



COD Processing Update

April 17th, 2015

NEWS/UPDATES

- **2014-2015 Verification Status Code “W” Warning Message (4/9/15)**

On April 7, 2015, Federal Student Aid began processing a text message (PGTX15OP) as well as a Reconciliation Report (PGRC15OP) to schools that have one or more Federal Pell Grant (Pell Grant) student records still reported with a verification status code of “W”. The message is a warning that disbursements to all students with a verification status code of “W” will be considered overawards and reduced to a zero dollar amount (\$0.00), even though the disbursements were previously accepted in the COD System. The reduction of the affected disbursements is scheduled to occur on April 21, 2015.

Note Regarding Verification Deadline:

Some of the student records included in the Reconciliation Report may be for students who are still within the allowable timeframe for submitting verification documentation/completing the verification process by the deadlines specified in the “Deadline Dates for Reports and Other Records for the 2014-2015 Award Year” published in the Federal Register on July 11, 2014. The [July 11, 2014 notice](#) is also posted on the IFAP Web site.

Following the April 21, 2015 reduction, if a school needs additional time to complete verification for an individual student in accordance with the allowable timeframe in the Federal Register notice, the school may resubmit a disbursement record with a value greater than zero (\$0.00) until October 1, 2015. After October 1, 2015, the COD System will no longer accept “W” as a valid verification status code for 2014-2015 Pell Grant awards.

For complete information, refer to the [April 8, 2015 Electronic Announcement](#) that is posted on the IFAP Web site. If you have questions about the warning message or about reporting verification status codes to the COD System, contact the COD School Relations Center.

- **G5 Web Site Outage April 29-May 4, 2015 (4/2/15)**

During the period of April 29-May 4, 2015, the Department of Education (the Department) will perform extended system maintenance to its core financial systems, including G5. Please review the following information to determine how processing at your school will be affected.

G5 Web Site Outage - From 9:00 P.M. (ET) on Wednesday, April 29, 2015 through 6:00 A.M. (ET) on Monday, May 4, 2015, the [G5 Web site](#) will not be available. Schools will not be able to draw down funds during this period.

Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System Processing - From 9:00 P.M. Wednesday, April 29, 2015 through 6:00 A.M. (ET) on Monday, May 4, 2015, the COD System will accept Pell Grant, TEACH Grant, Direct Loan, and Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant records. However, after 2:00 P.M. (ET) on Wednesday,



April 29, 2015, CFL changes (as a result of actual disbursements) and funding will not be processed by G5 until May 4, 2015.

For complete information, refer to an [April 2, 2015 Electronic Announcement](#) posted on the IFAP Web site.

- **Temporary Change to COD Reject Edit 147 December 2014 - March 2015 [(12/23/14) Updated 3/27/15]**

In December 2014, Federal Student Aid implemented changes to the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System, including revised functionality for COD Reject Edit 147 (Identifier inconsistency for PLUS Award for Graduate/Professional Student). However, the change to COD Reject Edit 147 was temporarily suspended to allow schools additional time to make the appropriate system updates.

As noted in a [March 20, 2015 electronic announcement](#) posted to the IFAP Web site, Federal Student Aid will reinstate the modifications to COD Reject Edit 147 and will require the identifier change tags in both the student block and the borrower block of the Common Record.

For complete details about the change, refer to the announcement. If you have additional questions about the change, contact the COD School Relations Center.

- **COD Common Record XML Examples in COD Technical Reference to be updated in April 2015 (3/26/15)**

Federal Student Aid has determined that a few of the COD Common Record examples in the 2015-2016 COD Technical Reference are incorrect. These examples show some of the schema tags in the wrong order. Federal Student Aid will correct the examples with the next update of the technical reference, scheduled for late April 2015.

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

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

- **Direct PLUS Loan Changes – Operational Guidance for Schools (3/2/15)**

On February 3, 2015, Federal Student Aid posted the first in a series of announcements that will provide operational information about the changes to the Direct PLUS Loan adverse credit history provisions. In the [February 3, 2015 Electronic Announcement](#), Federal Student Aid explains early operational impacts to schools and provides preliminary information about the changes planned for the COD System implementation during the period March 27-29, 2015.

On February 27, 2015, Federal Student Aid posted two additional announcements with operational information related to the Direct PLUS Loan adverse credit history provisions. One announcement provides [information about the changes being made to the COD System and StudentLoans.gov Web site](#). The other announcement provides [information about the changes to the determination of adverse credit criteria and the duration of a credit check](#).



If you have additional questions about these announcements, contact the COD School Relations Center.

- **Processing Tips - COD System Edits 204, 205, and 206 (2/12/15)**

Federal Student Aid has identified an increased number of Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System edits triggered for Direct Loan awards, specifically COD Reject Edits 204, 205, and 206. In an [October 31, 2014 Electronic Announcement](#) posted on the IFAP Web site, Federal Student Aid provides processing tips and reminders to assist schools in researching and resolving these edits for each impacted award.

For posted guidance and resources and other frequently asked questions related to 150%, refer to the [150 Percent Direct Subsidized Loan Limit Information page](#) on the IFAP Web site. If you have 150%-related questions, submit them to 150Percent-Questions@ed.gov and include the name of your school in the subject line.

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



CURRENT ISSUES

DIRECT LOANS

There are no Direct Loan-related issues at this time.

GRANTS

There are no Grant-related issues at this time.

Keep School Contact Information Current in the COD System (4/16/15)

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.](#)