

Policy Changes Approved

Unified Student Loan Policy

Batch 208: Proposals 1318 & 1319

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* released in the next annual update. 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.

Mandatory and Mandatory Administrative Forbearance

Revised policy adds an additional cross-reference to Subsection 11.23.D, provide clarity to Subsection 11.24.C on certain mandatory forbearance types, and reference the applicable OMB-approved common forbearance request forms. Revisions also include additional regulatory citations. Common policy also explains in which cases use of the common mandatory forbearance forms is required and in which cases the lender may obtain alternate documentation.

Affected Section(s): 11.23.D Teacher Loan Forgiveness

11.24.C National Service, Loan Forgiveness, Department of Defense

Repayment, or Active Military State Duty

Effective Date: For mandatory forbearance forms distributed on or after June 1, 2016

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

Policy Information: 1318/Batch 208

Guarantor Comments: None.

FFELP Interest Rates

The Common Manual has been revised to update the Manual's text and corresponding Figures that display fixed and variable interest rates for FFELP Stafford loans. The changes to Subsection 7.4.A and Figure 7-1 removed fixed interest rates that never became effective for FFELP loans. The changes to Figure H-1 added variable interest rates changes to date.

Affected Section(s): 7.4.A Current Stafford Interest Rates

Figure 7-1 Stafford Loan Interest Rates

Figure H-1 Summary of Variable-Rate Conversion Provisions

Effective Date: Changes in FFELP variable interest rates on July 1, 2011 and thereafter.

Basis: HEA Sections 427A & 455.

Policy Information: 1319/Batch 208

Guarantor Comments: None