

## **Additional COD System Processing Function Enhancements and Modifications for 2011-2012**

### **Attachment to October 2011 Electronic Announcement**

In Volume I, Section 2 of the [2011-2012 COD Technical Reference](#), we provide an overview of the enhancements and modifications being made to the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System for the 2011-2012 Award Year.

The purpose of this document is to highlight the additional processing function enhancements and modifications we will implement during the October 21-22, 2011 period. For this release, all of these modifications apply to the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program. In some cases, the modifications will also impact the Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG), National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant (National SMART Grant), Federal Pell Grant (Pell Grant), and Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant programs.

If you have any questions about this document, contact the COD School Relations Center at 800/474-7268 for Grants or 800/848-0978 for Direct Loans. You may also e-mail [CODSupport@acs-inc.com](mailto:CODSupport@acs-inc.com).

### **Changes Impacting All Programs**

The following changes will impact COD System processing for all programs.

#### ***COD System Impact Related to Updates for New SSA Guidelines***

As explained in an [October 7, 2011 electronic announcement](#) posted on the Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Web site, on October 23, 2011, we will implement changes to Federal Student Aid systems to permanently address the new SSA guidelines that were effective on June 25, 2011.

Please refer to that announcement for complete details about the various impacts to all Federal Student Aid systems, including the COD System.

#### ***Two Factor Authentication for the COD Web Site***

On October 21-22, 2011, we will implement changes to the COD Web site to support use of Two Factor Authentication (TFA), a security process through which all authorized users will be required to enter two forms of “authentication” to access Federal Student Aid systems via the Internet.

- The first factor is something that an individual knows—his or her User ID and Password.
- The second factor is something that an individual has—a token that generates a One-Time Password (OTP).

Starting October 22, 2011, all users who visit the [COD Web site](#) will see links about token registration and token maintenance on both the home page and the log-in page. However, most authorized users will not need to use these links until next year and will log in as usual.

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Additional information about TFA implementation for domestic schools will be provided in a separate electronic announcement posted on the [IFAP Web site](#).

Additional information about TFA implementation for the COD Web site for foreign schools will be provided in a separate Foreign School Update posted on the [IFAP Web site](#).

#### ***New Valid Value for Ability to Benefit Test Code Field***

In the near future, we plan to add a new valid value to the Ability to Benefit Test Code field. On November 18, 2011, the COD System will accept a new code of “11” for SABE = Spanish Assessment of Basic Education. The valid date range for the completion date for this assessment is November 1, 2002 to Present. The new code will be accepted for all award types for the 2011-2012 Award Year and forward.

**Note:** This new code is currently not in the 2011-2012 COD Technical Reference. We will update the COD Technical Reference in the near future.

#### **Changes Impacting Direct Loan Program**

The following changes will impact COD System processing for the Direct Loan Program.

#### ***Eligibility Rule Change to Allow for Single Disbursement Loans***

Beginning October 22, 2011, a school with a cohort default rate of less than 15 percent for the three most recent fiscal years for which data are available can submit single disbursement loans to the COD System. As a reminder, a qualifying school may disburse a Direct Loan in a single installment when the period of enrollment is not more than one semester, one trimester, one quarter, or four months.

#### ***Direct Loan Actual Disbursement List Report***

Beginning October 22, 2011, we will generate the Direct Loan Actual Disbursement List. The Direct Loan Actual Disbursement List will provide a list of students who have actual disbursements or adjustments posted during the prior week (Saturday to Friday). If there are no new actual disbursements or adjustments submitted within the reporting period for a given school, the report will not be generated.

The report will be award year-specific and will sort data in ascending order by borrower SSN. The report will be run weekly and made available to a school via its Direct Loan newsbox of the COD Reporting Web site in CSV (comma-delimited) format. It will also be sent to a school’s Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG) mailbox (in comma-delimited format only). The message class for the report is DLADyyOP, where the “yy” equals the award year.

**Note:** The Funding Disbursement Listing report will only display for the 2010-2011 Award Year and prior.

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Detailed information about this report (including business rules, record layout, and example) is available in Volume VI, Section 8 of the [2011-2012 COD Technical Reference](#).

#### ***StudentLoans.gov Web Site Changes – Borrower Impact***

Beginning October 22, 2011, several changes will be made to the [StudentLoans.gov Web site](#). In most cases, we will clarify or supplement existing text with additional information, such as adding where a borrower can send a paper Master Promissory Note (MPN).

In addition, the [StudentLoans.gov Web site](#) will now be compatible with Internet Explorer 9 (IE9), Mozilla Firefox 4 (FF4) and Safari 5. It will no longer support IE6 and FF2.

Finally, we will make the following enhancements:

**Added Submit Button** – Several processes on the [StudentLoans.gov Web site](#) will be enhanced to include a “Submit” button within the window of the HTML version of the MPN, Endorser Addendum, or Borrower’s Rights and Responsibilities that is reviewed during each process. When a borrower completes an MPN, an Endorser Addendum, or the Entrance Counseling module, he or she will be able to “Submit” it using a button that will be added to the HTML version of those documents.

**Direct PLUS Loan Request in Spanish** – We will add a Spanish-language version of the Direct PLUS Loan Request.