



Common Origination and Disbursement COD Processing Update

ACG, National SMART Grant, and Pell Grant Programs

December 15, 2006

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COD News

COD Batch Processing Suspension and Web Site Outages December 15-17, 2006 (12/06/06)

As explained in the [Electronic Announcement posted on the IFAP Web site](#), during the period December 15-16, 2006, COD will implement additional COD System functionality required by the Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (the HERA), Pub. L. 109-171. This will be the fourth release in a series of releases that have occurred since July 1, 2006. Following the HERA-related implementation, the COD System will undergo routine maintenance on Sunday, December 17, 2006. In addition, the Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG) will be unavailable for a period of time due to its regular Sunday morning maintenance.

The December 15-17, 2006 activities will have the following impact:

- ***Friday, December 15th and Saturday, December 16th***
 - COD will suspend COD batch processing beginning at 8:00 P.M. (ET) on Friday, December 15, 2006. Records submitted after 8:00 P.M. (ET) will be held and processed after 6:00 P.M. (ET) on Saturday, December 16, 2006.
 - The COD Web site will be unavailable from 8:00 P.M. (ET) on Friday, December 15, 2006 until 6:00 P.M. (ET) on Saturday, December 16, 2006.
- ***Sunday, December 17th***
 - COD will suspend COD batch processing beginning at 2:00 A.M. (ET) on Sunday, December 17, 2006. Records submitted after 2:00 A.M. (ET) will be held and processed after 8:00 A.M. (ET) on December 17th.

Batches submitted by schools via the SAIG between 2:00 A.M. and 3:00 A.M. (ET) on December 17th will be held and not acknowledged back to schools until after the SAIG comes back up at 11:00 A.M. (ET).

Schools attempting to transmit batches via the SAIG between 3:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. (ET) on December 17th will receive an error message informing them that the SAIG is unavailable and that the data must be transmitted at a later time.



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- The COD Web site will be unavailable from 2:00 A.M. (ET) until 8:00 A.M. (ET) on Sunday, December 17, 2006.

COD apologizes for any inconvenience the batch processing suspension and web site outages may cause and appreciates your understanding and patience while COD completes these important activities.

NEW!

COD Holiday Schedule For December 25, 2006 And January 1, 2007 (12/15/06)

The COD School Relations Center will be closed on Monday, December 25, 2006, in observance of the Christmas Day Federal holiday. The COD System will accept and process data from schools and send back responses/acknowledgements on December 25th, but schools will not be able to receive any Federal funds on that day. Requests for changes in funding levels and for funds will not be processed until Tuesday, December 26, 2006.

The COD School Relations Center will be closed on Monday, January 1, 2007, in observance of the New Year's Day Federal holiday. The COD System will accept and process data from schools and send back responses/acknowledgements on January 1st, but schools will not be able to receive any Federal funds on that day. Requests for changes in funding levels and for funds will not be processed until Tuesday, January 2, 2007.

Further information regarding Christmas Day and New Year's Day processing, funding impact, and customer service hours for COD and other Federal Student Aid/Department of Education call centers will be available in an Electronic Announcement on the [IFAP Web site](#).

NEW!

Unlocking and Resetting COD Web Site Passwords (12/15/06)

COD would like to remind COD Web site users that Security Administrators (COD Web site User Level 5) are able to unlock and reset passwords for the users (User Level 1-4) they established at their school or organization. However, if the Security Administrator needs his or her password unlocked or reset, the Security Administrator must contact the COD School Relations Center.

In order to unlock users, a Security Administrator should log in to the [COD Web site](#) and complete the following steps:

- Step 1: From the Welcome to Common Origination & Disbursement Web Site screen, click on the User tab on the blue bar at the top of the screen. The User Search screen displays.
- Step 2: Enter the search criteria for the user and click on the submit button at the bottom of the User Search screen. The Search Results screen displays and lists users that match the search criteria.
- Step 3: On the Search Results screen, select the name of the user that needs to be unlocked. The User Information screen displays.
- Step 4: Click on the Modify button at the bottom of the User Information screen. The Update User Profile screen displays.
- Step 5: The Locked Out box on the Update User Profile screen contains a checkmark. Click on the Locked Out box to remove the checkmark.



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- Step 6: If a new temporary password is not needed, skip this item and go to Step 7. If a new temporary password is needed, enter the new temporary password in the New Password field. Then re-enter the new password in the Re-enter New Password field to confirm. The user will need to change this password to one of his or her choosing.
- Step 7: Click on the submit button at the bottom of the Update User Profile screen. The Update Your Profile screen displays.
- Step 8: On the Update Your Profile screen, click on the Submit button to confirm the updates made to the user's profile.

This information is also posted on the COD Web site in a document entitled "Unlocking And Resetting COD Web Site Passwords." To access the document *before* you log in to the Web site, click on the "Click here if you are looking for more information on Common Origination and Disbursement" Link. To access the document *after* you log in to the Web site, click on the "Today's Update" link at the bottom of the page.

Schools can refer to the Electronic Announcement on the IFAP Web site, <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0201UpdatedCODWebsiteSchools.html>, for information regarding COD Web site access. Third party servicers can refer to the Electronic Announcement on the IFAP Web site at <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/UpdatedCODWebsiteThirdPartyServ.html>.

Upcoming SAIG Message Class File Update (12/12/06)

On December 15, 2006 the Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG) will send out the message class "MESSAGTB" to all user mailboxes. EDconnect will automatically request, download, and import this new message class table with your next connection to the SAIG network. Once the MESSAGTB file has been imported, the new message class table will be used from that point forward.

The new message class table will add 2006-2007 Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG) and National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant (National SMART Grant) message classes for the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System. Some of the new message classes will be in use after the December 16, 2006 implementation of additional COD System functionality. Other new message classes, related to ACG and National SMART Grant reports, will be in use after the April 14, 2007 implementation of 2007-2008 COD System functionality.

Detailed information about the new message class table has been sent to schools' SAIG mailboxes and is posted as an Electronic Announcement on the [IFAP Web site](#).



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Reports And Data Requests



This section contains important notices regarding reports and/or data requests. While we encourage you to review this section, note that some schools may not be impacted by the information presented below.

- Pell Year-to-Date (YTD) Records—

The YTD Record can be used to assist a school with its year-end and ongoing reconciliation processes. Schools also use the YTD Record for the purpose of rebuilding a complete student record or Pell Grant database.

- For rebuilds for the 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 Award Year, the school can submit the data request via the COD Web site or batch.
- For rebuilds for the 2004-2005 and earlier award years, the school must contact the COD School Relations Center by e-mail to CODSupport@acs-inc.com. The school should include "Pell YTD" in the subject line. If a school is unable to e-mail its request, it can contact the COD School Relations Center by phone.