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Oct. 11, 2005

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President Signs HEA Extension

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[Revised Loan Discharge Applications](#)

President Signs HEROES Extension

On September 30, President Bush signed into law an extension of the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students (HEROES) Act (H.R. 2132). The HEROES Act has been extended for two years from September 30, 2005, making the expiration date September 30, 2007. Additional information regarding the HEROES' provisions can be found in our Jan. 28, 2004 newsletter.

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School Users Can View Meteor Data via Mapping Your Future

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People News

Calvin Butler is now at Community Care Clg.

"Single-holder" Rule Extended by ED

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Matt Wright is now at Student Loan Xpress.

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10/11/2005

Common Manual News

The Common Manual Governing Board recently approved changes that modified policies contained in the July 2005 version of the Common Manual. These changes are identified in OGSLP's Common Manual Update, CM-93. These revisions will soon be included in the integrated version of the Common Manual. The integrated version gives you the most up-to-date policy information available. You can view the entire Common Manual including the monthly changes made since the July 2005 print date.



10/11/2005

Revised Loan Discharge Applications Now Available

The Department of Education (ED) recently announced the revised Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved loan discharge application forms in [Dear Colleague Letter \(DCL\) GEN-05-12](#). The revised forms are available for immediate use. However, beginning February 28, 2006, only the new loan discharge forms may be provided to eligible borrowers.

Please note that forms distributed prior to February 28, 2006, and submitted after this date are still eligible for processing. You may refer to [DCL GEN-05-12](#) for printing and reproduction instructions.

The following revised forms are also available on [OGSLP's Web site](#).

- **Loan Discharge Application: School Closure** - Used by borrowers who were unable to complete their program of study because their school closed.
- **Loan Discharge Application: False Certification of Ability to Benefit** - Used by borrowers who did not possess a high school diploma (or its equivalent) and whose "ability to benefit" (ATB) was falsely certified by their school.
- **Loan Discharge Application: False Certification (Disqualifying Status)** - Used by borrowers whose eligibility was falsely certified by their school due to a disqualifying status or condition of the student.
- **Loan Discharge Application: Unauthorized Signature/Unauthorized Payment** - Used by borrowers when there was an unauthorized signature/endorsement or unauthorized payment by the school.



10/11/2005

Revised Child Care Provider Loan Forgiveness Now Available

The availability of a revised Child Care Provider Loan Forgiveness Application for Renewal Benefits and a revised Child Care Provider Loan Forgiveness Forbearance Form was announced by the Department of Education (ED) in [Dear Colleague Letter \(DCL\) GEN-05-11](#).

Even though ED is not accepting new applicants into the program because no additional funding has been provided, an application for renewal benefits is available for those borrowers who have previously been granted forgiveness under the Child Care Provider Loan Forgiveness Program. Renewal borrowers will need to contact ED's Child Care Provider Loan Forgiveness Processing Unit for the renewal application (contact information is provided in the DCL).

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved Child Care Provider Loan Forgiveness Forbearance Form is available for immediate use. Program participants may begin distributing the revised form immediately. However, beginning February 28, 2006, only the new forbearance request may be provided to eligible borrowers. Please note that forms distributed prior to February 28, 2006, and submitted after this date are still eligible for processing, if applicable.

The Child Care Provider Loan Forgiveness Forbearance Form is available for those borrowers who have previously been granted forgiveness under the Child Care Provider Loan Forgiveness Program and who meet other eligibility requirements. [Click here to access the forbearance form on OGSLP's Web site](#).



10/11/2005

Sample Default Prevention and Management Plan Updated by ED

[Dear Colleague Letter \(DCL\) GEN-05-14](#) includes a copy of the "Sample Default Prevention and Management Plan." By adding new material and expanding the information previously provided in "Sample Default Management Plan," first published in June 2001, the renamed document better reflects the objectives sought when implementing the original plan.



10/11/2005

2005 NASFAA Fall Training

The National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) has announced the topic for its 2005 Fall Training Workshops, "Administrative Capability: Campus-Wide Compliance." SWASFAA will offer this workshop in Stillwater, Oklahoma on Tuesday, November 8. Stay tuned to the SWASFAA listserv for more details on registration.

"The focus of the workshops will be developing strategies to ensure and strengthen the cross-campus communication necessary to demonstrate Title IV administrative capability. Administrative capability is at the heart of the Title IV regulations, encompassing many of the measures of an institution's Title IV eligibility. Effective cross-campus communication is, therefore, key to achieving compliance with federal regulations." You can also visit [NASFAA's Web site](#) for more information.



10/11/2005

Product Update

Later this month, Sallie Mae will make system upgrades that will benefit both school and lender customers. Following are two upgrades that will occur on October 24, 2005:

Lenders and Schools to View Comments on ONWLD

This enhancement will allow lenders and schools to view comments that are made on OpenNet Web Loan Delivery (ONWLD). Lenders and schools will be able to see the comments entered by the user at their institution, as well as, the user id of the person who made the change. OpenNet will display the comment's source type (LD - Lender, LS – Lender Servicer, SC - School, and SS – School Servicer.) Also, if a comment is filtered out, the activity will still display.

Disbursement Roster Options

This enhancement will allow more flexibility with disbursement rosters for participants in OGSLP's Disbursement Service. The lender and guarantor breaks will be removed from the roster so that schools will have more sorting options such as: borrower social security number, borrower name, student social security, student name, loan program name, product (private versus FFELP), and school use.

For more information on these enhancements, please contact OGSLP's Client Solutions department at 405.234.4329 or 800.247.0420, ext. 239.



10/11/2005

Scholarship Opportunities

Oklahoma Money Matters (OKMM) - AmeriCorps Education Award Program
Through a federal partnership with AmeriCorps, OKMM offers an Education Award program. Members who successfully complete a term of service teaching fellow Oklahomans about personal finance, consumer credit, and student financial aid are eligible to receive a \$1,000 Education Award voucher from the National Service Trust to pay college expenses, such as tuition, room and board, and repayment of student loans.

New OKMM AmeriCorps members are enrolled in January, June, and September each year. To join the program, applicants must contact a participating field site; currently, there are 13 field sites in central, eastern, and western Oklahoma. Participants must be at least 17 years old and hold a high school diploma or GED. All applicants are subject to an OSBI criminal history and background check.

For more information about the OKMM AmeriCorps program or to discuss adding your organization as a field site, call 405-234-4457 or 1-800-970-OKMM, or visit www.oklahomamoneymatters.org.



10/11/2005

President Signs HEA Extension

On September 30, President Bush signed into law an extension of the Higher Education Extension Act (HEA) of 2005 (H.R. 3784). The HEA was set to expire on September 30, 2005. The legislation has now extended each program authorized under the HEA for three months until December 31, 2005.

Letters were sent to Congress by the National Council of Higher Education Loan Program (NCHELP), Consumer Bankers Association, Education Finance Council, Nelnet, Student Loan Servicing Center and Sallie Mae, urging the completion of the HEA Reauthorization and thanking the committees for passage of the three-month HEA extension.

The current status of H.R. 609 (College Access and Opportunity Act of 2005) and S. 1614 (Higher Education Amendments of 2005) can be found on the Thomas Web site at: <http://thomas.loc.gov>. NCHELP also has a helpful segment on Reauthorization activities on their [Web site](#). This information should be a useful resource as we all continue to watch the process of Reauthorization.



10/11/2005

School Users Can View Meteor Data via Mapping Your Future

School users logging into Mapping Your Future's (MYF) Online Student Loan Counseling (OSLC) FAO Access Area can now view borrower data in Meteor. MYF is a Meteor access provider, authenticating school users so they can access Meteor data without establishing a separate login. OGSLP participates in Meteor as a data provider.

Meteor provides financial aid professionals with the ability to access timely, student-specific financial aid information from multiple sources. It is a shared effort of leading Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) business partners who have chosen to sponsor the project. Currently, Meteor provides information on FFELP loans and alternative loans. Over time, it is the sponsors' vision that it will include information on Direct Student Loans, Perkins Loans, Pell Grants, and state grants.

To view borrower data via Meteor, login to your secure FAO Access Area on the [MYF Web site](#). You will see the Meteor logo under the link within a box labeled Meteor Access. Follow the link, which will open Meteor in a separate browser window. Your MYF session will stay active until you logout or close the browser window, or until it self expires after 30 minutes. Once you have accessed borrower records in Meteor, click "Logout" to end your session and close the browser window.

Data providers currently participating in Meteor provide over 70 percent of the FFELP guaranty volume, and that number is growing. Borrowers whose lender, servicer, or guarantor is a data provider will have records available for your review. A list of Meteor data providers is located at www.nchelp.org/pages/page.cfm?id=50. More data will be available as additional organizations sign up as data providers.

School access is the first collaborative effort between MYF and Meteor. MYF volunteers and Meteor advisory and technical team members are working on other projects, including displaying Meteor data for borrowers during their exit counseling sessions on MYF. The joint team is developing a proof of concept for this project and then will look to do a pilot with one or more schools.

If you have questions about accessing Meteor data from MYF, contact CariAnne Behr at feedback@mappingyourfuture.org or (573) 634-8641.



10/11/2005

Updated Fax Number and Contact Information - Late Disbursements Beyond 120-Days

The Department of Education (ED) announced in [GEN-05-13](#) the updated procedures for requesting approval to make a late disbursement of Title IV aid beyond the 120-day late disbursement period. As you will recall, earlier guidance was provided in [GEN-05-07](#) (OGSLP also posted an article in May 2005).

The updated procedural guidance changes:

- The fax number to which a school or third party servicer must fax a request for approval and the instructions for addressing the fax cover sheet.
- The point of contact to which a school or its third party servicer may direct questions about the procedures for requesting approval.

No other substantive changes have been made to the prior guidance. [GEN-05-13](#) includes the complete text of the earlier letter ([GEN-05-07](#)), with all updated information shown in bold italics. Therefore, [GEN-05-13](#) supersedes [GEN-05-07](#) and should be retained for future reference.



10/11/2005

“Single-holder” Rule Extended by ED

The Department of Education (ED) announced an extension of guidance regarding consolidation loans in [Dear Colleague Letter \(DCL\) FP-05-09](#). Earlier in August 2004, [DCL FP-04-06](#) announced ED’s decision not to deny reinsurance for FFELP Consolidation loans that do not comply with ED’s interpretation of the single-holder rule in certain circumstances described in that letter, as long as all Loan Verification Certificates were sent to loan holders by September 30, 2005 (unless the Higher Education Act was reauthorized before that date). As announced in [DCL FP-05-09](#), this date has now been extended to March 31, 2006.