START HERE GO FURTHER FEDERAL STUDENT AID

This edition will remain on the COD Web site until a new edition is posted.
We will notify schools via a COD Web Message when a new edition has been posted.

COD Processing Update

May 24, 2012

NEWS/UPDATES

- **Interest Rebate Percentage Report for Schools Posted on COD Web Site (05/14/12)**
  On May 12, 2012, Federal Student Aid began producing an Interest Rebate Percentage Report to identify Direct PLUS Loan awards that have an award amount greater than $0.00 and an ***incorrect*** interest rebate percentage based on the earliest disbursement date. The report lists Direct PLUS Loan awards with–

  - An earliest disbursement date before July 1, 2012, and an interest rebate percentage of 0.0%
  - An earliest disbursement date on or after July 1, 2012 and an interest rebate percentage of 1.5%

  Schools can use the report to identify the Direct PLUS Loan awards that must be corrected.

  The first Interest Rebate Percentage Report was generated on May 12, 2012 and will continue to be generated weekly on Saturdays from May 19, 2012 through November 3, 2012. ***Note:*** The report will be discontinued in November because the COD System will be modified in October 2012 to systematically return a reject edit for Direct PLUS Loan awards with an incorrect interest rebate percentage. The report will have minimal data elements, but will include student SSN, award ID, award year, award amount, earliest disbursement date, and interest rebate percent.

  The Web-only report is in comma-delimited (CSV) format and available in a school's Direct Loan Reporting Newsbox on the COD Web site. It will not be sent to a school's SAIG mailbox. Using the CSV file, a school can import the data into a spreadsheet or other software tool to sort the data in whatever manner is most useful to the school.

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

CURRENT ISSUES

DIRECT LOANS

Record Length and Position Issue in the Direct Loan MPN Due to Expire Report (04/26/12)

In early April, Federal Student Aid identified an issue with the character limit for the Last Name field in the monthly Fixed-Length format of the Direct Loan MPNs Due to Expire Report (MPNEXPOP). The character limit for the data field is 16, and a last name longer than 16 characters should be truncated once the limit is reached. The truncation is not occurring as it should for last names longer than 16 characters. Instead, the additional characters are being allowed and then impacting the accuracy of the remaining data field positions in the record.

Federal Student Aid plans to implement a fix for this issue in July 2012. A school that encounters the issue may workaround it by removing the additional characters in the Last Name field and re-importing the file into its system. The school may also opt to receive the report in the Comma-Delimited or Pipe-Delimited format as opposed to the Fixed-Length format.

Federal Student Aid apologizes for the inconvenience this issue may cause schools. If you have any questions, contact the COD School Relations Center.

GRANTS

There are no Grant specific issues to report at this time.

REMINDERS

Memorial Day Federal Holiday (05/18/12)

Monday, May 28, 2012 is the Memorial Day Federal holiday.

- The COD School Relations Center will be closed.
- The COD System will accept and process data from schools and send back responses/acknowledgements, but schools will not be able to receive any Federal funds on that day. Requests for changes in funding levels and for funds will not be processed until Tuesday, May 29, 2012.

Complete information regarding processing and customer service hours for COD and other Federal Student Aid/Department of Education call centers on the holiday is posted in a May 17, 2012 Electronic Announcement at http://ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/051712MemorialHolidayDaySvcHrs.html on the Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Web site.

COD Computer-Based Training (05/24/12)

Federal Student Aid takes this opportunity to remind the community of the availability of the COD Computer-Based Training (CBT).

The COD CBT consists of component simulations and CBTs. The electronic files associated with each component, as well as information about downloading and navigating the COD CBT, are available on the Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Web site. Under the "Tools for Schools" section on the home page, click on COD Computer-Based Training.

Sending Addresses for U.S. Territories and Foreign Countries on the Common Record or the COD Web site (05/24/12)

When submitting student or borrower addresses or address changes to the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System, it is important that the correct tags are used, particularly when the student or borrower address is located in a U.S. Territory or Foreign Country. If these addresses are not submitted correctly, important correspondence from the COD System and the federal loan servicers is delayed or not received.

- When a student or borrower address is located in a U.S. Territory it is considered a domestic address. Do not submit a Country Code.
- When a student or borrower address is located in a Foreign Country, it is treated as a foreign address.

See below for the correct procedures for submitting U.S. Territories and Foreign Country addresses via the Common Record batch submission or COD Web site.

Submitting Addresses for U.S. Territories and Foreign Countries via the Common Record

When creating or updating a person record via the Common Record batch submission, a school should send the address block with the following tags:

Schema Version	*Included* Tags for Domestic Address, including U.S. Territories	*Excluded* Tags for Domestic Address, including U.S. Territories	Included Tags for Foreign Addresses
3.0c or 3.0d	<AddressLine> <City> <StateProvinceCode> <PostalCode>	<StateProvince> <CountryCode>	<AddressLine> <City> <StateProvince> (Optional) <PostalCode> (Optional) <CountryCode>

Submitting Addresses for U.S. Territories and Foreign Countries via the COD Web site

When creating or updating a person record on the COD Web site, a school should select the U.S. Territory from the dropdown box in the State/Province field. A school should select the Country field as "Blank".

A complete list of State Codes (including U.S. Territories), Jurisdictions, and Country Codes are provided in Volume VI, Section 4 of the 2010-2011 COD Technical Reference. If you have questions about this information, contact the COD School Relations Center.