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# Overview of Changes from 2008-2009 to 2009-2010



*This section provides an overview of the changes made from 2008-2009 to 2009-2010 for Common Origination and Disbursement (COD). The changes made for the 2009-2010 Award year will be implemented in the COD System beginning March 2009.*

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## Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) Changes

### Changes from 2008-2009 to 2009-2010

The change descriptions are organized by the following three categories: Added, Modified, and Removed. The first column provides a description of each change. The remaining columns indicate which programs the change will affect.

#### Additions to Common Origination and Disbursement

Description	Pell Grant Program	ACG Program	National SMART Grant Program	Direct Loan Program	TEACH Grant Program
TEACH Initial/Subsequent Counseling					✓
TEACH School Reports					✓
Mask SSN on Correspondence				✓	
TEACH Closeout					✓
Edits			✓	✓	

#### Modifications to Common Origination and Disbursement

Description	Pell Grant Program	ACG Program	National SMART Grant Program	Direct Loan Program	TEACH Grant Program
Pell Cost of Attendance	✓				
Removal of QA School Exemption	✓				
Interest Rebate Reduction				✓	
Loan Limit Changes				✓	
ECASLA Impacts		✓	✓		
Schema Updates	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Edits		✓	✓	✓	

#### Removals from Common Origination and Disbursement

Description	Pell Grant Program	ACG Program	National SMART Grant Program	Direct Loan Program	TEACH Grant Program
N/A	-	-	-	-	-

## Additions to COD for 2009-2010

As a result of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (CCRAA), Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program was made available to eligible students, beginning with the 2008-2009 Award Year. The following changes will be implemented in the COD System beginning March 2009 to accommodate the new grant program and enhance functionality for existing grant and loan programs.

### **TEACH Initial/Subsequent Counseling**

As part of the TEACH grant program, a new website for the Agreement to Serve (ATS), which services the TEACH grant, was implemented in June 2008. Beginning March 2009, TEACH Grant Counseling will be incorporated into the ATS Web site. It will be required for students to successfully complete TEACH Grant Counseling prior to submitting an ATS. The website will inform students about the TEACH Grant Counseling process, allow them to complete TEACH Grant Counseling via a final evaluation quiz, and view previously submitted TEACH Grant Counseling sessions. The website will also allow authorized users to perform administrative functions associated with TEACH Grant Counseling.

The COD system will receive, store, and process TEACH Grant Counseling data and will send TEACH Grant Counseling Acknowledgements to schools at which the student has a TEACH Award.

### **TEACH School Reports**

Beginning March 2009, the COD system will create the following new school reports for TEACH program:

- TEACH Rebuild
- Data Requested TEACH MRR
- ATS Discharge

### **Mask SSN on Correspondence**

Currently, correspondence documents sent to the borrower/student includes the borrower/student SSN which can be displayed independently or as part of an Award ID or Master Promissory Note (MPN) ID. An Award ID or MPN ID utilizes the borrower/student nine-digit SSN in conjunction with the award type or MPN type, award year, school code, and a unique sequence number. The Award ID or MPN ID is used to identify the borrower/student and is pulled into both legal and non-legal documentation. The following non legal documents are currently produced with the unmasked SSN displayed independently or as part of the Award ID/MPN ID:

- Cover Letters (Cover letters are printed with the Award ID)

For more information regarding TEACH Grant report layouts, please reference *Volume VI, Section 8 – COD Reports*. The message classes for the TEACH Grant reports are listed in *Volume II, Section 3 – Message Classes*.

For more information regarding SSN Masking on Correspondence, please reference *Volume VI, Section 6 – Print Specifications and Forms*.

- Disclosure Statements (Disclosure statements are printed with the Borrower/student SSN and Award ID)

Beginning March 2009, the SSN, Award ID, or MPN ID will be displayed and formatted on non-legal documents like the examples provided below.

- SSN: xxx-xx-0294
- Award ID: xxxxx0294S09G09811001
- MPN ID: xxxxx0294M09G09811001

The following legal document is currently produced with the unmasked SSN and should continue to be produced in this format:

- Master Promissory Notes (MPNs are produced with SSN and MPN ID)
- Endorser Addendums

### **TEACH Closeout**

For more information regarding the TEACH Closeout process and Extended Processing functionality, please reference *Volume II, Section 1 – Implementation Guide*.

At the end of each award year, schools have to perform closeout activities in order to confirm that they have reconciled all cash and disbursements and completed processing for an award year. Beginning March 2009, the COD System will implement TEACH Closeout functionality to will allow schools participating in the TEACH Grant Program to close out for the 2008-2009 Award Year and forward. Extended Processing system functionality, which will allow schools to continue to reconcile after the closeout date, will also be incorporated.

### **Edits**

The COD system will begin returning the following new Edit starting March 2009:

#### **Edit 167**

Edit 167, “Sum of Subsidized Awards exceeds the Subsidized Loan Limit,” will be triggered when a Subsidized loan is submitted that causes the sum of award amounts for all Subsidized loans to exceed the Subsidized Loan Limit. This will affect the Direct Loan program.

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## Modifications to COD for 2009-2010

### *Pell Cost of Attendance*

Currently when the COD system receives a Pell correcting school's Common Record with no <AttendanceCost> tag, the COD system places a default value of \$99,999.99 in the Cost of Attendance field, returns a Correcting Edit 993 (Missing Value), and accepts the Common Record. Beginning in March 2009, the COD System will place no default value of \$99,999.99 in the Cost of Attendance field; it will return a Rejecting Edit 994 (Missing Value), and will reject the Common Record at both correcting and rejecting schools for all Award Years.

### *Removal of QA School Exemption for Verification W Global Jobs*

Currently, the COD System exempts QA Schools from the Verification W process. Schools are allowed to make Pell Grant disbursements to students without the required application documentation. The school submits the student's record to COD and indicates the student is being accepted "without documentation" (W). Prior to the end of the award year, the required documentation must be completed by the student and the school must notify FSA that verification is complete. If the verification process has not been completed for a student prior to the end of the award year, FSA may reduce that student's disbursements to zero.

Beginning March 2009, the COD System will no longer exempt QA Schools from the Verification W process and will include QA Schools in Verification 'W' processing. Edits 061, 064, 114, 145 and 146 will be applied to awards and disbursements submitted by QA Schools as well as all other schools currently included in Verification 'W' processing. QA Schools will follow Verification 'W' business processing and rules.

### *Interest Rebate Reduction*

Currently, the COD System does not verify or store the amount submitted in the <InterestRebatePercent> tag of Sub/Unsub award types. Currently all Direct Loan Subsidized and Unsubsidized awards have an associated Interest Rebate of 1.5%, regardless of award year.

Beginning in March 2009, the COD System will implement new functionality affecting the Interest Rebate Percent. The Interest Rebate Percent will vary depending on the Interest Rebate Period in which the Earliest Disbursement Date (EDD) falls. As a result, the COD System will begin to verify and store the value submitted in the <InterestRebatePercent> tag of Direct Loan Subsidized and Unsubsidized award types.

Edits 140-144 will be modified so that awards with Interest Rebate Percentages that are inconsistent with the Earliest Disbursement Date will be rejected by the COD system.

For more information regarding the Interest Rebate Reduction changes, please reference *Volume II, Section 1 – Implementation Guide* as well as *Volume II, Section 4 – Edits*.

## Loan Limit Changes

New Direct Loan awards originated with an EDD of July 1, 2008 or later will be eligible to receive the new Loan Limits, which were increased by \$2,000.00 for undergraduate students. Subsequently, the following new loan limits will be implemented:

- Subsidized Loan Limit
- Dependent Combination Base Loan Limit
- Additional Unsubsidized Loan Limit

PPCI Loan Limit and HPPA Loan Limit will remain the same and are unaffected by these changes. Additionally, loan limits for graduate students (who have a student level code of 6 or 7) are unaffected.

For more information about these tags, please refer to the *Implementation Guide* section of this technical reference.

## Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loans Act (ECASLA) Impacts

Beginning with the 2009-2010 Award Year, 2 will be accepted as a valid value for Citizenship Status Code for the ACG and National SMART Grant programs.

Beginning with the 2009-2010 Award Year, Grade Level 5 will be accepted as a valid value for National SMART Grant. Edits 123, 132, and 136 have been updated to include Grade Level 5.

## Schema Changes

The schema version has been updated from version 3.0a to 3.0b. In addition to minor valid value changes, the new schema version will include an additional Counseling complex element and new tags in the Pell complex element.

### Addition of Counseling Complex Element

The Counseling complex element includes the new <Counseling> tag and contains the following new elements:

- <FinancialAwardYear>
- <CounselingType>
- <CounselingSequenceNumber>
- <CounselingCompleteDate>

For more information about these tags, please refer to the *Common Record Layout* section of this technical reference.

### Counseling Types

Counseling Type will have a value of TEACHCounseling for all initial/subsequent TEACH Grant Counseling sessions.

## Changes to Pell complex Element

The following tags, contained within the <Pell> tag, have been added:

- <FinancialAwardID>
- <FinancialAwardNumber>
- <AdditionalEligibilityIndicator>

For more information about these tags, please refer to the *Common Record Layout* section of this technical reference.

## Edits

Beginning March 2009, the COD system will employ new logic when returning the following edits:

### Edit 14

The COD system currently accepts a Citizenship Status Code of 1 when submitting ACG and National SMART Grant awards. The COD system will begin accepting 2 as a valid value for Citizenship Status Code.

### Edit 123, 132, 136

The COD system will begin accepting Student Level of 5 when submitting National SMART Grant awards.

### New Pell tags not used

Please note that although support has been added for these three tags that will be added to the Pell complex element for schema version 3.0b, the COD system will not validate, store, or return values submitted in this field. COD is only considering using the AdditionalEligibilityIndicator tag in the 2009-2010 award year.

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## Removals from COD for 2009-2010

No functionality has been removed from the COD System for the 2009-2010 Award Year.