(b) For a student who does not return for the next scheduled term following a summer break, which includes any summer term(s) in which classes are offered but students are not generally required to attend, a school shall follow the procedures in §685.22(b) or (c), as applicable, for determining the student’s date of withdrawal except that the school must determine the student’s date of withdrawal no later than 30 days after the start of the next scheduled term.

(c) The school shall use the date determined under paragraph (a) or (b) of this section for the purpose of reporting to the Secretary the student’s date of withdrawal and for determining when a refund or return of title IV, HEA program funds must be paid under §685.306.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1087 et seq.)

§685.306 Payment of a refund or return of title IV, HEA program funds to the Secretary.

(a) General. By applying for a Direct Loan, a borrower authorizes the school to pay directly to the Secretary that portion of a refund or return of title IV, HEA program funds from the school that is allocable to the loan. A school—

(1) Shall pay that portion of the student’s refund or return of title IV, HEA program funds that is allocable to a Direct Loan to the Secretary; and

(2) Shall provide simultaneous written notice to the borrower if the school pays a refund or return of title IV, HEA program funds to the Secretary on behalf of that student.

(b) Determination, allocation, and payment of a refund or return of title IV, HEA program funds. In determining the portion of a student’s refund or return of title IV, HEA program funds that is allocable to a Direct Loan, the school shall follow the procedures established in 34 CFR 668.22 for allocating and paying a refund or return of title IV, HEA program funds that is due.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1087a et seq.)

§685.307 Withdrawal procedure for schools participating in the Direct Loan Program.

(a) A school participating in the Direct Loan Program may withdraw from the program by providing written notice to the Secretary.

(b) A participating school that intends to withdraw from the Direct Loan Program shall give at least 60 days notice to the Secretary.

(c) Unless the Secretary approves an earlier date, the withdrawal is effective on the later of—

(1) 60 days after the school notifies the Secretary; or

(2) The date designated by the school.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1087a et seq.)

§685.308 Remedial actions.

(a) General. The Secretary may require the repayment of funds and the purchase of loans by the school if the Secretary determines that the unenforceability of a loan or loans, or the disbursement of loan amounts for which the borrower was ineligible, resulted in whole or in part from—

(1) The school’s violation of a Federal statute or regulation; or

(2) The school’s negligent or willful false certification.

(b) In requiring a school to repay funds to the Secretary or to purchase loans from the Secretary in connection with an audit or program review, the Secretary follows the procedures described in 34 CFR part 668, subpart H.

(c) The Secretary may impose a fine or take an emergency action against a school or limit, suspend, or terminate a school’s participation in the Direct Loan Program in accordance with 34 CFR part 668, subpart G.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1087a et seq.)

§685.309 Administrative and fiscal control and fund accounting requirements for schools participating in the Direct Loan Program.

(a) General. A participating school shall—

(1) Establish and maintain proper administrative and fiscal procedures and all necessary records as set forth in this part and in 34 CFR part 668; and
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(2) Submit all reports required by this part and 34 CFR part 668 to the Secretary.

(b) Student status confirmation reports. A school shall—

(1) Upon receipt of a student status confirmation report from the Secretary, complete and return that report to the Secretary within 30 days of receipt; and

(2) Unless it expects to submit its next student status confirmation report to the Secretary within the next 60 days, notify the Secretary within 30 days if it discovers that a Direct Subsidized, Direct Unsubsidized, or Direct PLUS Loan has been made to or on behalf of a student who—

(i) Enrolled at that school but has ceased to be enrolled on at least a half-time basis;

(ii) Has been accepted for enrollment at that school but failed to enroll on at least a half-time basis for the period for which the loan was intended; or

(iii) Has changed his or her permanent address.

(3) The Secretary provides student status confirmation reports to a school at least semi-annually.

(4) The Secretary may provide the student status confirmation report in either paper or electronic format.

(c) Record retention requirements. An institution shall follow the record retention and examination requirements in this part and in 34 CFR 668.24.

(d) Accounting requirements. A school shall follow accounting requirements in 34 CFR 668.24(b).

(e) Direct Loan Program bank account. Schools shall follow the procedures for maintaining funds established in 34 CFR 668.163.

(5) Division of functions. Schools shall follow the procedures for division of functions in 34 CFR 668.16(c).

(g) Limit on use of funds. Except for funds paid to a school under section 428(b)(1) of the Act, funds received by a school under this part may be used only to make Direct Loans to eligible borrowers and may not be used or hypothecated for any other purpose.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1840–0672)

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1087a et seq.)


Subpart D—School Participation and Loan Origination in the Direct Loan Program

§ 685.400 School participation requirements.

(a)(1) In order to qualify for initial participation in the Direct Loan Program, a school must meet the eligibility requirements in section 435(a) of the Act, including the requirement that it have a cohort default rate of less than 25 percent for at least one of the three most recent fiscal years for which data are available unless the school is exempt from this requirement under section 435(a)(2)(C) of the Act.

(2) In order to continue to participate in the Direct Loan Program, a school must continue to meet the requirements of paragraph (a)(1) of this section for years for which cohort default rate data represent the years prior to the school’s participation in the Direct Loan Program.

(b) In order to qualify for initial participation in the Direct Loan Program, the school must not be subject to an emergency action or a proposed or final limitation, suspension, or termination action under sections 428(b)(1)(T), 432(h), or 487(c) of the Act.

(c) If schools apply as a consortium, each school in the consortium must meet the requirements in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.

(d) The Secretary selects schools to participate in the Direct Loan Program from among those that apply to participate and meet the requirements in paragraphs (a)(1), (b), and (c) of this section.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1087a et seq.)