

### Policy Changes Approved January 20, 2011

Unified Student Loan Policy

Batch 173: Proposals 1216, 1226 - 1229

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. Please carefully note the effective date of each policy change.

### **Teacher Loan Forgiveness Eligibility**

The *Common Manual* has been updated to clarify that, in the case of a borrower with an outstanding balance on a FFELP or FDLP loan on October 1, 1998, the borrower must pay the loan in full or obtain a full loan discharge in order to qualify for teacher loan forgiveness on a subsequent loan(s) that the borrower obtains after October 1, 1998. In addition, if a borrower obtains a FFELP or FDLP loan(s) after October 1, 1998, while an outstanding balance remains on a loan the borrower obtained on or after October 1, 1998, the borrower must pay in full or obtain a full loan discharge on all of the borrower's outstanding loans in order to qualify for teacher loan forgiveness on any subsequent loan(s). For this purpose, paid in full does not include paid in full through consolidation. To illustrate the concept, an example has been added to the Manual.

Affected Sections: Effective Date:	13.9.A Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program Teacher loan forgiveness applications or teacher loan forgiveness forbearance requests received by a lender on or after May 14, 2010, for new borrowers after October 1, 1998, unless implemented earlier by the guarantor or lender.	
Basis:	§682.216(a); private guidance from Jon Utz of the Department dated May 14, 2010; private guidance from Jon Utz dated February 6, 2008.	
Policy Information: Guarantor Comments:	1216/173 None.	

# Eligibility for Total and Permanent Disability Discharge When a Loan Is Paid in Full by Involuntary Payment

The *Common Manual* has been updated to clarify a borrower's eligibility for discharge if a loan was paid in full by involuntary payment within 30 days of the guarantor's receipt of the discharge application.

Affected Sections:	13.8.G Total and Permanent Disability		
Effective Date:	Total and permanent disability loan discharge applications received on or after		
	October 1, 2010.		
Basis:	Department of Education Electronic Announcement dated September 10, 2010.		
Policy Information:	1226/173		
Guarantor Comments:	None.		

#### Refund of Payments When Borrower Approved for Total and Permanent Disability Discharge

The *Common Manual* has been revised to clarify when payments received after the date that the physician completed and certified the borrower's total and permanent disability loan discharge application will be refunded. For loans on which the loan discharge application is received prior to July 1, 2010, if the payments are received when the loan is in a conditional discharge period, those payments are refunded at the end of that period. However, if the loan discharge application is received on or after July 1, 2010, payment received after the date that the physician completed and certified the borrower's loan discharge application and during the post-discharge monitoring period will be refunded when the Department determines that the borrower satisfies the criteria for total and permanent disability loan discharge.

Affected Sections:	13.8.G Total and Permanent Disability		
Effective Date:	Discharge Application: Total and Permanent Disability received by the loan holder		
	on or after July 1, 2010.		
Basis:	§682.402(c)(3)(ii).		
Policy Information:	1227/173		
Guarantor Comments:	None.		

## Exceeding Loan Limits and Prior Overpayments Data Match, Prior Default Data Matches and Reinstatement of Title IV Eligibility

The *Common Manual* has been revised by reorganizing Subsection 5.2.D, NSLDS Data Match, by creating separate subsections for prior overpayment and prior default information and creating a new section for reinstatement of Title IV eligibility. This change allows these topics to appear in the table of contents making it easier for the reader to find. As currently constructed, the title for Subsection 5.2.D, NSLDS Data Match, doesn't tell the reader what information the NSLDS data match performs. These changes also separate the topics into more logical groupings.

Affected Sections:	5.2.D	NSLDS Data Match
	5.2.E	Department of Justice Data Match
	5.2.F	Department of Veterans Affairs Data Match
Effective Date:	None.	
Basis:	None.	
Policy Information:	1228/173	
Guarantor Comments:	None.	