



COD Processing Update

November 19, 2004

Direct Loan

COD News

COD Holiday Schedule For November 24-25, 2004 (11/18/04)

The COD School Relations Center will close at 3:00 P.M. (ET) on Wednesday, November 24, 2004. The COD System will accept and process data from schools and send back responses/acknowledgements on November 24th. Requests for changes in funding levels and for funds will be processed on that day.

The COD School Relations Center will be closed on Thursday, November 25, 2004, Thanksgiving Day. The COD System will accept and process data from schools and send back responses/acknowledgements on November 25th. However, requests for changes in funding levels and for funds will not be processed until Friday, November 26, 2004.

Further information regarding Thanksgiving Day processing and customer service hours for COD and other FSA/ED call centers is available in an Electronic Announcement on the IFAP web site at <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/1119ThanksgivingDayClosing.html/>.

Direct Loan Bulletin 04-25 Released (11/18/04)

Direct Loan Bulletin 04-25 was released to schools from the COD School Relations Center on November 17, 2004, and is available on the IFAP web site at <http://ifap.ed.gov/dlbulletins/DLB0425.html>. This bulletin informs schools of a system outage that will affect the Direct Loan Servicing System (DLSS) and the Direct Loan Servicing web site (www.dl.ed.gov).

If you would like to be added to or removed from the distribution list, please submit an e-mail to CODSupport@acs-inc.com, with the subject line of "DLB Distribution List".

COD System Maintenance Planned For Sunday, November 21, 2004 (11/17/04)

The COD System will undergo routine maintenance on Sunday, November 21, 2004 from Midnight 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, November 21, 2004 (11/17/04)

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



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performed. During this period, borrowers are not able to complete new MPNs electronically or retrieve existing MPNs that were completed electronically.

Due to COD System routine maintenance on Sunday, November 21, 2004, the Direct Loan Electronic MPN web site will be unavailable for an extended period of time from Midnight 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.

Direct Loan Bulletin 04-24 Released (11/15/04)

Direct Loan Bulletin 04-24 was released to schools from the COD School Relations Center on November 12, 2004, and is available on the IFAP web site at <http://ifap.ed.gov/dlbulletins/DLB0424.html>. This bulletin announces several improvements that Federal Student Aid (FSA) has made to the school reports available on the Direct Loan Servicing School web site, www.dl.ed.gov/schools.

If you would like to be added to or removed from the distribution list, please submit an e-mail to CODSupport@acs-inc.com, with the subject line of "DLB Distribution List".

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.

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 posted on the IFAP web site at <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0806CODFullParticReq0506.html>, 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.

Reports and Data Requests



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:

- 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)



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The following previously unavailable Direct Loan reports and/or data requests are now available:

- Pending Disbursement List— Is available on the COD web site. For 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 is being pushed to schools' SAIG mailboxes. [11/17/04 (Updated 11/18/04)]
- 30-Day Warning Report— Is available on the COD web site. Is being pushed to schools' SAIG mailboxes. [11/10/04 Updated 11/17/04)]
- Funded Disbursement List For November 4, 2004— Has been sent to schools' SAIG mailboxes. Is now available on the COD web site. [11/08/04 (Updated 11/15/04)]

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>
COD Not Generating Credit Decision Override Response For The 2004-2005 Award Year	√	
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

Disbursements Incorrectly Rejecting For COD Edit 052 (11/09/04)

COD is returning COD Edit 052 (First Disbursement Date Must Be The Earliest) incorrectly to some schools. Currently, COD believes that this issue is only affecting EDEExpress users submitting actual (Disbursement Release Indicator = T) disbursements with a disbursement number greater than "01". However, if you believe your school has encountered this situation,



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report the affected records to the COD School Relations Center. COD is researching a solution for this issue and will provide updates as more information becomes available.

Updating And/Or Creating Records On The COD Web Site [10/29/04 (Updated 11/03/04)]

Schools are intermittently 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.

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

Note: Previously, Full Participants with a Web Activity Response Option set to “Y” were not receiving a response for web-based transactions in their SAIG mailboxes. On October 28, 2004, COD resolved this issue, and no new occurrences have been reported to date. Additionally, COD has sent all responses for web-based transactions to the affected schools’ SAIG mailboxes.

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 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.



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

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 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

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Pell Grant Verification Status And SSN/Name/Date Of Birth Change Reports Now Available (11/17/04)

On November 16, 2004, COD posted an Electronic Announcement to the IFAP web site announcing the availability of the Verification Status Report and the SSN/Name/Date of Birth Change Report for the Pell Grant Program. For details regarding the availability of two Pell Grant reports, refer to the IFAP web site at <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/1116PellVerifStatusandSSNNameDOBChng.html>.

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Pell Year-To-Date Record (11/10/04)

On November 9, 2004, an Electronic Announcement updating the status of the Pell Year-to-Date (YTD) Record was posted to the IFAP web site at <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/1109PellYTDRecordStatusUpdate.html>. The status of the YTD record will continue to be covered in the Reports and Data Requests section of this document until the YTD record is again produced.



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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/0902PellProcDeadline0304.html>.

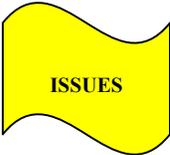
All Schools Must Be COD Full Participants Beginning With 2005-2006 Award Year [08/02/04 (Updated 10/25/04)]

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.

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 posted on the IFAP web site at <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0806CODFullParticReq0506.html>, 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.

Reports and Data Requests

Except as listed below, all Pell Grant 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 Pell Grant reports and/or data requests:



ISSUES



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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 fulfilled 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.

COD is working on a code fix to correct this issue and will not produce additional reports until the issue has been corrected.

COD has also posted this information on the IFAP web site at <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/1109PellYTDRecordStatusUpdate.html>. [10/05/04 (Updated 11/10/04)]



The following previously unavailable Pell reports and/or data requests are now available:

- Verification Status Report—

For 2004-2005, the monthly distribution of this report was pushed to schools' SAIG mailboxes (Message Class PGVR05OP) starting on November 10, 2004. In addition, this report is available via data request and on the COD web site. This report provides a listing and a summary count of disbursed Pell awards for all students selected for verification by CPS for whom the school submitted a verification status code of "W" or blank. Note: Quality Assurance (QA) schools will not receive this report except upon school-initiated data requests.

COD has also posted this information on the IFAP web site at <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/1116PellVerificationStatusandSSNNameDOBChng.html>. [8/25/04 (Updated 11/17/04)]



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- SSN/Name/Date of Birth Change Report— Is being pushed to schools' SAIG mailboxes (Message Class PGSN05OP) and is available on the COD web site. This report lists all person identifier changes for a person on the COD System and is sent to all Reporting schools that have an award for that person on file for at least one of the three most current award years.

COD has also posted this information on the IFAP web site at <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/1116PellVerifStatusandSSNNameDOBChng.html>.
[11/10/04 Updated 11/17/04]

Resolved Issues In Clean Up

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Disbursements Not Displaying On COD Web Site	√	
COD Edit 116 Not Working Correctly	√	

Current Issues

Updating And/Or Creating Records On The COD Web Site [10/29/04 (Updated 11/03/04)]

Schools are intermittently 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.

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

Note: Previously, Full Participants with a Web Activity Response Option set to "Y" were not receiving a response for web-based transactions in their SAIG mailboxes. On October 28, 2004, COD resolved this issue, and no new occurrences have been reported to date. Additionally, COD has sent all responses for web-based transactions to the affected schools' SAIG mailboxes.



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

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

Some Null Tags Submitted Via Batch Not Updated In COD [08/31/04 (Updated 09/16/04)]

As previously reported, 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 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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Records. COD will provide more information about the code fix for Common Records as soon as it becomes available.