



COD Processing Update

November 26, 2013

NEWS/UPDATES

- **COD Holiday Schedule For November 28, 2013 (11/25/13)**

The COD School Relations Center will be closed on Thursday, November 28, 2013 in observance of the Thanksgiving Day federal holiday. The COD System will accept and process data from schools and send back responses/acknowledgments on Thursday, November 28, 2013, but schools will not be able to receive any federal funds on that day. Requests for changes in funding levels and for funds will not be processed until Friday, November 29, 2013.

Further information regarding Thanksgiving Day processing and customer service hours for the COD School Relations Center and other Federal Student Aid/ED call centers is posted in a [November 12, 2013 Electronic Announcement](#) on the IFAP Web site.

- **2014-2015 COD Technical Reference Now Available (11/25/13)**

The [2014-2015 COD Technical Reference](#) is now available on the Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Web site. The 2014-2015 COD Technical Reference contains development information for the 2014-2015 Award Year. If you have any questions about this material, contact the COD School Relations Center.

- **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.

- **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 (11/26/13)

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.](#)