

Additional COD System Changes – October 2017 Attachment to October 2017 Electronic Announcement

This document highlights the processing function enhancements and modifications we will implement during the October 13-15, 2017 period. We cover the information in the following order:

- Changes Impacting All Programs
- Changes Impacting the Direct Loan Program
- Changes Impacting the Pell Grant Program
- Changes Impacting the StudentLoans.gov Website

Changes Impacting All Programs

The following changes will impact 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.

COD System Changes to School Reports

Beginning October 15, 2017, the COD Reporting database platform will be upgraded (the current platform will soon be obsolete). We will also make changes to the format and delivery of some of the reports. Several reports will be retired completely.

Note for EDEXpress Users: EDEXpress users will be impacted by some of the changes to the reports. Specifically, preformatted versions of all reports (except the COD School Monitoring Report) will be retired. As a result, EDEXpress will no longer import preformatted reports. In addition, EDEXpress will not be updated to import the new comma separated value (CSV) version of the preformatted reports. However, EDEXpress will continue to import reports that are currently available in CSV format or fixed-length format.

For more information on the COD System changes to School Reports, refer to the [July 25, 2017 Electronic Announcement](#) (updated September 28, 2017) posted on the Information for Financial Aid Professional (IFAP) website. **Note:** Following the posting of the July 2017 announcement, we have determined that a few reports will have layout changes that were not originally listed. The Pell Verification Status Report, the Pell Grant Pending Disbursement List, and the TEACH Grant Pending Disbursement List will have revised layouts for both the Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG) and Web versions. We have updated the July 2017 announcement to reflect the new information. The revised layouts for these reports will be available with the next update of the COD Technical Reference planned for November 2017.

COD Web Site - Updated School Yearly Totals Page

Beginning October 15, 2017, the “School Yearly Totals” page located within the School tab on the COD Web Site will be updated to include a new column of “Total Net Disbursed.” For the Direct Loan program, the field will be populated with the total net amount of all funded Direct Loan disbursements at the school for the selected award year. There will be separate rows for each loan type and a summary line for all loans: “Total Direct Loan Awards,” “Total Subsidized,” “Total Unsubsidized,” and “Total Plus.”

Note: Because net disbursement amounts are not applicable for the Pell Grant and TEACH Grant programs, the Total Net Disbursed fields for these programs will display as N/A.

Changes Impacting the Direct Loan Program

The following changes will impact the COD System processing of Direct Subsidized Loan, Direct Unsubsidized Loan, and Direct PLUS Loan awards.

Enhanced Endorser Addendum Processing Functionality

We will make changes to the Endorser Addendum processing and provide schools additional information in system-generated responses,

Currently, schools receive system-generated responses (CRCS) regarding the status of an Endorser Addendum when 1) an approved endorser is linked to a Direct PLUS Loan award or request or 2) if a paper endorser addendum was submitted and the endorser is not approved. In addition to responses, when a Direct PLUS Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN) links to an endorsed Direct PLUS Loan award, the COD System inactivates all pending and active Direct PLUS Loan MPN records when the borrower information matches what is found on the linked Endorser Addendum.

Beginning October 15, 2017, we will also send a CRCS to schools when 1) an approved endorser is **not** linked to a Direct PLUS Loan award or request and 2) for both paper and electronic Endorser Addenda when the endorser is not approved. In addition, for the CRCS response, we will begin to return COD Warning Edit 183 when a Direct PLUS Loan award is accepted with a valid endorser. If the award amount of the Direct PLUS Loan award is less than or equal to the endorsed amount, we will also return COD Warning Edit 184 in the CRCS response. Finally, the COD System will inactivate all pending and active Direct PLUS Loan MPNs for a borrower when both the borrower **and** student information matches what is found on the linked Endorser Addendum.

Changes Impacting the Pell Grant Program

The following changes will impact the COD System processing of Pell Grant awards.

Pell Grant LEU Closed School Restoration Adjustments - Adjustment History Information added to COD Web Site

We will enhance the Pell Grant LEU History Page information to include additional adjustment history information in cases where a student's Closed School Restoration adjustment was subsequently changed or changed multiple times. In the Pell LEU Adjustments section, we will add a new "reverse arrow" icon to the Adjustment Number column if that specific Closed School Restoration adjustment has additional information. When the "LEU Adjustment Details" pop-up box opens, it will show the most current Closed School Restoration adjustment information pertaining to that specific award from that closed school, as well as an "Adjustment History" section. This section will show any previous Closed School Restoration adjustments made to the LEU in descending date order.

Implementation of 150% of Scheduled Federal Pell Grant Award (Year-Round Pell Grant)

Beginning October 15, 2017, the COD System will be modified to allow a student to receive Pell Grant funds up to 150 percent of the student's Scheduled Federal Pell Grant (SFPG) for an award year. The additional funds are only available if the student is enrolled at least half-time in the payment period(s) for which the student receives additional Pell Grant funds in excess of 100 percent of the student's SFPG. Schools will report this information through the use of the Additional Eligibility Indicator (AEI) and will be effective for the 2017-2018 Award Year and forward.

Note: This provision also applies to Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants.

Additional Eligibility Indicator

The <Additional Eligibility Indicator> (AEI) is an existing, but inactive, tag in the COD XML Common Record within the Pell Grant Award block. Beginning October 15, 2017, the COD System will be modified to use the AEI tag to allow additional eligibility for Pell Grant awards in the 2017-2018 Award Year and forward. This allows a student with a Pell Grant award with an AEI equal to 'true' to have a Total Eligibility Used (TEU) up to 150%. The AEI tag is award specific, but an AEI tag of 'true' at one school will increase the maximum amount the COD System edits across all schools in an award year.

The AEI is an optional data element; however, a school must submit the AEI set to 'true' in order to indicate that a Pell Grant-eligible student will be disbursed more than 100 percent of the student's SFPG. The AEI set to 'true' will allow the Pell Grant Award Amount for the eligible student to be up to 150 percent of his or her SFPG across all schools for that award year.

If a school submits the AEI set to 'false' or does not submit the AEI tag in the Common Record, the Pell Grant Award Amount for the eligible student will be limited to 100 percent of the SFPG.

The COD System will store the AEI at the Award level. In addition, the COD System will continue to calculate the Eligibility Used (EU) and TEU regardless of the AEI value. The EU and TEU will be allowed to be greater than 100 percent when the award has an AEI of 'true'.

Note for EDEExpress Users: An update to EDEExpress for Windows 2017-2018, scheduled for release in October 2017, will allow processing of the Additional Eligibility Indicator under the new provision. We will communicate EDEExpress release information through a forthcoming Electronic Announcement on the IFAP website.

AEI and Pell Grant Potential Overaward Project

The COD System will evaluate a student's Pell Grant awards for Potential Overaward Project (POP) status for the 2017-2018 Award Year and forward, regardless of the value of the AEI (true or false). However, the limit for the total amount disbursed across schools will be different depending on the value of the AEI.

- If a student has a Pell Grant award with an AEI set to "false", or not submitted, the TEU may not be greater than 100 percent.*
- If a student has a Pell Grant award with an AEI set to "true," the TEU may be greater than 100 percent, but not greater than 150 percent.*

**If the student has received a Closed School LEU Restoration adjustment(s) for the award year, the absolute value of the sum of those adjustments will also be added into the TEU calculation.*

If a school submits a Pell Grant disbursement that exceeds the appropriate TEU for the student, he or she will be placed in a POP status and the school will receive COD Warning Edit 68 (see edit information in the section below).

If a student has a Pell Grant award with an AEI set to 'true' that is later changed to 'false,' and the TEU is over 100 percent, and more than one school has disbursed Pell Grant funds to the student, the student will be placed in a POP status. In this case, the school will receive COD Warning Edit 175 (see edit information in the section below).

It is critical that schools monitor a student's TEU, the school's Pell POP Report, and Pell Multiple Reporting Record (MRR) carefully in order to determine if an overaward might exist.

COD System Edits for Year-Round Pell Grant

Several COD System edits will be modified for the 2017-2018 Award Year and forward.

COD Disbursement Level Warning Edit 65 (Insufficient Decrease in the Disbursement amount. Disbursement is expected for Amount of the Negative Pending) will be returned when the Pell Grant award has an "Over Paid" status and a downward disbursement adjustment has been submitted for an amount less than the Negative Pending Disbursement Amount. COD Disbursement Level Warning Edit 65 will also be returned if the AEI is "false" or not submitted and the TEU is still greater than $(100\% + |\text{Net of Closed School LEU Restoration adjustments for that award year}|)$, or if the AEI is "true" and the TEU is still greater than $(150\% + |\text{Net of Closed School LEU Restoration adjustments for that award year}|)$.

COD Disbursement Level Warning Edit 68 (Potential Overaward Project – Notice Sent Separately) will be returned when a Pell Grant disbursement amount is:

- greater than zero,
- the DRI is submitted as "true,"
- the student has an award at another school in the same award year with a total actual approved disbursement amount greater than zero, and
- the disbursement has not been rejected.

It will also be returned when the TEU is greater than $(100\% + |\text{Net of Closed School LEU Restoration adjustments for that award year}|)$, or if the AEI is "true" and the TEU is greater than $(150\% + |\text{Net of Closed School LEU Restoration adjustments for that award year}|)$.

COD Award Level Correcting/Reject Edit 172 (Incorrect Award Amount when Additional Eligibility Indicator is 'true') will be returned when a Pell Grant award is submitted with the AEI set to 'true' and the award amount is greater than 150% of the student's SFPG.

COD Award Level Correcting/Reject Edit 173 (Additional Eligibility Indicator changed to 'false' and Award Amount exceeded the maximum limit) will be returned when a Pell Grant award is submitted, **and** the AEI is changed from 'true' to 'false,' **and** the award amount is greater than the student's SFPG.

COD Award Level Warning Edit 174 (Additional Eligibility Indicator changed to 'false' and the award is now in "Overpaid" status) will be returned when the AEI is changed from 'true' to 'false' and the Pell Grant Award Amount was corrected to be less than the total of funded disbursement(s).

COD Award Level Warning Edit 175 (Additional Eligibility Indicator changed to 'false' and the Percentage of Total Eligibility Used exceeds 100% at all schools for Pell in that award year) will be returned when the AEI is changed from 'true' to 'false' and the Pell Grant Award Amount is greater than the student's SFPG across more than one school.

Note: Correcting Edit 995 and the Award Level Rejecting Edit 996 will not trigger in the 2017-2018 Award Year and forward for Pell Grant awards that are originated or maintained with an AEI equal to 'true'.

COD Web Site Changes

The COD Web Site will be modified to display the AEI field when originating or maintaining Pell Grant awards for the 2017-2018 Award Year and forward.

- On the Pell Person Information Page, we will display
 - a tilde “~” to the left of the Award Amount Approved if the award has an AEI of ‘true’
 - A changed symbol to the left of the Lifetime Eligibility Used if the figure exceeds 600%. The alert symbol is the triangle with an “!” in the center(⚠)
- On the Pell LEU History Page, we will display
 - A changed symbol to the left of the Lifetime Eligibility Used if the figure exceeds 600%. The alert symbol is the triangle with an “!” in the center(⚠)

Reports

Some Pell Grant reports already include the AEI field. Schools will begin to see the field populated with value of Y or N (or T or F) on the following reports:

- Pell Grant Multiple Reporting Record (MRR) (position 449)
- Pell Grant Reconciliation Report Record (position 97)
- Pell Grant Year-to-date Record (position 251)
- Pell POP Report (column V in new CSV format)

Changes Impacting the StudentLoans.gov Website

The following StudentLoans.gov website change will impact how users interface with the website.

Updated Direct PLUS Loan Request Form

Beginning October 15, 2017, the StudentLoans.gov website will be updated with the Direct PLUS Loan Request form to reflect the new expiration date of 09/30/2020. **Note:** There are no changes to the content of the form.