Technical Update GA-2011-04

August 11, 2011

Updates to Disability Discharge Reporting

This information is intended for the person in your organization who is responsible for working with the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS). Please ensure the appropriate person receives this update.

This Guaranty Agency (GA) Technical Update provides clarification regarding the effective date to be reported to the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) in connection with loan status code "VA."

Loan Status Code – 'VA'

Technical Update GA-2010-02 provided information on the separate process for determining that certain veterans qualify for loan discharge based on total and permanent disability. A veteran borrower may qualify for loan discharge based on documentation from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) showing that the veteran has been determined to be unemployable due to a service-connected disability (Loan Status Code "VA"). Unlike the standard disability discharge process, the separate process for certain veterans does not include a post-discharge monitoring period.

Once Federal Student Aid approves the veterans discharge, the effective date that is to be reported for the "VA" Loan Status Code is the Rating Decision Date in the documentation provided by the VA. In cases where the documentation from the VA does not contain the effective date, we will consult with the VA and provide an effective date in the *Notification of Eligibility for Loan Discharge*. The updated table in the GA Data Provider Instructions, Appendix B (Table B-10, Loan Status Codes), is attached.

Additional information regarding the veterans discharge process can be found in the electronic announcement posted on July 7, 2011 to the Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Web site.

Attachment A: GA DPI Appendix B, Loan Status Codes change page

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

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