Additional COD System Processing Function Enhancements and Modifications for 2013-2014
Attachment to October 2013 Electronic Announcement

This document highlights the processing function enhancements and modifications we will implement during the October 25-27, 2013 period. For this release, the enhancements and modifications impact the Direct Loan Program only.

Changes Impacting the Direct Loan Program

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

Updates to StudentLoans.gov Web Site

We will make the following changes to the counseling modules on the StudentLoans.gov Web site:

- *Addition of Spanish-Language Modules* – All counseling modules, Entrance, Exit and Financial Awareness, will be available in Spanish.

- *Addition of Information Related to 150% Direct Subsidized Loan Limit* – All counseling modules will now include information about the 150% Direct Subsidized Loan Limit.

Changes to Required Data Elements and New CPS Data-Matching for COD Web Quick Credit Checks

Beginning October 27, 2013, we will make several changes to the Quick Credit Check screen on the COD Web site and the quick credit check processing. When completing a credit check via the COD Web site, authorized users must include student identifier information in addition to borrower identifier information and school information. Student identifier information includes SSN, DOB, and Full Name (First Name and Last Name). This additional identifier information will be used to match against CPS data across all active CPS award years on file.

The COD Web Quick Credit Check Request form will be modified to include radio buttons for authorized users to indicate whether the Quick Credit Check is being performed for a graduate PLUS Loan borrower or a parent PLUS Loan borrower.

When a user indicates that the Quick Credit Check is being performed for a *parent* PLUS Loan borrower, both the student and borrower SSN and DOB will be verified against the CPS data in the COD System. The student SSN and DOB will be matched against the Current SSN and DOB fields. If a student match cannot be found in the CPS data, an error message will be displayed and the user will not be allowed to proceed with the credit check.

When the user indicates that the Quick Credit Check is for a *graduate* PLUS Loan borrower, the borrower's SSN and DOB will be verified against the Current SSN and DOB fields. If the borrower cannot be found in the CPS data as a student, an error message will be displayed and the user will not be allowed to proceed with the credit check.