



COD Processing Update

October 29, 2004

Direct Loan

COD News

COD System Maintenance Planned For Sunday, October 31, 2004 (10/28/04)

The COD System will undergo routine maintenance on Sunday, October 31, 2004 from 1:00 A.M. until 6:00 A.M. (ET). During this period, users will not be able to submit or retrieve data via the COD web site. Additionally, batches submitted by schools will be held and not processed until after the COD System comes back up. COD apologizes for any inconvenience this outage may cause. If you have any questions, contact the COD School Relations Center.

Extended Direct Loan Electronic MPN Web Site Outage For Sunday, October 31, 2004 (10/28/04)

As a reminder, the Direct Loan Electronic Master Promissory Note (MPN) web site is unavailable every Sunday morning from 5:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M. (ET) while routine maintenance is performed. During this period, borrowers are not able to complete a new MPN electronically or retrieve an existing MPN that was completed electronically.

Due to COD System routine maintenance on Sunday, October 31, 2004, the Direct Loan Electronic MPN web site will be unavailable for an extended period of time from 1:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M. (ET). As previously noted, borrowers will not be able to complete or retrieve MPNs during this extended period.

COD apologizes for any inconvenience this outage may cause. If you have any questions, contact the COD School Relations Center.

All Schools Must Be COD Full Participants Beginning With 2005-2006 Award Year [08/02/04 (Updated 10/25/04)]

As a reminder, *all* schools must be Full Participants beginning with the 2005-2006 Award Year. This means that *all* schools must be able to submit 2005-2006 Pell and/or Direct Loan origination and disbursement data to the COD System using the COD Common Record in XML format. Updated information about Full Participant sign up for the 2005-2006 Award Year will be provided later this week.

If your school currently is a Phase-In Participant (for one or all of the programs in which it participates) and has not yet submitted the required Full Participant information specified in the announcement, please submit it to the COD School Relations Center as soon as possible. Doing so will assist us in preparing the COD System to accept and process your school's 2005-2006 Pell Grant and/or Direct Loan data.



COD Processing Update

Reports and Data Requests



ISSUES

Except as listed below, all Direct Loan reports and data requests are available as specified in Volume VIII, Section 8 of the 2004-2005 COD Technical Reference posted on the IFAP web site at www.IFAP.ed.gov/. There are issues with the following Direct Loan reports and/or data requests:

- Duplicate Student Borrower Report— Has been sent within the past 3 weeks to the SAIG mailboxes of schools that should receive the report. The report is now available on the COD web site as well. The report is current as of two business days prior to its run date.

COD appreciates schools' patience and understanding as we continue to improve performance-related issues that exist with both the SAIG and web versions of this report. These performance-related issues will alter our monthly production schedule for the foreseeable future. We will continue to update you on the availability of this report.
[08/25/04 (Updated 10/14/04)]
- Direct Loan Rebuild File— Cannot be requested on the COD web site and is not being produced. COD is researching several issues related to incorrect data in the file. (08/25/04)

Resolved Issues

Described below are "Current Issues" that have been resolved. A full description of each issue will remain in this section for 7 calendar days following the "Updated" date. If a clean up is required, the title of the issue will then be moved to "Resolved Issues In Clean Up."

For the full description of a resolved issue after it is removed from this section, refer to previous postings of the COD Processing Update on the IFAP web site, www.IFAP.ed.gov/. The COD Processing Update is posted to the IFAP web site each Friday.

MPN Status Inaccurate On COD Web Site [10/30/03 (Updated 10/26/04)]

Previously, for the 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 Award Years, the COD web site was displaying an MPN Status of Active for MPNs that had expired when it should have displayed a status of Inactive. This was a COD web site display issue only and did not impact data processing. On October 5, 2004, COD implemented a code fix to adjust the MPN status to its correct value. The expired MPNs now display as Inactive.



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Resolved Issues In Clean Up

COD has implemented code fixes for the issues listed below and is cleaning up the affected records. After a clean up has been completed, its status will be updated and it will remain in this section for an additional 7 calendar days.

<u>Issue</u>	<u>In Progress</u>	<u>Completed</u>
Disbursements Not Displaying On COD Web Site And/Or SAS	√	
Direct Loan School Account Statement (SAS) Data Issues	√	
Changes To Award And Disbursement Amounts Not Processed Correctly	√	
COD Edit 116 Not Working Correctly	√	

Current Issues

Updating And/Or Creating Records On The COD Web Site (10/29/04)

Schools are receiving the error message “Outgoing Message Queue Not Responding” after updating and/or creating records via the COD web site, and a web-based response is not displaying on the web. However, the records are processed in the COD System.

Note: Additionally, Full Participants with a Web Activity Response Option set to “Y” are not receiving a response for web-based transactions in their SAIG mailboxes.

COD is researching the cause of this issue and will provide updates as more information becomes available. In the meantime, schools will need to access the batch screen to determine if the records were accepted or rejected.

Duplicate Disbursement Information In COD [05/06/04 (Updated 10/13/04)]

COD has learned that duplicate disbursement numbers are displaying incorrectly on the COD web site’s Award Disbursements Information screen. On this screen under the Disbursement Number column, disbursement numbers are appearing twice. However, when viewing the Disbursement Information screen, each disbursement displays a different status (Pending or Disbursed).

COD continues to research the code fix for this issue and will provide updates as more information becomes available.

Phase-In Records Incorrectly Rejecting For COD Edit 056 [08/12/04 (Updated 09/27/04)]

COD previously notified schools that some Phase-In 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 records are incorrectly rejecting for COD Edit 056 (Sequence Number Not In Sequential Order). This edit is



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being returned incorrectly to Phase-In schools that submit changes to anticipated disbursement amounts.

Additionally, when a change to the anticipated disbursement amount is submitted along with a reduced award amount, COD is only accepting the reduced award amount. As a result, COD Edit 846 (Total 'Anticipated Gross Amount' must be less than or equal to the Loan Amount Approved) is returned because the award amount is less than the total anticipated disbursements.

COD is researching a code fix for this issue and will continue to provide updates as more information becomes available.

Student Name And Date Of Birth Not Updated In COD [05/03/04 (Updated 09/17/04)]

As previously reported, COD identified an issue where new 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 origination records are accepted in COD; however, the student's Name and Date of Birth (DOB) updates submitted by the school are not displaying on the COD web site's Person Information screen. The COD web site is reflecting the Name and DOB from the previous award year. Additionally, in some cases, changes to Name and DOB for previously accepted origination records are not displaying on the Person Information screen as well.

COD is still analyzing this issue and appreciates your patience. Updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

COD Not Generating Credit Decision Override Response For The 2004-2005 Award Year (09/03/04)

COD generates a Credit Decision Override response when a PLUS borrower's endorser or appeal of a credit decision has been approved. Additionally, COD generates correspondence to the PLUS borrower and the endorser, if applicable. Recently, some schools have not received a Credit Decision Override response for 2004-2005 Award Year PLUS awards when the PLUS borrower's endorser has been approved. It also appears that COD is not generating the correspondence related to these overrides to the affected parents and endorsers.

COD is researching this issue and will provide updates as more information becomes available. If you discover that you have not received a Credit Decision Override response, contact the COD School Relations Center to report their information. In the meantime, you can view the status of credit decision overrides and credit decision results for endorsers via the COD web site.

Some Null Tags Submitted Via Batch Not Updated In COD (09/01/04)

A null tag containing a *nil="true"* attribute can be submitted for some data elements in a Common Record document to remove or delete content currently on file in the COD database. Recently, COD determined that some null tags are being accepted by the COD System, but are not appropriately updating the COD database. This means that if a school submits a null tag for some data elements, the COD System is ignoring it and the content on the COD database for that data element is not being removed.

On August 10, 2004, COD implemented a code fix to allow a null tag submitted for the Verification Status Code data element to update the COD database correctly. COD continues research to ensure that all applicable data elements reported with a null tag will update the COD



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database correctly. Note that not all data elements can be submitted with null tags; refer to the COD Technical Reference, Volume II, Section 3 for the applicable data elements.

COD will provide updates as more information becomes available. In the meantime, schools needing to remove or delete content in COD for a specific data element may do so via the COD web site.

Rejected Records Not Viewable On The COD Web Site [07/30/04 (Updated 08/26/04)]

Some schools are receiving an error message when attempting to view rejected records on the COD web site's Batch Detail Information screen. Clicking on the Rejected link in the Award No. column causes the following error message to display: "An unexpected error has occurred. Please contact your administrator if the problem persists."

On August 10, 2004, COD partially corrected this problem by migrating a code fix to correct the affected Phase-In records. Next, the code fix will be migrated to correct the affected Common Records. COD will provide more information about the code fix for Common Records as soon as it becomes available.



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Pell Grants

COD News

Duplicate ESOAs Sent For All Award Years (10/28/04)

On October 26, 2004, COD sent duplicate Electronic Statement of Account (ESOA) reports for all award years to schools that had a CFL adjustment processed in the COD System. The duplicate ESOAs were sent to schools' SAIG mailboxes in Message Class PGASxxOP.

COD apologizes for the inconvenience receipt of the duplicate ESOAs may cause schools.

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2003-2004 Pell Grant Processing Deadline [10/01/04 (Updated 10/27/04)]

As a reminder, the deadline for electronically transmitting records for the Federal Pell Grant 2003-2004 Award Year was Thursday, September 30, 2004. In addition, the extended deadline for schools affected by the recent severe weather conditions was October 22, 2004.

At this time, unless the Department has granted Administrative Relief or Extended Processing for the 2003-2004 Award year to a school, the COD System will reject originations and disbursements of new 2003-2004 awards or 2003-2004 award amount increases.

- New Award Amounts or Award Increases will reject with **Full Participant Edit 43/Phase-In Edit 399**.
- Disbursement Increases will reject with **Full Participant Edit 71/ Phase-In Edit 417**.

Note: After the Pell Processing Deadline, COD continues to accept and process decreases to previously accepted 2003-2004 awards and disbursements. In addition, if a student was in a POP situation during the 2003-2004 Award Year, COD continues to accept and process increases and decreases to new 2003-2004 awards or previously accepted 2003-2004 awards for this student.

A school can request Administrative Relief or Extended Processing for the 2003-2004 Award Year through May 2, 2005. If necessary, a school also can request additional extensions of the initially approved period through May 2, 2005. A school can request Administrative Relief or Extended Processing via the COD web site or via e-mail.

For additional information about when the Department can grant Administrative Relief and extended processing and how a school can make the request, refer to the Electronic Announcement on IFAP at <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0922pelldeadline0203.html>.



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Second Administrative Cost Allowance Payments For 2003-2004 Award Year (10/25/04)

COD began processing the second Administrative Cost Allowance (ACA) payments for the 2003-2004 Award on October 23, 2004. Schools will begin to see these payments deposited directly into their bank accounts over the next few weeks.

For more information about these ACA payments, refer to the electronic announcement that is posted to the IFAP web site at

<http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/1025SecondACAPayment0304.html>.

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Reports and Data Requests

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- Pell Year-to-Date (YTD) Record— For all award years, is NOT being sent to schools' SAIG mailboxes. Beginning October 2, 2004, all YTD requests received either on the COD web site or via the SAIG are being held and will not be filled by COD until further notice. Please do not submit a subsequent request for the report at this time.

COD has taken this action after determining that since September 20, 2004 the disbursement sequence number for system-generated negative disbursements and web-generated disbursements has been populated incorrectly on the YTD record. Accurate disbursement sequence numbers for these records can be viewed on the COD web site.



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COD is working on a code fix to correct this issue and will not produce additional reports until the issue has been corrected. (10/05/04)

- Verification Status Report—

For 2004-2005, is not being pushed to schools' SAIG mailboxes and is not available on the COD web site. COD is evaluating all functionality. (08/25/04)

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On September 7, 2004 COD implemented a code fix to allow a null tag submitted for the Low Tuition and Fees Code data element to update the COD database correctly. Additionally, a null tag submitted for the Verification Status Code data element continues to update the COD database correctly. COD continues research to ensure that all applicable data elements reported with a null tag will update the COD database correctly. Note that not all data elements can be submitted with null tags; refer to the COD Technical Reference, Volume II, Section 3 for the applicable data elements.

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