



Technical Update GA-2009-04

August 28, 2009

NSLDS Enhancements for Tracking and Monitoring ECASLA Programs

This information is intended for the person in your organization who is responsible for working with NSLDS. If that person is not you, please forward this update to the appropriate person.

Introduction

The purpose of this National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) Technical Update is to inform Guaranty Agencies (GAs) of enhancements we have made to NSLDS to monitor and track programs created by the Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loans Act of 2008 (the ECASLA), Pub. L. 110-227. The NSLDS enhancements compare loans funded under the Loan Participation Program (LPP) to the loans reported to NSLDS by GAs and provide new reports to assist GAs in tracking and identifying loans including one to reflect the change in ownership and servicing for loans sold to the Department of Education (the Department) under the Loan Purchase (PUT) programs.

Loan Participation Program

We created a process through which we receive a copy of all LPP files as funding requests are made to the Department's Financial Management System (FMS). In January 2009, we began receiving files that lenders sent FMS to identify loans in the LPP. In April 2009, we began loading this data into the NSLDS database. As the LPP files are received, NSLDS attempts to link the loans to loans that have been reported to NSLDS by a GA.

Through this process, NSLDS compares the information from the two separate loan submissions based on the student identifiers, school code, loan date, and loan type. When there are multiple loans found during this process, NSLDS performs additional comparisons to match the loans on NSLDS to the loans in the LPP files. NSLDS maintains a history of all loans that are reported by the GA that are linked to funding under the LPP. In addition, the NSLDS linking process provides a valuable oversight tool to insure that loans funded under the LPP have been guaranteed. There are LPP loans that NSLDS has been unable to link to guaranteed loans on the database. We have enhanced the [NSLDS Professional Access Web site](#) with new functionality to allow GA Online Loan Update users to review and connect those loans.

830 First St. N.E., Washington, DC 20202
www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov
1-800-4-FED-AID

Web Enhancements for LPP

Through the creation and implementation of these new LPP Web pages, we seek the assistance of GAs in matching unlinked LPP loans. The authorized GA Online Loan Update users at each GA will have access to the LPP loan linking capability described below.

The first of the available pages can be accessed by clicking on the Org Tab and then selecting Unlinked Loan List.

START HERE
GO FURTHER
FEDERAL STUDENT AID

National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS)

Menu Aid Enroll Org Report

Org Contact List | Org Search | Data Provider Schedule | Repayment Information | Cohort Default Rate | Loan Unlock Maintenance | School Profile |

Unlinked Loan List

Logged on as: GATST4 LOAN+TLF/DISCHRG UPDTR from [USO FUNDS, INC.](#)

Unlinked Loan List

Sort By: SSN

Display Only: SSN: [input] Last Name: [input] Date of Birth: [input] (MMDDCCYY)

Retrieve

PRIVACY ACT OF 1974 (AS AMENDED)

FOIA | Privacy | Security | Notices

WhiteHouse.gov | USA.gov | ED.gov

*Example of Unlinked Loan List Page
(Also available in Attachment A)*

- **Unlinked Loan List (see screenshot above):** The Unlinked Loan List page provides authorized Online Loan Update users with a list of LPP loan identifiers submitted by Custodian Lenders to FMS. A user can retrieve all loans reported with their GA code by using the Sort By option as SSN or LastName/FirstName. To retrieve information about specific students, use the Display Only fields and select by SSN, Last Name, and Date of Birth separately or in combination. After clicking on the retrieve button, the list displays reported LPP loans that NSLDS has been unable to link to a loan reported by the GA.

After selecting a loan on the list, the user will have additional Web pages to complete the linking process.

- **Unlinked Loan Comparison:** The Unlinked Loan Comparison page is presented after selecting a loan from the Unlinked Loan List page. From here, a user can review and compare a loan reported by a Custodian Lender and link it to the loan as it was reported by the GA through the normal NSLDS loan reporting process. The page displays the potential eligible unlinked loans with up to 33 different loan data elements and values, as reported by the respective data providers. After comparing the unlinked LPP loan to the possible GA-reported loan matches, the user can select the GA-reported loan he or she determines to be the same LPP loan. Optionally, the user can enter the seven unique loan identifiers to find an exact match for linking to an NSLDS loan. If the Unlinked Loan is not associated with the user's GA, the user can select "Loan does not belong to my GA" and click submit. The screenshot is available in Attachment A.
- **Unlinked Loan Confirmation:** The Unlinked Loan Confirmation page is presented after selecting a loan to link from the Unlinked Loan Comparison page. From here, the user reviews the Unlinked

Loan column data elements and the selected Potential NSLDS Match column data elements. Confirming the selection will link the loans, display a confirmation update message, and removes the loan from the Unlinked Loan List page. Selecting “Cancel” will take the user back to the Unlinked Loan Comparison page. The screenshot is available in Attachment A.

For a detailed view of all of the new NSLDS LPP-related Web pages, see Attachment A to this technical update.

New Reports and Extracts

We created three new reports to provide GA users with the following loan information: loans identified in the LPP compared to those existing in the database, possible duplicate loans reported through the normal NSLDS loan reporting process, and loans from the Loan Purchase (PUT) program. All GA users may request any of the three new web reports described below.

Accessible by clicking on the Report Tab and then selecting the Web Report List the Web Report page displays the following new reports a GA user can request:

- **Loan Participation Discrepancy Report (PLDES1):** Provides user with a reconciliation report of loan-level data elements reported for LPP data and NSLDS data elements reported by the GA. This report compares data elements on loans for which the link has been established between the LPP and NSLDS. The report displays in PDF to show the borrower, the loan identifying data elements that do not match. The extract file, delivered to the requesting user’s Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG) mailbox, will provide all of the data elements for loans that have been linked whether the data elements match or not. Optionally, a user can specify the Custodian LID and Sponsor LID report parameters for one or both organization type codes that correspond with the user’s GA Code.
- **Potentially Duplicate Loans by GAs Report (PLNPD1):** Provides users with a report of loans for which the guaranty date of each loan is within a specified day count range. This report requires a user to provide a day count value ranging from 1 to 9 days. The report will display potentially duplicate loans that exist on the NSLDS database and that have a guaranty date within the specified day range.
- **Status of Loans Purchased by ED Report (PLPED1):** Provides users with a reconciliation report for loans that have been purchased by the Department under PUT. This report displays loans for which the current holder of the loan is the ED Servicer and the previous GA holder of the loan is the user’s GA code. The status of the loan transfer between the GA and the ED Servicer is also displayed. Optionally, a user can specify a transfer start and end date range.

To run the report from the Web Report List page, a user clicks on the blue number icon (i.e., **1**) to the left of the desired Report ID. The Report Parameters box will display. Each report can be run with an output medium to a PDF report, an extract file (SAIG), or both. The extract file will be delivered through the Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG) to the requestor’s TG mailbox. If selecting the PDF output medium option, the user must enter between 1 and 15 Social Security Numbers (SSNs). If the user selects the SAIG output option, the user will not be required to enter any SSNs.

- If a report is delivered as a PDF report, all but the last four digits of the SSN will be masked. Similar to how masking works on the Web pages, the user can reveal the full SSN by positioning his or her mouse pointer over the masked SSN.
- The extract output to a user’s SAIG mailbox can consist of the specified SSNs or, if no SSNs are selected, the entire population based on each report’s criteria and the report parameters’

input values. The message class, AHSLDEOP, is delivered to the SAIG mailbox associated with the online user ID that made the request. The extract file layouts are available under the [NSLDS Record Layouts page of the Information for Financial Aid Professional's \(IFAP\) Web site](#).

For a detailed view of all of the new NSLDS Web reports, please see Attachment B to this technical update.

Attachment A: New Web Pages for Loan Participation Program Tracking and Monitoring Process

Attachment B: New Web Reports for Tracking and Identifying Loans

If you have any questions, contact the NSLDS Customer Service Center at 800/999-8219, or via e-mail at NSLDS@ed.gov.