



Technical Update GA-2008-12

December 12, 2008

Enhancement to Enrollment Reporting Edit – Error Code 32

This information is intended for the person in your organization who is responsible for working with NSLDS. If that person is not you, please forward this update to the appropriate person.

The purpose of this Technical Update is to inform guaranty agencies (GA) of enhancements to an edit for school enrollment reporting. This new criteria for Error Code 32, in addition to the pre-existing criteria, will prevent school users from making mistakes that invalidate historical enrollment data when they fail to change a student's Enrollment Status Effective Date (ESED). The addition to the criteria for Error Code 32 was implemented on October 19, 2008.

Updating Student Enrollment Information

Accurate enrollment status reporting is critical for the effective administration of Title IV aid. Enrollment information is used to determine student borrowers' eligibility for in-school status, deferment, and grace periods. The accuracy of Title IV student loan records depends on the accuracy of the data reported by the school and other entities.

NSLDS has found that students' enrollment status has been changed from full (F), half-time (H), or an approved leave of absence (A) to an inactive status of graduated (G) or withdrawn (W) without updating the student's ESED. When viewing a student's detailed enrollment data, this action will make the new code effective with the old date and will appear to be correcting an earlier submission. This reporting mistake makes it appear as if the student never attended school.

Enhancement to Enrollment Edit 32

NSLDS will add the following conditions to Error Code 32 to prevent enrollment reporting that accidentally invalidates historical enrollment data because the ESED has not been changed. This will apply when the enrollment changes from active attendance (Full time, Half time, Approved leave of absence) to inactive attendance (Graduated or Withdrawn) with the same effective date.

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The NSLDS Enrollment Reporting Guide now defines Error Code 32 as follows:

“A school reporting an Enrollment Status Code, Enrollment Status Effective Date, or Anticipated Completion Date that does not match the current value stored in the database with a new Certification Date prior to the current Certification Date. On the Web, explained as “Please ensure Certification is not prior to a previous certification and ACD, or that Enrollment Code or Effective Date is different from last reported.”

NSLDS has enhanced the use of the error to apply when all the following conditions exist:

- The enrollment code being reported is different from the current certified code and the code change shows a difference between active attendance (Full-time, Half-time, Approved Leave of Absence) and inactive attendance (Graduated, Withdrawn, Less than Half-time).
- The enrollment status effective date being reported is the same as the current enrollment status effective date previously certified for the borrower at that school.
- The earliest certification of the current enrollment was reported one or more years prior to the current date. (Note: enrollment effective date is always less than or equal to certification date)
- More than one certification has occurred for the current enrollment data.

Correcting Errors

If the information schools submit contains errors, the school may submit an Error Correction File in the format of the submittal file with the records from the Acknowledgement/Error file corrected. Schools may also correct the rejected records by providing certification information for the student on the NSLDSFAP Web site.

Please refer to section A.3 in the NSLDS Enrollment Reporting Guide at <http://ifap.ed.gov/nsldsmaterials/090908NSLDSEnrollReportGuide.html> for further instruction regarding error notification and corrections.

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