

Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR



Georgia Student Finance Commission
Georgia Student Finance Authority
Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation
GAcollege411

Timothy A. Connell
PRESIDENT

TO: Financial Aid Officers
Student Loan Officers

FROM: Robin Hancock *RBH*
Compliance Manager

DATE: November 30, 2011

SUBJECT: COMMON MANUAL, *Unified Student Loan Policy Bulletin 140*

The attached policy change summary has been prepared by the nation's guarantors in order to clarify, revise or correct existing policy contained in the Common Manual. The effective date of the provision is noted at the end of the policy change.

Reference #1255 – Preferred Lender Arrangements
Reference #1256 – Parent PLUS Loan and the FAFSA
Reference #1257 – Military Service and Post-Active Duty Student Deferment Form

If you have any questions about the attached bulletin, please contact Jessie Cooper at 770-724-9139 or jessiec@gsfc.org or me at 770-724-9238.

Attachment

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 November 2011. 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.

Preferred Lender Arrangements

The *Common Manual* has been revised to remove references to the PLUS auction pilot program from the description of a preferred lender arrangement. Since the PLUS loan auction did not occur and no loans were originated through this program, there are no related arrangements or agreements that are applicable to these sections.

Affected Sections:	4.4.A Preferred Lender Arrangements Appendix G
Effective Date:	Upon approval by the <i>Common Manual</i> Governing Board.
Basis:	Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (HCERA), P.L. 111-152; Department of Education Electronic Announcement dated April 10, 2009.
Policy Information:	1255/Batch 181
Guarantor Comments:	None.

Parent PLUS Loan and the FAFSA

The *Common Manual* has been updated based on a Final Rule change to include the requirement that the student complete a FAFSA even if the family intends to apply for only a parent PLUS loan.

Affected Sections:	5.1.B Student Eligibility Requirements 5.1.C Graduate or Professional Student and Parent PLUS Loan Borrower Eligibility Requirements
Effective Date:	Parent PLUS loans obtained for the 2011-2012 award year.
Basis:	§688.164(g)(2)(i).
Policy Information:	1256/Batch 181
Guarantor Comments:	None.

Military Service and Post-Active Duty Student Deferment Form

The *Common Manual* has been revised to refer to the common deferment form that lenders should make available to borrowers who request the military service deferment or the post-active duty student deferment.

Affected Sections:	2.3.C Common Forms 11.8.B Deferment Documentation – Military Service 11.12.B Deferment Documentation – Post-Active Duty Student
Effective Date:	Requests for military service deferment or post-active duty student deferment forms received on or after October 1, 2007.
Basis:	§682.210(t)(7); §682.210(u)(5).
Policy Information:	1257/Batch 181
Guarantor Comments:	None.