

SLGFA E-Updates

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E-UPDATES is an electronic newsletter sponsored and operated by the Student Loan Guarantee Foundation of Arkansas (SLGFA) to provide program information to schools and lenders participating in the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP).

IN THIS ISSUE:

1. Misinformation Slows Online Student Loan Application Processing

SLGFA has been experiencing challenges with student and parent borrowers entering incorrect information onto Stafford and PLUS online loan application forms, and would like to call for assistance from financial aid counselors. To read more about how to assist SLGFA with this issue, click on the provided link: <http://www.slqfa.org/slqfa/pubs/policies-and-procedures/BIOLA.asp>

2. Upcoming Disaster Drills

During the past two years, SLGFA has been enhancing and improving its disaster recovery and business continuity planning to become as prepared as possible in the event of a disaster affecting its operations. As part of this planning, several disaster drills have been scheduled during 2005. The first of three scheduled drills took place on January 6, 2005. To read further about SLGFA's disaster drill planning, click on following link: <http://www.slqfa.org/slqfa/pubs/updates/DisasterDrills.asp>

3. SLGFA Clients Will Experience Delays in Major Database Changes

In order to meet deadlines during peak processing, SLGFA will, once again, implement a period during which delays will occur when major changes are requested to be made to school and lender setup profiles on the guarantor database. The period, during which setup changes may be delayed, will begin with change requests submitted on or after June 1, 2005 and continue through August 31, 2005. For more information about this issue, click on the provided link: <http://www.slqfa.org/slqfa/pubs/updates/lockdown.asp>

4. Dear Colleague Letters and Economic Hardship Deferment Form

Dear Colleague Letters GEN-05-02 and GEN-05-03 give guidance about the *Revised Teacher Loan Forgiveness Application and Forbearance Form* and the *Approval of Unpaid Refund Loan Discharge Application*. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has updated the United States federal poverty guidelines and the *Economic Hardship Deferment Form* has been revised to reflect those changes. Click on the following link for more information: http://www.slqfa.org/slqfa/pubs/letters/dear_colleague/GEN0502-03-EconomicHardship.asp

5. Common Manual

The most recent revisions to the *Common Manual*, approved **February 17, 2005, (Batch 119 and a deferred proposal from Batch 118)** by the *Common Manual* Governing Board are currently available. More information about the Revisions to the *Common Manual* can be found by clicking the provided link: <http://www.slqfa.org/slqfa/pubs/cm-revisions/Februaryrevisions/Feb2005/Batch119.asp>

6. E-Legislation

Congress has been very busy since its January return. The plate has been full with President Bush's 2006 budget and the Higher Education Act (HEA) reauthorization. One prolific Representative has been Rep. David Wu (D-OR) who initiated six new higher education Bills in March. Other members of the House of Representatives on both sides have been equally inexhaustible in their efforts to pass HEA Reauthorization Bills. To read more about what possible legislation could affect the HEA Reauthorization, click on the following link: <http://www.slqfa.org/slqfa/pubs/updates/E-Legislation/E-Legislation04-01-05.asp>

7. SLGFA January Focus Group Meeting Minutes Are Available

SLGFA held its fourth Focus Group Meeting on January 25, 2005, with lender/servicer and school members. Minutes from the meetings are available on the SLGFA website and can be accessed by clicking on the provided links: [Lenders/Servicers](#) or [Schools](#)

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