Common Origination and Disbursement

COD Processing Update
For Pell Grants

August 20, 2004

Pell Grants

COD News

Second 2003-2004 Verification Status Code "W" Warning Message (8/20/04)
Schools that have made an interim Pell Grant disbursement to a student selected for verification should be concluding verification activities and changing a student's verification status code from "W" to either "V", "S", or "Blank", as appropriate. On August 20, 2004, COD will begin processing a message to schools that have one or more student records still reported with a verification status code of "W". The message is a warning that these disbursements will be considered overawards and reduced to a zero dollar amount ($0.00), even if the disbursements were previously accepted in the COD System. The reduction of the affected disbursements is scheduled to occur on September 11, 2004.

Within the next week, COD will send the warning message to schools' SAIG mailboxes in the message class PGTX04OP. Additionally, COD will send a file of student records reported to COD with a verification status code of "W" in the Reconciliation Report message class PGRC04OP. Schools that receive the warning message should review the accompanying Reconciliation Report and submit appropriate changes to the verification status codes for affected students before September 11, 2004.

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

2004-2005 COD Technical Reference August Update And 2005-2006 Draft COD Technical Reference August Release Now Available (8/20/04)
COD would like to announce that the 2004-2005 COD Technical Reference August Update is available on IFAP at
http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0819CODTechRef0405Update.html/.

The 2005-2006 draft COD Technical Reference August Release is available on IFAP at
http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0817CODTechRefDraft0506.html/.

If you have any questions regarding information contained in these documents, please contact the COD School Relations Center.

Pending Disbursements Not Displaying On The COD Web Site On August 19, 2004 (8/20/04)
On August 19, 2004, schools reported not being able to view pending disbursements on the COD web site. As of today, August 20, 2004, schools are able to view pending disbursements on the COD web site. We sincerely apologize to all COD web site users for the inconvenience caused by this issue. If you experience this issue in the future, contact the COD School Relations Center.

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Intermittent COD Web Site Connectivity Issues on August 18, 2004 (08/19/04)
On August 18, 2004, COD web site users were intermittently unable to connect to the web site due to a hardware problem at the COD data center. We sincerely apologize to all COD web site users for the inconvenience caused by the unavailability of the web site. We have resolved the hardware problem and do not anticipate further connectivity issues at this time.

We will continue to post Web Messages and COD Processing Update items when we know in advance of COD web site issues. However, we appreciate your understanding when the occurrence of a problem does not allow us to provide you with advance notice.

Navigation Bar Intermittently Not Displaying On The COD Web Site [08/12/04 (Updated 8/19/04)]
COD has resolved the issue that caused the navigation bar to intermittently not display on the COD web site and does not anticipate further issues at this time. We sincerely apologize to all COD web site users for the inconvenience caused by this issue.

Pending Disbursement List Available On The COD Web Site (08/18/04)
The Pending Disbursement List is available on the COD web site for all appropriate award years. Schools can access this report by logging into the COD web site and clicking on the Services tab located on the upper blue menu bar.

Submitting E-mails To The COD School Relations Center (08/18/04)
To help the COD School Relations Center route your e-mail inquires quickly, please make sure you use the CODSupport@acs-inc.com e-mail address. Include the name of your school or organization and it's OPE ID in the subject line and include your name and phone number. Providing this additional information will ensure that your e-mails are processed without delays.

Pell POP Report Released To Schools' SAIG Mailboxes (08/17/04)
On August 11, 2004, COD released the functionality to push Pell POP reports (Message Class PGPR05OP) to schools' SAIG mailboxes. However, we continue to evaluate the functionality to push these reports to schools' COD newsboxes on the COD web site. COD will notify schools when this report is available on the web.

For information regarding the Pell POP report, refer to the 2004-2005 COD Technical Reference, Volume VIII, Section 8 at http://www.fsadownload.ed.gov/CODTechRef0405.htm.

All Schools Must Be COD Full Participants Beginning With 2005-2006 Award Year [08/02/04 (Updated 08/09/04)]
As a reminder, *all* schools must be Full Participants beginning with the 2005-2006 Award Year. This means that *all* schools must be able to submit 2005-2006 Pell and/or Direct Loan origination and disbursement data to the COD System using the COD Common Record in XML format.

Note: FSA recently informed schools in GEN-04-06 that the implementation of the Common Record: ISIR will not be implemented for the 2005-2006 Award Year. The adjustment of the

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Common Record: ISIR implementation schedule *does not* affect the requirement that *all* schools must be COD Full Participants beginning with the 2005-2006 Award Year.

Current Phase-In Participants can refer to the following sections of the 2004-2005 COD Technical Reference (http://www.ifap.ed.gov/cod/0405CODTechRefDraft.html/) for information that may be helpful in determining their Full Participant solution:
- Volume I, Section 3 provides information about XML.
- Volume II, Section 1 and Volume V, Section 1 provide information about FSA's EDExpress software that can be used to submit data to the COD System.

Updated information about Full Participant sign up for the 2005-2006 Award Year is posted on the IFAP web site at http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0806CODFullParticReq0506.html/.

Resolved

Issue With Generating The Pell Grant Reconciliation Report For 2004-2005 [07/14/04 (Updated 08/10/04)]
As previously reported, the COD System experienced an issue with generating the Pell Grant Reconciliation report for the 2004-2005 Award Year beginning July 10, 2004. As a result, schools that submitted a data request for the Pell Grant Reconciliation report via batch or the COD web site did not receive this report in their SAIG mailboxes.

On July 23, 2004, COD sent the requested reports to the appropriate schools' SAIG mailboxes. If your school has requested a Pell Reconciliation Report for 2004-2005 and has not yet received this report, contact the COD School Relations Center to report this information.

Schools Not Receiving Responses/Acknowledgements [06/15/04 (Updated 08/09/04)]
Full Participants and Phase-In Participants had previously reported to COD that they did not receive Responses/Acknowledgements for batches submitted to the COD System between June 7, 2004 and June 15, 2004. The COD development team determined the cause of this issue and implemented a code fix to prevent it going forward.

At this time, COD has sent all batches that have been brought to our attention. If you discover that you are missing a Response/Acknowledgement for a batch submitted between June 7, 2004 and June 15, 2004, you should contact the COD School Relations Center to report this information. COD will then send the Response/Acknowledgment to your school's SAIG mailbox.

Current Issues

Disbursements Not Displaying On COD Web Site [12/11/03 (Updated 08/17/04)]
COD has identified an issue where disbursements/adjustments are being processed in COD, but are not appearing on the Disbursement List screen. However, the accepted disbursements are

appearing on the Batch screen and being acknowledged correctly to schools. Also in some cases, sequence numbers for the disbursements are not appearing on the Disbursement History Information screen.

Several code fixes have been migrated to prevent this problem going forward. COD is now determining the cleanup plan for the affected records and will provide updates as more information becomes available.

In the meantime, please be patient and do not resubmit the disbursements/adjustments for processing; these transactions have already been acknowledged back to schools.

COD Edit 116 Not Working Correctly [01/06/04 (Updated 08/16/04)]
COD previously reported that COD Edit 116 (SSN, Date of Birth and/or Last Name have not been updated in the COD System) was not working properly. This edit is a warning that is returned when changes to the Student Identifier information are submitted and the reported CPS Transaction Number and Award Year combination is not greater than the combination that currently exists in COD.

Because this edit was not working correctly schools were unable to submit new 2003-2004 originations or make online changes when previous award year information is different for a student in COD. On August 10, 2004, COD implemented a code fix to prevent this issue going forward. COD is now determining the cleanup plan. In the meantime, please be patient and do not resubmit your records that previously rejected for COD Edit 116. Updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

Note: If your records were previously rejected for COD Edit 116 incorrectly and you have not already notified COD of your concern, contact the COD School Relations Center to report your affected records.

Verification Status Report Issue [07/16/04 (Updated 08/09/04)]
Since, July 3, 2004, the Verification Status Report has not been sent to schools' SAIG mailboxes. COD continues to research the cause of this issue and will provide more information as it becomes available.

Rejected Records Not Viewable On The COD Web Site (07/30/04)
Some schools are receiving an error message when attempting to view rejected records on the COD web site's Batch Detail Information screen. Clicking on the Rejected link in the Award No. column causes the following error message to display: "An unexpected error has occurred. Please contact your administrator if the problem persists."

COD is researching the cause of this issue and anticipates a resolution in August 2004. Updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

Duplicate Disbursement Information In COD [05/06/04 (Updated 07/30/04)]
COD has learned that duplicate disbursement numbers are displaying incorrectly on the COD web site's Award Disbursements Information screen. On this screen under the Disbursement

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Number column, disbursement numbers are appearing twice. However, when viewing the Disbursement Information screen, each disbursement displays a different status (Pending or Disbursed).

COD has made significant progress in analyzing the issue and anticipates a resolution in September 2004. Updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

Student Name And Date Of Birth Not Updated In COD [05/03/04 (Updated 06/30/04)]
COD notified schools of an issue where new 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 origination records are accepted in COD; however, the student's Name and Date of Birth (DOB) updates submitted by the school are not displaying on the COD web site's Person Information screen. The COD web site is reflecting the Name and DOB from the previous award year. Additionally, in some cases, changes to Name and DOB for previously accepted origination records are not displaying on the Person Information screen as well.

COD continues to research the cause of this issue and appreciates your patience. Updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

Mixed Person Records In COD [03/02/04 (Updated 05/20/04)]
As you are aware, the COD System is based on the establishment of a person record and contains person records established as early as 1999-2000. COD has discovered that primarily due to inaccurate SSNs that have entered the COD System, approximately 300 records (out of approximately 14 million person records in the COD System) have mixed with other COD records. Since PLUS borrowers are not matched with CPS, the majority of the people affected by this issue are PLUS borrowers. COD has a dedicated team working to resolve the small number of records that have been mixed. COD would like to assure you that if your data has been affected by this rare problem it is not lost in the COD System and it will be corrected.

Specifically, COD has identified two scenarios related to this issue. In the first scenario, one person appears twice within the COD System, with different awards under each profile. In the second scenario, two persons have the same SSN in the COD System with mixed profiles and awards. These problems usually occur when incorrect SSNs are submitted to COD and are compounded when the incorrect SSN matches another person's correct SSN.

COD continues to work on further detailed instructions that will assist you in avoiding these scenarios and, if necessary, in correcting them. If you have any questions, please contact the COD School Relations Center.

COD Web Site Response Time [03/19/04 (Updated 04/22/04)]
COD has learned that COD web site users are experiencing poor response time and receiving log errors when performing searches between the hours of approximately 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM eastern time.

COD has identified several potential causes of the issue and is in the process of evaluating the causes. COD ask users to continue to be patient. In the meantime, please continue to e-mail

screen shots of any error messages received while performing a search to the COD School Relations Center at CODSupport@acs-inc.com.