COD System Processing Function Enhancements and Modifications for 2016-2017
Attachment to February 2016 Electronic Announcement

This document highlights the processing function enhancements and modifications we will implement during the March 9-14, 2016 period. We cover the information in the following order:

- Changes Impacting All Programs

- Changes Impacting the ACG and National SMART Grant Programs

- Changes Impacting the Pell Grant Program

Note: For the past few years we have hosted an online training that described the upcoming changes and enhancements to the Common Origination and Disbursement System (COD System) for the upcoming award year. Due to the limited number of changes that will be implemented with the March 2016 release, we will not conduct a spring 2016 training. However, we will host trainings later this year (planned for June 2016 and October 2016) that will highlight the New Award Year Setup (NAYS) and provide detailed information on changes and enhancements to the COD System that will be implemented later this year. We will provide information about these sessions through forthcoming training announcements on the [Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Web site](#).

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.

Common Record Receipts

Beginning March 14, 2016, the COD System will no longer generate receipts for common record responses.

Changes Impacting the ACG and National SMART Grant Programs

The following changes will impact COD System processing of Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG) and National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant (National SMART Grant) Programs awards.

Final Closeout of ACG and National SMART Grant Data

Beginning March 14, 2016, we will archive all ACG and National SMART Grant data. This means:

- ACG and National SMART Grant references and options will be removed from **all** web pages and dropdown boxes on the COD Web site.

- ACG and National SMART Grant award and disbursement data, **including downward disbursement adjustments**, will no longer be accepted by the COD System.

- Funding increases for ACG and National SMART Grants will no longer be made. Refunds will still be accepted in G5.

- ACG and National SMART Grant reports will no longer be produced and sent to schools.

- Extended processing requests will not be granted for ACG and National SMART Grant processing.

Note: The official deadline for funds availability for the 2010-2011 Award Year for the ACG and National SMART Grant programs remains September 30, 2016, and schools will be able to request final drawdowns or refund cash until that date if necessary. ***However, after March 9, 2016, ACG and National SMART Grant data will no longer be available in the COD System, and no student level records may be updated.***

Accordingly, we encourage schools to complete all final reconciliation activities and close out these programs immediately.

Changes Impacting the Pell Grant Program

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

Pell Grant Payment and Disbursement Schedules for the 2016-2017 Award Year

Dear Colleague Letter GEN-16-01 provides the payment and disbursement schedules for determining Pell Grant awards for the 2016-2017 Award Year for full-time, three-quarter-time, half-time, and less-than-half-time students. All 2016-2017 Pell Grant awards must be based on the schedules attached to the letter.

We will implement the 2016-2017 Pell Grant payment and disbursement schedules in the COD System during this release. Schools should confirm that their software providers are ready to process 2016-2017 Pell Grant records.

Note: Please monitor the IFAP Web site for a forthcoming electronic announcement that will provide complete operational implementation information for the 2016-2017 Pell Grant payment and disbursement schedules, including details about updates to the Central Processing System (CPS). In the announcement we will provide detailed information about the upcoming reprocessing of SARs and ISIRs, scheduled for early April 2016.

Note for EDExpress Users: EDExpress for Windows 2016-2017, Release 2.0, scheduled for release in April 2016, will add Pell Grant functionality for the 2016-2017 Award Year. We will communicate EDExpress Release 2.0 information through forthcoming electronic announcements on the IFAP Web site.