



Technical Update GA-2008-07

September 29, 2008

Multiple Topics

This information is intended for the person in your organization who is responsible for working with NSLDS. If that person is not you, please forward this update to the appropriate person.

Introduction

The purpose of this Technical Update is to inform Guaranty Agencies (GAs) of National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) modifications and to provide clarification on existing NSLDS-related topics:

1. New Deferment Type Codes
2. Clarification on Full Submittals
3. Clarification on the use of PZ Code for Loan Status
4. GA Data Provider Instructions Edit Changes

New Deferment Type Codes

In preparation for implementation of Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loans Act (ECASLA) changes, NSLDS will use the following two Deferment Type Codes for PLUS loans:

1. PD – Parent PLUS In-School Deferment
2. PE – Six Month Post-Enrollment Period

The PD Deferment Type Codes will be available for reporting on the Parent PLUS (PL) loan type and the PE Deferment Type Code will be available for reporting on Parent PLUS (PL) and Graduate PLUS (GB) loan types.

This information is being provided to prepare the community to begin reporting these codes. Additional information regarding the implementation schedule and GA DPI change pages will be forthcoming.

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Clarification on Full Submittals

GAs can request that previously open errors be closed when they submit a full submittal file. A full submission of loan data from a GA should contain that GA's open and active loans. GAs are not required to submit on loans that were closed after October 1, 1989, unless the loan has not been reported to or has not been successfully updated on NSLDS. Errors resulting from the full submittal file should be worked by the GA and will be included in the next monthly benchmarks.

GAs are required to notify the NSLDS Customer Service Center no later than 30 days prior to making the full submittal. Notification after the submittal has been processed will not provide NSLDS with sufficient time to close the previous errors. GAs will need to provide NSLDS Customer Service Center the date they anticipate making the full submittal.

Notification to the NSLDS Customer Service Center can be made by email to nslds@ed.gov or telephone 1-800-999-8219.

Beginning in January 2009, GAs will no longer be required to notify NSLDS when they submit a full submittal file. NSLDS will monitor each submission to determine if it is a full submittal file and will automatically close the previous errors. Additional information regarding the implementation of this process will be forthcoming.

Clarification on the use of PZ Code for Loan Status

GA Technical Update 2008-04 announced the availability of the PZ Code for Loan Status (Field Code 063) to report discharge of a PLUS loan due to the death of the dependent on whose behalf a parent borrowed. The following information is provided to clarify the appropriate use of the PZ code:

- If a PLUS loan has been discharged due to the death of the dependent for whom the parent borrowed.
- If a parent borrower has consolidated all of his/her PLUS loans for the deceased dependent into a Consolidation Loan and no other type of underlying loans are included in the Consolidation Loan, the Consolidation Loan is eligible be reported with a PZ Code for Loan Status.
 - If only a portion of the Consolidation loan is eligible for discharge due to the deceased dependent, report the appropriate amount of discharge with reason code CB01.
- If a PLUS loan has been reported in default, but was/is eligible for a discharge due to the death of the dependent student, report the change to the PZ Code for Loan Status.

For Parent PLUS Loans, if a PZ Code for Loan Status is reported then the living parent is eligible to receive Title IV Aid and the deceased student is not eligible to receive Title IV Aid. If a PLUS loan is reported with a DD or DE Code for Loan Status, the deceased parent is not eligible to receive Title IV Aid, but the living student is eligible to receive Title IV Aid. The appropriate icons will

display on the NSLDS Financial Aid Professionals web site. If post-screened, the parent and student records will be post-screened accordingly.

Prior to April 9, 2008, all death claims on PL loan types were reported with a DD or DE loan status. Loans reported in DD or DE loan status may indicate that the student or the parent died. Further research may be required to determine the student's and/or parent's Title IV eligibility prior to April 9, 2009. After April 9, 2009, loans in DD or DE loan status will only indicate that the parent has died for PL loan type.

See Attachment B for GA DPI change pages.

GA Data Provider Instructions Edit Changes

NSLDS has loosened the edits on Date of Outstanding Principal Balance (Field Code 135) and Date of Outstanding Accrued Interest Balance (Field Code 137).

NSLDS will allow for an earlier date than the date that is currently reported to NSLDS for the Date of Outstanding Principal Balance (Field Code 135) and/or Date of Outstanding Accrued Interest Balance (Field Code 137). This is only applicable to loans being reported to NSLDS in the following loan statuses:

1. Abandoned (AL)
2. Temporarily Uninsured-No Default Claim Requested (UA) where the previously reported loan status is Permanently Uninsured/Unreinsured-No Default Claim Requested (UC) or Permanently Uninsured/Unreinsured-Default Claim Denied (UD)
3. Temporarily Uninsured-Default Claim Denied (UB) where the previously reported loan status is Permanently Uninsured/Unreinsured-No Default Claim Requested (UC) or Permanently Uninsured/Unreinsured-Default Claim Denied (UD)

Loans reported in any closed loan status or an open loan statuses not listed above are not eligible to be reported with an earlier Date of Outstanding Principal Balance (Field Code 135) or Date of Outstanding Accrued Interest Balance (Field Code 137).

See Attachment A for GA DPI change pages.

Attachment A: GA DPI Appendix A Change Pages

Attachment B: GA DPI Appendix B Change Pages

If you have any questions, please contact the NSLDS Customer Service Center at (800) 999-8219, or e-mail NSLDS@ed.gov.