, add his or her school, and proceed with the counseling. The borrower's school will receive a system-generated response (type EC) with the completed counseling information.

For additional questions about this issue, contact the COD School Relations Center.



GRANTS

There are no Grant-related issues at this time.

REMINDERS

Keep School Contact Information Current in the COD System (01/24/14)

We remind schools and third party servicers that contact information in the COD System must be kept current. Contact information is extremely important for us to be able to reach the right people at the school, particularly about program-specific issues. The e-mail addresses for the President, Financial Aid Administrator, Pell Grant Financial Aid Officer, and Direct Loan Financial Aid Officer are used to deliver time-sensitive materials and critical COD processing information to the school.

Having current contact information for the Pell Grant Financial Aid Officer and Direct Loan Financial Aid Officer is most critical for a school that is an additional location to a main campus. The information allows us to contact those officers directly at the additional location rather than needing to contact the main campus.

For more information on updating School Contact Information, please refer to [the December 20, 2012 Electronic Announcement posted on the Information for Financial Aid Professionals \(IFAP\) Web site.](#)