



Common Origination and Disbursement COD Processing Update

July 27, 2006

Direct Loan Program

COD News

COD Batch Processing Suspension And Web Site Outages July 28-29, 2006 (07/19/06)

As explained in the Electronic Announcement posted on the IFAP Web site (<http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0718HERAOperImplofHERA.html>), during the period July 28-29, 2006, COD will implement additional COD System functionality required to implement the provisions of the Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (the HERA), Pub. L. 109-171. This will be the second release in a series of releases that will occur between July 1, 2006 and December 16, 2006.

In order to install the HERA-related system changes—

- COD will suspend COD batch processing beginning at 8:00 P.M. (ET) on Friday, July 28, 2006. Records submitted after 8:00 P.M. (ET) will be held and processed after 8:00 A.M. (ET) on Saturday, July 29, 2006.
- The COD Web site will be unavailable from 8:00 P.M. (ET) on Friday, July 28, 2006 until 8:00 A.M. (ET) on Saturday, July 29, 2006.

Additionally—

- The Direct Loan Electronic Master Promissory Note (MPN) Web site will be unavailable from 8:00 P.M. (ET) on Friday, July 28, 2006 until 8:00 A.M. (ET) on Saturday, July 29, 2006.

Individuals starting the process by 7:00 P.M. (ET) on July 28th will be able to complete their MPNs before the Web site becomes unavailable. Individuals attempting to access the Web site after the cutoff time will see a Web site maintenance message and will not be able to start the process or retrieve an existing MPN.

- The Direct Loan Electronic MPN Web site is unavailable every Sunday morning from 5:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M. (ET) while routine maintenance is performed. As such, the Direct Loan Electronic MPN Web site will again be unavailable from 5:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M. (ET) on Sunday, July 30, 2006. As previously noted, individuals will not be able to complete or retrieve MPNs during this period.

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



Common Origination and Disbursement COD Processing Update

Record Submission Due Date For 2004-2005 Closeout (07/05/06)

COD would like to remind schools that the closeout processing deadline for the 2004-2005 Direct Loan Program Year is July 31, 2006--only 5 days away!

To meet the closeout deadline, all records must be submitted to the COD System no later than 8:00 P.M. (ET) on Monday, July 31, 2006. (Note: As always, all submitted records subsequently must be accepted by the COD System in order to be included in your school's final Ending Cash Balance for 2004-2005.)

To be considered successfully closed out, schools must have an Ending Cash Balance of \$0 and Total Net Unbooked Disbursements of \$0, as reflected on the School Account Statement (SAS) Report.

Please also refer to [DLB-06-02](#), [DLB-06-04](#) and, [DLB 06-07](#) for more detailed information about closeout.

2006-2007 COD Technical Reference July 2006 HERA Updates Now Available (07/25/06)

The 2006-2007 COD Technical Reference July 2006 HERA updates are available on the IFAP Web site (<http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0724CODTechRef0607JulyUpdate.html>).

These updates comprise the third of three update installments related to the Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (the HERA), Pub. L. 109-171. For a complete list of updates, refer to the "0607 COD Technical Reference July 2006 Change Tracking Log."

If you have any questions about the technical reference, please contact the COD School Relations Center.

HERA Guidance Available On IFAP Web Site (05/08/06)

Communications related to the Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (the HERA), Pub. L. 109-171 are posted on the Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Web site (www.ifap.ed.gov). These communications include policy and operational guidance that impacts all student aid programs, systems, and processes. To assist users in easily locating HERA-related communications, they are available under the "Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (HERA) Information" link on the home page of the IFAP Web site. (The link is at the top of the "On-Line References" section.)

Federal Student Aid has posted and will continue to post guidance related to the Central Processing System (CPS), Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System, and EDExpress Suite, as Electronic Announcements. The summary for these Electronic Announcements will begin with "HERA Operational Implementation Guidance (CPS, COD System, EDExpress Suite)" so that they can be distinguished from other types of guidance. As explained above, the Electronic Announcements are available under the "Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (HERA) Information" link on the home page of the IFAP Web site.

Please plan to check the IFAP Web site on a regular basis.



Common Origination and Disbursement COD Processing Update

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.

- Direct Loan Rebuild File—

Schools in need of this file should contact the COD School Relations Center. (10/03/05)



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ACG, National SMART Grant, and Pell Grant Programs

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- 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 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. [10/03/05 (Updated 10/27/05)]