



# NEW ORLEANS

NASFAA CONFERENCE 2002

The NASFAA Conference 2002 ♪ July 21-24 ♪ New Orleans, LA



**FSA**  
FEDERAL  
STUDENT AID

*We Help Put America Through School*



## Session 4

# Resolving Student Eligibility Issues

Ida Mondragon,  
Application Processing  
&  
Dan Klock,  
Program Development



# INS Automated Secondary Confirmation Match in 2003-04

- ◆ Applicant records that fail INS Primary Verification automatically go through the Secondary Confirmation process at INS.
- ◆ ISIRs that go to Secondary Confirmation will not be processed until the results of Secondary Confirmation are returned from INS or after three CPS computes, (on the 4<sup>th</sup> compute) whichever occurs first.
- ◆ Results from both Primary Verification and Secondary Confirmation will be provided on the resulting ISIR.



# INS Automated Secondary Confirmation Match in 2003-04

- ◆ If after three computes the record is not returned, the ISIR with Primary Verification Results will be processed and the Secondary Confirmation Match Flag will be "P" (for pending)
- ◆ When INS eventually returns the records with results from Secondary Confirmation, CPS generates a new SAR/ISIR with the results. (SYS GEN = I)





# INS Automated Secondary Confirmation Match in 2003-04

## TIPS

- ◆ If applicant fails Primary Verification and before FAA sends copies of documentation to INS, the FAA should confirm that the student identifiers on the ISIR, especially Alien Registration Number and date of birth, are accurate. If not correct, corrections to CPS should be submitted instead of paper Secondary Confirmation.
- ◆ In all cases, if the FAA does not receive a response to paper Secondary Confirmation request in 15 days, student is eligible for aid if documentation appears to support claim of eligible non-citizen.





# INS Automated Secondary Confirmation Match Flags

- ◆ Y = INS confirmed that the student is an eligible non-citizen, comment 120, No Resolution Required
- ◆ C = In Continuance, comment 105, SAR "C" code

Resolution: School is encouraged, but not required, to wait ten business days for another systems generated ISIR with updated Secondary Confirmation match flag before beginning mandatory paper (G-845S) Secondary Confirmation process.



# INS Automated Secondary Confirmation Match Flags - *cont.*

- ◆ N = INS did not confirm student eligibility, comment 46, SAR "C" Code

Resolution: School must begin paper (G-845S) Secondary Confirmation process.

- ◆ X = INS did not confirm student eligibility because additional information is needed. Comment 109, SAR "C" code

Resolution: School must begin paper (G-845S) Secondary Confirmation process.



# NSLDS Financial Aid History New on ISIRs for 2003-2004

- ◆ Added an additional NSLDS Database Results Flag value of "5" for Real-time transaction, not sent to NSLDS
  - 1 = Record matched, data sent
  - 2 = SSN match, no name or date of birth match, no data sent
  - 3 = SSN not found in NSLDS
  - 4 = Full match, no relevant data to send
  - 5 = Real-time transaction, not sent to NSLDS
  - Blank = Record not sent, all NSLDS fields will be blank





# NSLDS Financial Aid History New on ISIRs for 2003-2004

- ◆ Added Direct Loan Plus Master Prom Note Flag. Valid field values are:

A = Active

C = Closed

I = Inactive

N = No MPN on file

U = Unavailable

Blank = No data from NSLDS





# NSLDS Financial Aid History New on ISIRs for 2003-2004

- ◆ Replaced Discharged Loan status from a Y/N flag to provide more specific status:

C = Conditional

D = Death

M = Multiple

N = None

P = Permanent

R= Reaffirmed





# NSLDS Financial Aid History New on ISIRs for 2003-2004

- ◆ Deleted NSLDS Pell Remaining Amount to be Paid field
- ◆ Loan Detail section of printed SAR and ISIR will have a clarified title of "Defaulted/Discharged Loan Detail Information:"
- ◆ Clarification: NSLDS Pell School Code is the school the student attended, not necessarily the school that reported data to NSLDS.





# NSLDS Financial Aid History New on ISIRs for 2003-2004

- ◆ NSLDS Postscreening will be moved up to start earlier in the processing cycle (right after start up) and more frequently (weekly).
- ◆ Postscreening Reason Code has been increased in field length to 6 bytes to accommodate two more reason codes at 2 bytes each.
- ◆ Added three additional postscreening reason codes of 11, 12 and 13.





# NSLDS Financial Aid History New on ISIRs for 2003-2004

## NSLDS Postscreening codes for 2003-04

- 01 = Default added
- 02 = Overpayment added
- 03 = Default resolved
- 04 = Overpayment resolved
- 05 = Master Promissory Note status change
- 06 = Loan went into Discharged status
- 07 = Loan went out of Discharged status
- 08 = Closed school
- 09 = Exceeded Subsidized loan limit
- 10 = Exceeded Combined loan limit
- 11 = No longer exceeding subsidized loan status
- 12 = No longer exceeding combined loan limit
- 13 = Change in type of discharged loan
- 99 = Other
- blank = Not a Postscreening record



# SSA Date of Death Match

- ◆ SSN Match Flag = 5, CPS Reject 8
  - Must contact SSA to clarify or request fix to data base.
  - SAR/ISIR correction must be made to SSN , name or date of birth (can be to the same value) to ensure that SSN Match with SSA is conducted and updated match flag is provided.

## SSA Prisoner Match

- ◆ Officially eliminated in 2003-04



# FAFSA Drug Question 35 Not a Data Match

TO: Financial Aid Administrators  
FROM: Application Processing  
Students Channel, FSA  
DATE: April 16, 2002  
SUBJECT: Reminder: Guidance on FAFSA Drug Conviction  
Question #35

Please do not confuse an applicant's response to FAFSA Drug Conviction Question #35 with our Department of Justice (DOJ) data match regarding the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988. If an applicant is on the DOJ Drug Abuse file, the ISIR would have Reject 19, comment 009 and an EFC will not be calculated.

For responses on the FAFSA Drug Conviction Question #35, students should follow the guidance provided in the SAR/ISIR comment text. **Please do not refer applicants to the Department of Education for resolution.**



# FAFSA Drug Question 35 Not a Data Match

◆ Self Reported responses by the applicant to CPS:

1 = No, I do not have a drug conviction affecting my eligibility - No Comment, No Resolution Required

2 = Yes, I have a drug conviction that affects my eligibility for part of the award year - Comment 54, SAR "C" code

You reported a '2' in response to Item 35. This indicates that you are ineligible for federal student aid for part of the 2003-2004 school year. Your period of ineligibility resulting from your drug-related conviction(s) ends on or after July 1, 2003 but before June 30, 2004. You should contact your FAA when your ineligibility period ends so that he or she can determine if you may receive federal funds during the 2003-2004 award year.

# FAFSA Drug Question 35 Not a Data Match - cont.

- ◆ Resolution for student response of 2 = part year eligibility
  - If the period of ineligibility ends prior to June 30 of the award year (6/30/03 for the '02-'03 award year) the student should:
    - Have completed the Question 35 worksheet,
    - Changed the answer to Q 35 to "2" on the SAR and signed and returned the SAR or called 1-800-4-FED-AID, and
    - As of the date the period of ineligibility ends, the applicant shall self-certify to the FAA that he or she has regained eligibility prior to the end of the award year.
    - NOTE: The student can regain eligibility by completing an acceptable rehab program.

# FAFSA Drug Question 35 Not a Data Match - cont.

## ◆ Self Reported responses by the applicant on the SAR:

3 = Yes, I have a drug conviction affecting my eligibility  
**or** I don't know if I have a drug conviction -  
Comment 56/58, SAR "C" code.

You reported in Item 35 that you have been convicted of an illegal drug offense. Use the enclosed worksheet to determine if your conviction(s) affect your eligibility for federal student aid. If you determine that your conviction(s) do not affect your eligibility for federal student aid, or affect it for only part of the 2003-2004 school year, you must correct Item 35 by using your SAR. You can also correct this item or get additional help with this question by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).

**YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID WHILE YOUR ANSWER TO ITEM 35 IS '3'.** Whether or not your conviction(s) affect your eligibility for federal student aid, you may still be eligible to receive state, school, or other non-federal student aid.

# FAFSA Drug Question 35 Not a Data Match - cont.

- ◆ Resolution for student response of 3 on the SAR-not eligible
  - The student is not eligible for federal student aid for the award year, unless the student completes an acceptable drug rehabilitation program.
  - An acceptable drug rehabilitation program is defined as;
    - a program that includes at least two unannounced drug test, and
    - has received or is qualified to receive funds directly or indirectly under a Federal, State, or local government program;
    - Is administered or recognized by a Federal, State, or local government;
    - Has received or is qualified to receive payment directly or indirectly from a Federally- or State-licensed hospital, health clinic or medical doctor.



# Drug Abuse Data Match Hold File with Department of Justice

- ◆ Department of Justice indicates to CPS that a Judge has denied an applicant any Federal Benefits because of drug abuse offenses. - Comment 9, Reject 19

"We cannot process your application further because of issues raised by terms of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988. For information on how to proceed, you must contact us within 30 days from the date of this letter by telephone at 202-377-3243."



# Drug Abuse Data Match Hold File with Department of Justice

- ◆ Resolution for Reject 19 - Drug Abuse Hold

Not eligible for aid. May be resolved only by ED in cooperation with Department of Justice.

If resolution is achieved, CPS will systems generate an ISIR with SYS GEN indicator of "A" and comment code 55.

# 2003-04 CPS Reject Reasons

- ◆ Two types of CPS Rejects:
  - Verifiable Rejects
    - alpha characters
  
  - Non-Verifiable Rejects
    - numeric characters

# 2003-04 CPS Reject Reasons

- ◆ Verifiable Rejects - alpha characters
  - can re-enter same value, or “verify” that the information causing the reject is correct and reject will not be re-applied
  - information causing reject can be corrected to another value and regular edit logic will be applied
  - for rejects B, N, and W, and **new for 2003-04 C and A**, overrides can be set in electronic products that will “verify” the information is correct before being rejected by CPS

# New 2003-04 CPS Reject Reason Codes

Verifiable Reject Code	Comment Code	Reject Reason
C	154 155	Taxes Paid is greater than zero, not equal to or greater than AGI, and greater than or equal to 40% of AGI.
R	60	Date of Birth Mismatch with SSA



# New 2003-04 CPS Reject Reason Codes

Verifiable Reject Code	Comment Code	Reject Reason
A	69	Age 75 or older
B	72	Age 16 or younger and Independent

NOTE: Will not reject if SSN Match Flag = 4



# New 2003-04 CPS Reject Reason Codes

Verifiable Reject Code	Comment Code	Reject Reason
D	166	Father's SSN invalid and no mother's SSN provided or also invalid
E	167	Mother's SSN invalid and no father's SSN provided or also invalid

# 2003-04 CPS Reject Reason Codes

- ◆ Non-Verifiable Rejects - Numeric characters
  - information causing the reject must be corrected to another value and regular edit logic will be applied

# New 2003-04 CPS Reject Reason Codes

Non-Verifiable Reject Code	Comment Code	Reject Reason
9	49	Blank Father's and Mother's SSN
12	111 114	Taxes Paid Greater than zero and equal to or greater than AGI

# Questions?

- ◆ Ida Mondragon
  - e-mail:
    - [ida.mondragon@ed.gov](mailto:ida.mondragon@ed.gov)
  - Voice:
    - 202-377-3243
  
- ◆ Dan Klock
  - e-mail:
    - [dan.klock@ed.gov](mailto:dan.klock@ed.gov)
  - Voice:
    - 202-377-4026