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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

November 8, 2013

NEWS/UPDATES

- **Internal Revenue Service Interface Unavailable November 9-12, 2013 – Impact to StudentLoans.gov and FAFSA On the Web (11/6/13)**

  The Federal Student Aid system that interfaces with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will be unavailable from 4:00 P.M. (ET) Saturday, November 9, 2013 until 7:00 A.M. (ET) on Tuesday, November 12, 2013. During this period, actions can be completed on the StudentLoans.gov and FAFSA on the Web sites. However, if an action requires entry of federal tax information, the tax information will need to be entered manually. This work is in addition to the regular weekly maintenance that occurs each weekend.

  Federal Student Aid apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciates your understanding and patience.

- **COD Common Record XML Schema Version 4.0a Now Available (10/30/13)**

  In Spring 2014, Federal Student Aid plans to implement Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System functionality that will support the 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 for the 2014-2015 Award Year. In conjunction with this implementation, Federal Student Aid will begin using a new version of the COD Common Record Extensible Markup Language (XML) Schema. The new schema version is 4.0a.

  For complete information about the new schema version, refer to "COD Common Record XML Schema Version 4.0a" posted on the IFAP Web site.

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

- **150% Direct Subsidized Loan Limit - Tracking Teacher Certification Programs for the 2013-2014 Direct Loan Processing Year (10/28/13)**

  On October 25, 2013, Federal Student Aid posted an Electronic Announcement advising schools that offer certain types of teacher certification programs of a special reporting process that will be required for first-time borrowers enrolled in such programs during the 2013-2014 Direct Loan Processing Year.

  As explained in the Electronic Announcement, Federal Student Aid will provide technical specifications and reporting deadlines in forthcoming communications posted to the IFAP Web site. Please monitor the IFAP Web site for this guidance.

- **Operational Updates and COD System Readiness for Direct Loan Origination Fee Percent Increases (10/28/13)**

  As explained in Dear Colleague Letter (DCL) GEN-13-22 posted on the Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Web site, the origination fee for Direct Subsidized Loans, Direct Unsubsidized Loans, and Direct PLUS Loans (for both parent and graduate student borrowers) will increase as of December 1, 2013. In an October 25, 2013 Electronic Announcement, Federal Student Aid provides some operational updates and information about COD System readiness for processing Direct Loans with the new origination fees.

CURRENT ISSUES

DIRECT LOANS

There are no Direct Loan-related issues at this time.

GRANTS

There are no Grant-related issues at this time.

REMINDERS

Keep School Contact Information Current in the COD System (11/8/13)

We remind schools and third party servicers that contact information in the COD System must be kept current. Contact information is extremely important for us to be able to reach the right people at the school, particularly about program-specific issues. The e-mail addresses for the President, Financial Aid Administrator, Pell Grant Financial Aid Officer, and Direct Loan Financial Aid Officer are used to deliver time-sensitive materials and critical COD processing information to the school.

Having current contact information for the Pell Grant Financial Aid Officer and Direct Loan Financial Aid Officer is most critical for a school that is an additional location to a main campus. The information allows us to contact those officers directly at the additional location rather than needing to contact the main campus.

For more information on updating School Contact Information, please refer to the December 20, 2012 Electronic Announcement posted on the Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Web site.