Overview

Table of Contents

Preface

The *Electronic Data Exchange (EDE) Technical Reference* is designed to meet the reference needs of programmers and data processing staff who want to incorporate electronic Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and correction functionality into their institutional systems. This technical reference includes information about record layouts, required edits, printing assistance, and reject messages that are applicable for electronic FAFSA records, Institutional Student Information Records (ISIRs), electronic corrections, and signature records

The information in this technical reference can assist you in developing your own software or creating bridges between your own mainframe software systems and the EDExpress for Windows PC software. We also explain how you can create bridges between your systems and selected Web site functionality provided by Federal Student Aid for sending and receiving FAFSA data.

The remainder of this section provides the following:

- An overview of the EDExpress and EDconnect software products, which you can use in combination with (or in place of) institutional systems you develop to exchange information with Federal Student Aid's data processors

- A description of Central Processing System (CPS) input and output data files

- An overview of new and modified items in the 2012-2013 version of the *EDE Technical Reference*

Software Products

To facilitate electronic data exchange, the U.S. Department of Education (ED) provides three software products free of charge to EDE participants: EDExpress for Windows and EDconnect, which can be found on the Department of Education's Federal Student Aid Download (FSAdownload) Web site located at fsadownload.ed.gov, and TDClient, which you can request by contacting CPS/SAIG Technical Support at 800/330-5947 or CPSSAIG@ed.gov.

EDExpress for Windows

EDExpress is a financial aid management software package provided to Title IV financial aid administrators (FAAs) by ED. With EDExpress, you can manage Title IV student financial aid application data, package awards, and exchange origination and disbursement data with the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System for Direct Loans, Pell Grants, and the Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program.

FAFSA and ISIR correction entry in EDExpress uses embedded browser technology to provide an interface with the FAA Access to CPS Online Web site (faaaccess.ed.gov). You submit the data through the Web interface, and processed results are returned to your Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG) mailbox, also known as a destination point, which you can then import into EDExpress.

Using this technical reference, you can create files of FAFSA data in the same format that the FAA Access to CPS Online interface uses to send data to the CPS. Some schools and agencies choose to send the data using EDE and import resulting ISIR data into EDExpress for storage purposes and to use EDExpress data management tools and report functionality.

To enroll for access to the FAA Access to CPS Online Web site, go to the SAIG Enrollment Web site at fsawebenroll.ed.gov.

EDconnect

EDconnect is a Windows-based file transfer protocol (FTP) program that enables users to send and receive Federal Student Aid information electronically. Users collect data on their PCs or computer systems and transmit the collected data in batches over the SAIG using EDconnect. The appropriate Title IV Application System receives the data, processes the data, performs any required database cross-referencing, and returns the processed data to the user's SAIG mailbox, where it can be downloaded to the user's PC or system with EDconnect.

TDClient

TransactionDelivery Client Software (TDClient) is the software used to send and receive File Transfer Protocol (FTP) data transmissions securely over the Internet using SSL 3.0 and the Diffie-Hellman Dynamic Key Exchange algorithm. Compression software is contained within TDClient, so separate steps are not needed in your send and receive scripts. TDClient is supported under several mainframe and mid-range operating systems. A list of supported operating systems can be found in the SAIG Host Communication Guide on fsadownload.ed.gov.

EDE Input and Output Files

Input Data Files

Input data files are files that you create in your own system to submit your student FAFSA and FAFSA correction data. To be processed, these data files must match the record layouts included in the Record Layouts section of this technical reference.

Electronic FAFSA

After a student has completed and signed his or her FAFSA, a school's authorized FAA can submit it electronically by entering the data on the FAA Access to CPS Online Web site or by transmitting it to the CPS in a formatted ASCII file. The CPS transmits processed FAFSA records back to the school's mailbox as ISIRs in the IDAP13OP message class. A message class is a group of records of the same type.

The Record Layouts section of this technical reference contains the FAFSA Application Export Record Layout (EAPS13IN). Reject codes are found in the Processing Codes section. Procedures for handling rejected FAFSAs are located later in this section and in the EDE Processing section. The Printing section includes details on printing ISIRs.

Electronic Corrections

Schools can submit corrections to FAFSA data electronically by entering the data on the FAA Access to CPS Online Web site or by transmitting it to the CPS in a formatted ASCII file format.

You can find the Correction Record Layout in the Record Layouts section of this technical reference. You will submit electronic corrections in the CORR13IN message class. Valid field content specifications for the fields that you can correct are found in the Processing Codes section.

Information about adding your Federal School Code to receive electronic data, making signature corrections, and using the Correction Record Layout is located in the EDE Processing section.

Output Data Files

Output data files are the files you receive as a result of FAFSA or FAFSA correction data you submitted. You will either receive a processed ISIR data file or a record level reject data file. The ISIR file contains student records that met the layout specifications expected by the CPS and defined in the Record Layouts section. Record level reject error files include student records that could not be processed because the format or the data in the file did not match the specifications.

Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR)

The CPS generates and sends an ISIR to each school listed on the student's FAFSA, in response to the following input:

- Electronic FAFSAs or corrections submitted by your school using EDE or FAA Access to CPS Online

- Electronic FAFSAs or corrections submitted by another school using EDE or FAA Access to CPS Online

- Web FAFSAs or corrections submitted using FAFSA on the Web, Spanish FAFSA on the Web, Corrections on the Web, or Spanish Corrections on the Web

- Paper FAFSAs or corrections to a Student Aid Report (SAR)

- Post-screening transactions from the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) or the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

- System-generated transactions created by the CPS to provide updated data, such as revised match information from the Department of Defense (DOD) Match

- Federal Student Aid Information Center (FSAIC) corrections as a result of a student correction request or for issues such as a data entry error

- FAFSA data entered by FSAIC through the FAFSA on the phone application process

Each school receives one ISIR for every student who lists that school on the FAFSA. Servicers receive only one ISIR per destination point. The CPS also sends ISIRs to state agencies that elect to receive ISIRs for legal residents and for students indicating a school in that state.

The Record Layouts section of this technical reference provides the ISIR Record Description/Data Dictionary record layout. The Processing Codes section includes information on reject codes, the appropriate action to take, and the comment codes associated with the reject. Specifications for printing the ISIR are in the Printing section.

Handling Record Level Rejected Records

If the specifications in this technical reference are not followed on a particular record, an EDE Record Level Error Report File is transmitted to you and can be printed as an error report. The error layout is in the Record Layouts section.

The EDE Record Level Error Report Import Record Layout contains the student's Social Security Number (SSN), name ID, transaction number, last name, first name, the Federal School Code, the CPS Correction # (number) in error, an edit code, an error code, and a text explanation for the reason the record was rejected. Each field in error is reported in this file. If the record was rejected due to an invalid value, the CPS sends the actual value of the data received from the school. When a record has more than one field in error, the student's SSN is listed more than once in the EDE Record Level Error Report File. See the Processing Codes section for additional details about rejects.

The following is a list of message classes for reporting errors:

CORE13OP	Electronic Correction Errors
EAPR13OP	Electronic Application Errors
SIGA13OP	Signature Record Errors

What's New and Changed in the *EDE Technical Reference* for 2012-2013

Listed below are the changes to the *EDE Technical Reference*. For a complete listing of changes to the Central Processing System, including changes to database matches and system edits, refer to the *2012-2013 Summary of Changes for the Application Processing System* guide. You can find this guide on the U.S. Department of Education's Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Web site located at ifap.ed.gov, as well as the Federal Student Aid Download (FSAdownload) Web site located at fsadownload.ed.gov.

We revised the *EDE Technical Reference* for the annual rollover changes that include adding, removing, renaming, renumbering, and updating the fields' start and end positions and valid content based on changes to the ISIR.

Overview Changes

We revised the What's New and Changed in the *EDE Technical Reference* for 2012-2013 section to describe changes to the document.

EDE Processing Changes

We revised this section to include annual rollover changes.

Record Layout Changes

Each record layout includes a column called "Changes," which describes changes to that field. Below, we describe changes specific to the ISIR Record Layout only. See the Record Layouts section of the *EDE Technical Reference* for changes to other record layouts. We do not describe changes that are a result of the annual rollover process.

ISIR Record Description/Data Dictionary

The ISIR contains all information reported on the FAFSA, as well as key processing results and NSLDS financial aid history information. Changes have been made to the 2012-2013 ISIR based on data element changes on the FAFSA, at the CPS, and in NSLDS. We summarize these changes below with the ISIR field numbers enclosed in parentheses. We provide the ISIR field numbers, which are different than the FAFSA question numbers, because not all ISIR fields have corresponding FAFSA question numbers. For example, there are no corresponding FAFSA question numbers for the NSLDS data elements included in the ISIR because this data is not collected on the FAFSA.

Refer to the Processing Codes section for the 2012-2013 ISIR Cross-Reference Table, which provides a comparison of the 2012-2013 ISIR field number, start and end positions, and field values with the respective 2011-2012 ISIR field data.

Global Change

We made annual rollover changes which include adding, removing, renaming, and updating the fields and valid content based on changes to the FAFSA.

FAFSA Changes

We modified the following ISIR fields because of changes that were made to the FAFSA (the numbers in parentheses are the ISIR field numbers not the FAFSA question numbers):

- **Revised Dependency Override Valid Content (167)** – This question now has a value of "4" to identify transactions that are independent because the FAA has made a homeless youth determination. We also revised the description of the other values:

    1 = FAA override from dependent to independent
    2 = FAA override canceled
    3 = FAA override failed
    4 = FAA homeless youth determination
    Blank = No FAA override requested

CPS Data Element Changes

We made the following changes to ISIR fields that are not included on the FAFSA or sent by NSLDS but are included on the ISIR (the numbers in parentheses are the ISIR field numbers):

- **Student IRS Request Flag (175) and Parents IRS Request Flag (176) –** We added two new values, 05 and 06, to the Student IRS Request Flag and Parents IRS Request Flag fields, and revised the remaining values to make them more descriptive. The revised descriptions and new values are:

    00 = Student/Parent was ineligible to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool and was therefore not presented with the option to use it in FAFSA on the Web
    01 = Student/Parent was presented with the option to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool in FAFSA on the Web and elected to use it, but did not transfer IRS data into the FAFSA
    02 = IRS data for the student/parent was transferred from the IRS and was not changed by the user prior to submission of an application or correction
    03 = IRS data for the student/parent was transferred from the IRS and changed by the user prior to submission of an application or correction
    04 = IRS data for the student/parent was transferred from the IRS and then changed by the user on a subsequent transaction

05 = Student/Parent was presented with the option to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool in FAFSA on the Web, but did not elect to use it

06 = IRS data for the student/parent was transferred from the IRS, but a subsequent change made the student/parent ineligible to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool

Blank = IRS Data Retrieval Tool not available in the application method utilized by the student/parent (i.e., paper FAFSA, EDE, or FAA Access)

- **Added Parent Asset Threshold Exceeded (177) and Student Asset Threshold Exceeded (178)** – These new fields were added to identify an applicant who filed on the Web and did not provide asset information because they did not exceed the threshold. For 2011-2012 you identified these applicant using comment codes 901 and 902. Because of these new fields we have deleted comments 901 and 902 for 2012-2013. The valid content for these fields is:

  1 = Yes
  2 = No
  Blank

- **Added Reject Override 21 (198)** – A new reject, 21, identifies an applicant who has corrected his or her marital status date to a date greater than the application receipt date and less than transaction receipt date. There are some instances when an FAA can allow an applicant to make this correction and in order to override the system we added this reject override. The valid content for this fields is like other overrides:

  1 = Yes
  Blank

- **Added Assumed Student Asset Threshold Exceeded (250) and Assumed Parent Asset Threshold Exceeded (262)** – These fields are used to identify when the CPS makes an assumption to the data based on other information provided on the application. These assumption fields work like other assumed fields. The valid content for these fields is:

  Y = Assumed blank
  Blank = No assumption

NSLDS Data Element Changes

The three following NSLDS Direct Loan Master Prom Note Flag fields are updated to include the value of E = Inactive due to the linking of a PLUS Loan with an endorser:

- NSLDS Direct Loan Master Prom Note Flag (427)

- NSLDS Direct Loan PLUS Master Prom Note Flag (428)

- NLSDS Direct Loan Graduate PLUS Master Prom Note Flag (429)

Processing Codes Changes

2012-2013 ISIR Cross-Reference

We updated the cross-reference to compare the 2011-2012 ISIR with the changes to the 2012-2013 ISIR record layout.

Table of Reject Codes and How to Respond to Each Code

- We incremented the date of birth end-year references in Rejects A and B, which alert FAAs that the date of birth entered may be in error because the student is older than most students (greater than 75) or younger than most students (less than 16) pursuing a postsecondary education:

  - **Reject A** – Date of birth year equals 1900 through 1937.

  - **Reject B** – Independent student and date of birth is on or after September 01, 1996, and the SSA match for the student is not equal to "4" (successful match).

- We revised the description for Reject 4 based on CPS edit changes to include correction transactions.

- We added Reject 21, which identifies a student who has corrected his or her marital status date to a date greater than the application receipt date and less than the transaction receipt date.

- We deleted Reject P, which notified an applicant that the SSN they submitted was not in the Social Security Administration's valid range of SSNs. The SSA is changing the way it issues SSNs so the CPS will no longer use this edit.

Transaction Reject Error Messages

- We updated the year indicator in error 13 to "3" for 2012-2013.

Assumption Overrides

- We updated the tax year in Assumption Overrides 5 and 6.

Field Name and Position Cross-References

- We updated the ISIR Cross-Reference Table to reflect 2012-2013 field changes.

NSLDS Loan Current Status Codes

- Added new loan status code of "PD" for permanently disabled.

Correction Data Entry Specifications

We updated the data entry specifications to reflect 2012-2013 field changes.

- Updated the Dependency Override Indicator to add the value of "4" for homeless youth determination.

- Added two new correction fields, 178 and 179 for the Parents' Asset Threshold Exceeded and Student's Asset Threshold Exceeded fields, respectively. The valid values for these correction fields are:

  1 = Yes
  2 = No
  Blank

Message Class Changes

- We updated the process year in all message classes from "12" to "13."

Comment Codes

- There are no major changes of note in the Comment Codes section. For more information, see the *Summary of Changes for the Application Processing System* Guide, which describes the changes to the comment codes and text.

Printing Changes

The Printing section describes the ISIR printed from EDExpress. We have updated the Fields Not Printed on the ISIR table and the Sample ISIR.

Note: You are not required to print ISIRs. If you choose to print ISIRs, you can print them from your own system or EDExpress. You are not required to print the ISIR output document exactly as the EDExpress software prints it. For more information on printing ISIRs, refer to the Printing section in this technical reference.

Changes have been made to the 2012-2013 ISIR printed from EDExpress based on data element changes on the FAFSA, at the CPS, and at the NSLDS. Along with annual rollover changes, the major changes to the printed ISIR are summarized below:

- **Three New Fields** – The printed ISIR includes the following new fields included in the ISIR record from the Central Processing System (CPS):

  - Parent Asset Threshold Exceeded

  - Student Asset Threshold Exceeded

  - Reject 21 Override Code

- **New Dependency Override Value –** When the Dependency Override field equals the new value of "4," "HOMELESS YOUTH DET." prints on the ISIR printed from EDExpress.

EDE Technical Reference Changes Since the Draft Release in July 2011

We have revised the Transaction Receipt Date to update the last day a particular record can be received. The following record layouts are revised in the Records Layout section:

- **ISIR Record Description/Data Dictionary**

    - Value 06 in the Student IRS Request Flag, field 175 (positions 1047-1048), and Parents IRS Request Flag, field 176 (positions 1049-1050), was updated for clarity. It now reads, "06 = IRS data for the parent was transferred from the IRS, but a subsequent change made the student/parent ineligible to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool."

    - The Dependency Override Indicator, field 167, position 1017, was revised to remove "requested" from the description of blank. It now reads, "Blank = No FAA override"

    - Updated the value of "E" in the three following NSLDS Direct Loan Master Prom Note Flag fields to E = Inactive due to the linking of a PLUS Loan with an endorser:
        - NSLDS Direct Loan Master Prom Note Flag field 427 (position 2953)
        - NSLDS Direct Loan PLUS Master Prom Note Flag field 428 (position 2954)
        - NLSDS Direct Loan Graduate PLUS Master Prom Note Flag field 429 (position 2955)

- **FAFSA Application Export Record Layout**

    - The Dependency Override Indicator, field 165, position 1014, was revised to change the descriptions of values:

        1 = FAA override from dependent to independent

        4 = FAA homeless youth determination

        Blank = No FAA override

    - The Transaction Receipt Date, field 170, positions 1035 to 1042, was updated to accept FAFSA data through June 30, 2013. The new valid content values are 20120101 to 20130630.

- **Correction Export Record Layout** – The Transaction Receipt Date, field 33, positions 623 to 630, was updated to accept FAFSA correction data through September 23, 2013. The new valid content values are 20120101 to 20130923.

- **Signature Record Export Record Layout** – The Transaction Receipt Date, field 12, positions 623 to 630, was updated to accept signature correction data through September 23, 2013. The new valid content values are 20120101 to 20130923.

Getting Help

CPS/SAIG Technical Support

If you have questions regarding this technical reference, contact CPS/SAIG Technical Support. Federal Student Aid maintains this call center to address questions about CPS processing, EDExpress and EDconnect software, SAIG enrollment, and data transmissions, and to collect system enhancement suggestions.

800/330-5947; 319/665-4762; (TDD/TTY 800/511-5806)

Fax: 319/665-7662

Representatives are available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. eastern time (ET).

E-mail: CPSSAIG@ed.gov

FSATECH

FSATECH is an e-mail listserv for technical questions about Federal Student Aid systems, software, and mainframe products.

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