Summary

This Newsletter discusses NSLDS changes implemented in January 2008 as part of the annual system updates as well as the new NSLDS email notification process.

To better improve the financial aid community's ability to monitor federal student aid eligibility, the enhancements for the 2008-2009 processing year include the following:

- Enhanced data match so the Central Processing System (CPS) can include a flag for Fraud on the Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR).

- New loan limit indicators displayed on the NSLDS Financial Aid Professionals (FAP) Web site and reported to CPS for inclusion on the ISIR.

- Updated Grant information as reported by Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) for display on the NSLDSFAP Web site and reported to CPS for inclusion on the ISIR.

- Updates to the Transfer Student Monitoring/Financial Aid History (TSM/FAH) processes and batch file layout.

Additional system enhancements to NSLDS include:

- Email notifications that replace NSLDS User ID letters and Enrollment Late Letters.

FRAUD

Whenever NSLDS has information that fraud has been involved in the obtaining of Title IV aid by a student, that student's financial aid history record on the NSLDSFAP Web site displays a Fraud warning icon.

Fraud

You can refer to Newsletter 14 for details on the reporting of fraud.

ISIR Update

CPS Fraud Flag

New for 2008-2009, when a student's NSLDS data has been reported as fraud, NSLDS will notify CPS via a new Fraud flag that will be included on the student's ISIR. This will help Financial Aid Administrators (FAAs) identify an applicant's ISIR whose eligibility is impacted because of fraudulently received Title IV aid.

LOAN BALANCE EVALUATION	**Undergraduate and Graduate** NSLDS monitors aggregate loan amounts for undergraduate and graduate students independently of each other. When determining if an undergraduate student has exceeded aggregate limits, NSLDS does not include any loans taken out by the student for graduate study. Loans taken out for both undergraduate study and graduate study are counted to determine if a student has exceeded aggregate limits for graduate students. However, a student can be flagged for exceeding an undergraduate aggregate loan limit even though they are currently a graduate student. This would occur if the student received more undergraduate loans than she or he was eligible for as an undergraduate. In such cases, resolution of the over borrowing must be resolved before any additional Title IV aid may be disbursed to the student even if the total borrowed does not exceed the graduate limits. NSLDS determines a student's grade level based on the student's most recent loan as reported to NSLDS and not the applicant's self-reported FAFSA/ISIR data. It is the NSLDS grade level that is used to determine whether the student is close to or exceeding the appropriate loan limit(s).
NSLDSFAP Warning Icons	New for 2008-2009, NSLDS will display separate Undergraduate and Graduate "Exceeds" and "Close or Equal to" flags for both Subsidized and Combined loan limits. Previously, NSLDS would only display one set of loan limit flags, leaving FAAs to determine which level of study was impacted by the warning flag. Having the separate Undergraduate and Graduate warning flags will better assist FAAs in making the proper eligibility determination for the appropriate level of study. NSLDS will display the "Close or Equal to Undergraduate Loan Limit" flag when a borrower's aggregate loan balance is within one annual loan amount of the aggregate undergraduate loan limit. When a borrower has both undergraduate and graduate loans, NSLDS will also display the "Close or Equal to Graduate Loan Limit" flag when the borrower's aggregate loan balance is within one annual loan limit of the aggregate graduate loan limit. An "Exceeds Loan Limit" flag displays when the borrower currently has loans in excess of the appropriate aggregate loan limit.

	New Undergraduate Loan Limit flags: Close or Equal to Undergrad Sub Limit Exceeds Undergrad Sub Limit Close or Equal to Undergrad Comb Limit Exceeds Undergrad Comb Limit New Graduate Loan Limit flags: Close or Equal to Graduate Sub Limit Exceeds Graduate Sub Limit Close or Equal to Graduate Comb Limit Exceeds Graduate Comb Limit
ISIR Update	**CPS Loan Limit Flags** Also new for 2008-2009, NSLDS will report the appropriate aggregate loan limit flag(s) to CPS for inclusion on the ISIR. The valid flag values for both undergraduate and graduate, Subsidized and Combined Loan Limits, will include the following: • C = Close to or equal to loan limit • E = Exceeded loan limit • N = Not near loan limit The loan limit flags will be displayed on the last page of the ISIR's NSLDS Financial Aid History.
COD GRANT DATA	New for 2008-2009, COD will start reporting for NSLDS to display additional grant information for the Academic Competitive Grant (ACG) and National Science and Mathematics to Retain Talent (SMART) Grants. The new data elements that will be reported include the following: • Scheduled Award • Percent Eligibility Used by Scheduled Award • Total Percent Eligibility Used by Academic Year Level This data will start to be reported and displayed for the 2008-2009 award year when COD's reporting process commences in late June, 2008. Prior award years were loaded during a one time feed from COD and started displaying on NSLDSFAP's grants web page March 16, 2008.

| **NSLDSFAP Display** | **New displays on NSLDS Web Page**

To accommodate the new data elements for ACG and National SMART Grants, the NSLDSFAP Web site has been enhanced. The following example shows the new label names and fields:

An ACG and National SMART Grant label has been renamed on the Grants page:

	Old Label Name	**New Label Name**
	Grade Level	Academic Yr Level

A Pell Grant label has also been renamed on the Grants page:

	Old Label Name	**New Label Name**
	% Scheduled Used	% Sched. Award Used by Award Yr
ISIR Update	**CPS Grant Data**

NSLDS will continue sending to CPS for inclusion on ISIRs, the 3 most relevant ACG and National SMART Grant award data based on the grants with the highest Academic Year Level and most recently reported grant data from the COD system. The 3 new fields will be added, along with the ACG and SMART Grant Award Year, to the ISIR record layout. |
| **2008-2009 NSLDS ISIR Information** | **NSLDS ISIR Information**

Details regarding all NSLDS fields displayed on the ISIR are available from the 2008-2009 EDE Technical Reference, which can be downloaded in portable document format (PDF) from the FSAdownload website at fsadownload.ed.gov and on IFAP at ifap.ed.gov. |

	NSLDS Web Site Reminder… As of December 31, 2007, the NSLDSFAP Web site and 2008-2009 ISIRs will display information resulting from the 2008-2009 changes discussed in this Newsletter. However, 2007-2008 ISIRs have not been modified. Therefore, when comparing NSLDS or COD web pages to a 2007-2008 ISIR, FAAs may find differences.
2008-2009 Transfer Student Monitoring and Financial Aid History	**TSM/FAH Summary of Changes** The Transfer Student Monitoring/Financial Aid History batch file and report layouts have been updated for the 2008-2009 award year. The following attributes were updated or added to the TSM Alert/FAH detail batch record layout for the following record types. Record Type 1–Aggregates, Perkins and Flags data: • Updated position 216 by renaming it to reflect the Undergraduate Subsidized Loan Limit Flag • Updated position 217 by renaming it to reflect the Undergraduate Combined Loan Limit Flag • Added Graduate Subsidized Loan Limit Flag in position 258 • Added Graduate Combined Loan Limit Flag in position 259 • Updated FILLER in position 260 Record Type 4–Grant data: • Updated Scheduled Amount to include ACG and SMART grants in positions 74-79 • Updated Percent of Eligibility to include ACG and SMART grants in positions 143-149 • Renamed Year in School attribute in position 160 • Updated the Grant Sequence Number to include it for all grant types in positions 193-195 • Added Total Percent Eligibility Used by Academic Year Level in positions 196-202 • Updated FILLER in position 203-260 Updated TSM/FAH specifications and a complete description of changes can be found in the *Transfer Student Monitoring/Financial Aid History Processes and Batch File Layouts* (dated October 24, 2007) posted on the IFAP Web site, www.ifap.ed.gov, under NSLDS Reference Materials.

Email Notification Processes	NSLDS implemented two new email notification processes that began in January.
	NSLDS Online User ID Email Notifications
	Beginning in January 2008, the Primary Destination Point Administrator (PDPA) on file with ED and maintained through the Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG) Enrollment Web site is the only authorized individual who can enroll new users for NSLDS on line access. As part of this change, all PDPA's must have NSLDS on line access even if they do not use NSLDSFAP on a regular basis.
	Approved NSLDS User ID's will be sent via email to the PDPA. The PDPA should check www.fsawebenroll.ed.gov to ensure that they have NSLDS online access as part of their profile and that their email address is correct.
	The PDPA will be responsible for providing the new User ID email notification to the individual for whom he or she requested NSLDS online access. The new user will then contact NSLDS Customer Service where he or she will be asked to provide certain personal information in order to have a temporary password assigned. Upon first logging on, the User will establish a new password according to the instructions in the email notification. Password letters will no longer be created and mailed.
	Note, that only the new user may call the CSC to request a password. The PDPA may **not** call the CSC requesting passwords for new users. A User ID is assigned to an individual and not an institution. NSLDS User IDs and passwords must **never** be shared. Refer to the User Statement and the Signature pages of the SAIG Enrollment Form at FSAWEBENROLL.ed.gov for additional security requirements. The institution is required to maintain a signed copy of the User Statement.

	Late Enrollment Reporting Email Notifications NSLDS has also replaced the Enrollment Reporting Late Letters with email notifications. Once NSLDS creates an Enrollment Reporting Roster file and sends it to a school or a school's servicer, requested student enrollment status information must be returned to NSLDS within 30 days of the date of the roster creation. Any school that fails to provide updated enrollment data either by the NSLDS Financial Aid Partners (FAP) web site or return of the submittal file within the 30 day period is considered late. The Late Enrollment Reporting Notification will be sent if enrollment status updates have not been received within 37 days of the creation date of the Enrollment Reporting roster file. This email will be sent to the organization's Enrollment Reporting Contact, Primary Contact, and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or president. The Enrollment Reporting and the Primary Contact information is obtained from the Organization Tab in NSLDS. Review the Organization Tab (ORG Tab), Org Contact List page on the NSLDSFAP Web site to be sure your school has the correct contact information including email addresses for both the contact types listed. If no contact is listed you may need to add the information. Please refer to Newsletter 16 for additional information regarding these new processes. The NSLDS Customer Service Center at 1-800-999-8219 is available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET.
NSLDS Online Users Loans Must Be In Good Standing	Request for online access to NSLDS is denied if the user has a loan currently on NSLDS that has been reported as in default or as discharged due to death. Additionally, NSLDS runs a program monthly to identify any online users for whom a loan has been reported in a default or discharge due to death status. Persons identified will have their online access suspended until the loan status is resolved. In both instances, NSLDS will send a letter to inform the applicant or the user of the status of their access to NSLDS

!	**Safeguard NSLDS Access:** Data maintained in NSLDS is confidential and is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended. It is important to remember NSLDS User ID's are not to be shared even within the user's own organization. A violation of sharing User ID's will result in the organization or the individual losing access to NSLDS. Each NSLDS User is responsible for protecting his or her access and the data available in NSLDS. If an NSLDS user is no longer employed at your organization or is no longer eligible to access NSLDS information, it is the responsibility of the PDPA to de-activate that particular User ID at www.fsawebenroll.ed.gov. The NSLDS Customer Service Center at 1-800-999-8219 is available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET.