

**Early disbursement for students participating in study abroad programs
QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

ESI-Q1. For Experiment 4, will COD allow a Direct Loan origination record to be submitted with an anticipated disbursement (DRI = False) with an earliest disbursement date that is greater than 10 days prior to the Award Begin Date? If so, can the school change the anticipated (DRI = False) disbursement to an actual (DRI= True) disbursement, allow COD to reject the change, and then correct the reject after the COD system is updated to accept disbursements greater than 10 days prior to the award begin date?

ESI-A1. Yes to both questions. Doing it this way will have less impact to school systems, and you'll know which records need to be fixed and resubmitted. [Guidance issued 7/30/2012]

ESIQ2. If the participating institution is the coordinating institution as part of a study abroad consortium, and therefore has data on the students who did not receive the treatment (a one-term loan or early disbursement, or both), but the students were not enrolled at the coordinating institution, may the coordinating institution provide data on those students?

ESIA2. Yes. An institution may send any information that it has on students that participate in a study abroad program coordinated by an institution that is participating in the experiment(s), but it is not required to do so. If the institution chooses to send such data, the information should be sent separate from the information on the students enrolled at the coordinating institutions.

Please note that students who participate in a study abroad program through a coordinating institution, but who remain enrolled at their home institution, may not receive the treatment. [Guidance issued 4/9/2012]

ESI-Q3. For study abroad students, can a school combine unequal disbursements and early disbursements?

ESI-A3. Yes, but you will report on each experiment separately. FSA will help schools by providing guidance on how to indicate when this crossover occurs. [Guidance issued 7/30/2012]