

LOUISIANA STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
Loan Program Memorandum

LPM NO.: L2008-5

EFFECTIVE DATE: As indicated

PUB. DATE: Oct. 31, 2008

DISTRIBUTION: Lenders; College, University and LAICU Financial Aid and Business Offices and Registrars; Tech School Personnel and Campus Deans; and Proprietary Schools.

TOPIC: Common Manual Update

To assure that your Common Manual remains current, please record this document on your LPM/LPB index and retain it in Appendix E of your manual.

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 *Common Manual's* website at www.commonmanual.org. Please carefully note the effective date of each policy change.

Identity Theft

The *Common Manual* has been revised to include identity theft in the list of circumstances under which a lender may be eligible for claim payment in the FFELP overview in Chapter 2. The *Common Manual* has also been revised to state that a borrower who has defaulted on his or her loan is eligible for a new FFELP loan if the defaulted loan has been discharged because the borrower is determined to be the victim of the crime of identity theft. In addition, the definition of the term Adischarge@ has been updated to include the crime of identity theft.

Affected Sections:

2.2.C Repayment
5.2.D NSLDS Data Match
Appendix G

Effective Date:

False certification as a result of identity theft loan discharge claims processed by the lender on or after September 8, 2006.

Basis:

'682.402(e)(14).

Policy Information:

1060/Batch 152

Guarantor Comments:

None.

Academic Competitiveness and National SMART Grant Definitions

The *Common Manual* has been updated to include glossary definitions for the Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG) and National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent (National SMART) Grant Programs.

The ACG is a federal need- and merit-based grant that is intended to encourage a student to complete a rigorous secondary school program of study. The National SMART Grant is also a federal need- and merit-based grant that is intended to encourage a student to major in one of

the physical, life, or computer sciences; engineering; technology; mathematics; or a critical foreign language.

A cross-reference to the FSA Handbook was included in the new glossary definitions for the ACG and National SMART Grant Programs, and was added to the existing APell Grant@ glossary definition.

Affected Sections: **Appendix G**
Effective Date: July 1, 2006.
Basis: Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-171); HEA '401A; 2008-09 FSA Handbook, Vol. 1, Chapter 6, p. 1-63.
Policy Information: 1061/Batch 152
Guarantor Comments: None.

Common Review Initiative Update

The *Common Manual* has been updated by removing information about the Common Review Initiative from Appendix F and placing the information in Chapter 17, Program Review.

Affected Sections: **Chapter 17 Program Review**
Appendix F Common Review Initiative
Effective Date: January 1, 2008.
Basis: None.
Policy Information: 1062/Batch 152
Guarantor Comments: None.

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