Technical Update GA-2009-03

July 10, 2009

NSLDS Enrollment Reporting: Active Record Indicator

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 National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) Technical Update is to clarify the meaning of the "Active" column displayed when selecting Enrollment Detail for a student on the NSLDS Professional Access Web site.

Enrollment Detail on NSLDS Professional Access Web Site

When viewing a student's enrollment history on the Enrollment Detail Web page, the column titled "Active" provides an indicator of current data. The "Yes" in this column is an indication that the record reflects current data as it has been reported to NSLDS.

Some records NSLDS receives change previously reported data implying that the previously reported data was incorrect. To reflect that the record was reported at one time but later corrected with newer data, NSLDS indicates the record is considered not active with a "No" in the column.

The Enrollment Detail Advance Display Options box on the Enrollment Detail page allows the user to select other viewing options to better understand enrollment records that have been received and reported by NSLDS. To view *all* records that have been reported for a student by any source, select "All Active and Inactive Records" in the Show Records drop down field and "All" in the Reported By field. To display the records as NSLDS received them (most recent listed at the top), select "Date Received" in the Sort Records By field. These selections allow the user to view a complete list of the enrollment information that has been reported to NSLDS and when it was reported.

The Active indicator of "Yes" shows that the record is consider to be the correct data for both current records and those in the past. The Active indicator of "No" shows that the record was reported to NSLDS at some point in the past but subsequently the data was updated in a later submission. NSLDS will use the indicator of "No" when a school or data provider reports

enrollment information that causes the accuracy of their previously reported record to be questionable.

In the example below, the school certified an enrollment status of 'F' (full-time) with an effective date of 8/27/08.

Enrollment Summary

| Enrollment Detail | | Enrollment Timeline | | | | | |

School Name	OPEID	Most Recent Status	Eff. Date	ACD	Cert. Date	Cert. Method
1 MARTIN SCHOOL OF DRAMATIC ARTS	00198900	Full Time	08/27/2008	05/31/2011	12/11/2008	School Batch

Note the Effective Date (Eff.Date) and the Certification Date (Cert.Date)

Later the school sends a new record and certifies the effective date of the 'F' (full-time) status as 6/10/08.

Enrollment Summary

| Enrollment Detail | | Enrollment Timeline | | | | | |

School Name	OPEID	Most Recent Status	Eff. Date	ACD	Cert. Date	Cert. Method
1 MARTIN SCHOOL OF DRAMATIC ARTS	00198900	Full Time	06/10/2008	05/31/2011	04/15/2009	NSLDS Web

Note the Effective Date (Eff.Date) and the Certification Date (Cert.Date)

NSLDS will set the Active indicator for the 8/27/08 records to "No" and the 6/10/08 record to "Yes". Even though NSLDS received prior records with a different beginning date for the 'F' status, the latest data indicates the student has been full-time since the 6/10/08. This record with the earlier start date is marked as the active record and will be displayed on the Enrollment Summary Page.

The Enrollment Detail page, with the display option of the active and inactive records, allows the user to view the full history of the data as it was reported.

Advanced Display Options

Enrollment At:	All Schools
Show Records:	All Active and Inactive
Reported By:	Schools
Sort Schools By:	OPEID
Sort Records By:	Date Received
Begin Effective Date:	
End Effective Date:	

Apply

MARTIN SCHOOL OF DRAMATIC ARTS 00198900

Reported By	Reported By ID	Status	Eff. Date	Active	ACD	Cert. Date	Cert. Method	Date Received
School	00198900	Full Time	06/10/2008	Yes	05/31/2011	04/15/2009	NSLDS Web	06/25/2009
School	00198900	Full Time	08/27/2008	No	05/31/2011	12/11/2008	School Batch	01/23/2009
School	00198900	Full Time	08/27/2008	No	05/31/2011	12/11/2008	School Batch	12/23/2008

Note the Effective Date (Eff.Date) and the Certification Date (Cert.Date).
The earlier Eff. Date, more recently certified, causes the older records to be designated as inactive.

Usefulness of Data for Loan Servicing

Since Guaranty Agencies are required to report the enrollment data from NSLDS to the lenders, knowing the details of what information was in NSLDS and when it might have been shared can be helpful. In cases where there are questions on why a loan servicing activity may have occurred, Enrollment Detail can provide the full picture and a possible explanation for the activity performed.

In the case above, if the student had a loan in repayment, the enrollment record sent by NSLDS after it was received on 12/23/08 could trigger a servicing activity. If the lender had a loan in repayment for the student, the lender may have applied an in-school deferment with an effective date of 8/27/08. Later, NSLDS reflects an earlier start date that has been certified by the school. This means the deferment begin date should be adjusted to the effective date of 6/10/08. Viewing the Active indicators helps provide information that may have been correct at one time but has subsequently changed.

Understanding Conflicting Guaranty Agency-Reported Data

The active indicator is applied by source type. Records are evaluated based on the provider and the data existing on the system from that provider. Only a record from the same Guaranty Agency will cause a "No" indicator for previously reported data from that Guaranty Agency. Only data from the school will cause a "No" indicator for previously certified school data. Viewing the detail data as it was reported to NSLDS can help the provider see how their records looked in the enrollment history.

Generally, enrollment data is initiated by the loan record loaded to NSLDS. This data will be placed on a school's roster, allowing the school to react to the information. Once the school certifies the data, it becomes the authority of the enrollment record and only the school reported information will remain on the roster.

In this example the Guaranty Agency provided the original data of Full Time status, effective 8/27/07, which loaded to NSLDS on 9/18/07. The school certified the data as correct on 10/22/07. However, subsequent data received from the Guaranty Agency is different, causing the prior records to be marked with an active indicator of "No". (Note: records received prior to 9/16/08 are not displayed in the interest of space.)

Advanced Display Options

Enrollment At:	All Schools
Show Records:	All Active and Inactive
Reported By:	All
Sort Schools By:	OPEID
Sort Records By:	Date Received
Begin Effective Date:	
End Effective Date:	

Reported By	Reported By ID	Status	Eff. Date	Active	ACD	Cert. Date	Cert. Method	Date Received	
School	00134900	Full Time	08/27/2007	Yes	12/12/2009	10/27/2008	School Batch	11/21/2008	
GA		Half Time	08/25/2008	Yes	05/09/2009	N/A	N/A	11/17/2008	4
School	00134900	Full Time	08/27/2007	Yes	12/12/2009	09/11/2008	School Batch	10/27/2008	
GA		Full Time	10/16/2008	No	05/09/2009	N/A	N/A	10/16/2008	3
GA		Full Time	10/01/2008	No	05/09/2009	N/A	N/A	10/02/2008	2
GA		Full Time	09/16/2008	No	05/09/2009	N/A	N/A	09/16/2008	1

Note the Effective Date (Eff.Date) and the Date Received.

Record #1 would have been the Active record until the #2 record was received and indicated that the full time status really started later than previously report. On 10/16/08, record #3 with its change in Eff. Date would have become the active record. When record #4 was received, it changed not only the Eff. Date, but also the enrollment status. The new data on record #4 indicates that the previous status and effective date are not active records because of an earlier effective data and a different enrollment status.

The records reported by the school have continued with a full time status, effective 8/27/07, each with a new, more recent certification date. All their records are considered current.

School certified data is considered by the Department of Education as the "official" enrollment information. On the Enrollment Summary page, the most recently received record from the school is always the record displayed, unless the school has not certified enrollment. In the example above, although the Guaranty Agency has provided other data (a different status and an earlier effective date), the most recently school certified data is displayed.

Enrollment Summary

	School Name	OPEID	Most Recent Status	Eff. Date	ACD	Cert. Date	Cert. Method
1	UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN	00134900	Full Time	08/27/2007	12/12/2009	12/18/2008	School Batch

[Enrollment Detail] [Enrollment Timeline]

Each page on the NSLDS Professional Access Web site contains "Help Pages", displayed by selecting the 📌 icon. Additional information on enrollment reporting can also be found in the NSLDS Enrollment Reporting Guide posted on the Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Web site.

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