



## Policy Changes Approved

*Unified Student Loan Policy*

Batch 207: Proposals 1316 & 1317

The nation's guarantors provide the following summaries to inform schools, lenders, and servicers of the latest *Common Manual* policy changes. These changes will appear in the manual's next annual update. These changes will also be incorporated into the Integrated *Common Manual*. The Integrated *Common Manual* is available on several guarantor websites, and it is also available on the *Common Manual's* website at [www.commonmanual.org](http://www.commonmanual.org). Please carefully note the effective date of each policy change.

### Federal Deferment Forms

The Department discontinued the Public Service Deferment Request (PUB), the Parental Leave/Working Mother Deferment Request (PLWM), and the Education Related Deferment Request (EDU) common deferment forms. Also, the Department removed the Student in Rehabilitation Training deferment type from the Parent PLUS Borrower Deferment Request (PLUS). They also created two new deferment request forms, Graduate Fellowship Deferment Request (GFL) and Rehabilitation Training Deferment Request (RHT), and provided guidance in Dear Colleague Letter GEN-16-02 on the documentation that the lender must collect when a borrower requests a deferment for which there is no longer an OMB-approved form. The Department also provided guidance on requirements for considering a deferment form "complete."

- Affected Section(s):**
- 2.3.C Common Forms
  - 11.1.B Documentation Required for Authorized Deferment
  - 11.2.B Deferment Documentation–ACTION Program
  - 11.3.B Deferment Documentation–Armed Forces
  - 11.5.B Deferment Documentation–Graduate Fellowship
  - 11.7.B Deferment Documentation–Internship/Residency
  - 11.9.B Deferment Documentation–NOAA
  - 11.10.B Deferment Documentation–Parental Leave
  - 11.11.B Deferment Documentation–Peace Corps
  - 11.13.B Deferment Documentation–Public Health Service
  - 11.14.B Deferment Documentation–Rehabilitation Training Program
  - 11.15.B Deferment Documentation–Tax-Exempt Organization Volunteer
  - 11.16.B Deferment Documentation–Teacher Shortage Area
  - 11.17.B Deferment Documentation–Temporary Total Disability
  - 11.19.B Deferment and Forbearance
  - Figure 11-1 Deferment Eligibility Chart

**Effective Date:** For deferments, revised forms provided to borrowers on or after June 1, 2016

**Basis:** Dear Colleague Letter (DCL) GEN-16-02, issued January 29, 2016.

**Policy Information:** 1316/Batch 207

**Guarantor Comments:** None.

### Common Forbearance Forms

The Department has provided guidance on the use of OMB-approved forbearance request forms and the *Common Manual* has been updated with that guidance. These forms include a new General Forbearance Request (GFB) form and updated Mandatory Forbearance Request forms (SLDB and SERV).

- Affected Section(s):**
- 11.20.B Documentation Required for Authorized Forbearance
  - 11.22 Discretionary Forbearance

Figure 11-2 Forbearance Eligibility Chart

**Effective Date:** For mandatory forbearance forms distributed on or after June 1, 2016, and discretionary (general) forbearance forms distributed on or after July 1, 2016.

**Basis:** Dear Colleague Letter (DCL) GEN-16-02, issued January 29, 2016, and DCL GEN-16-06, issued March 11, 2016.

**Policy Information:** 1317/Batch 207

**Guarantor Comments:** None.