# RENEWAL OF THE COMPUTER MATCHING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Under the applicable provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (Privacy Act) (5 U.S.C. § 552a), a computer matching agreement (CMA) shall remain in effect for a period not to exceed 18 months. Within 3 months prior to the expiration of such CMA, however, the Data Integrity Board (DIB) of both agencies may, without additional review, renew the CMA for a current, ongoing matching program for a period not to exceed 12 additional months if:

- 1. Such program will be conducted without any changes; and
- 2. Each party to the agreement certifies to the DIB, in writing, that the program has been conducted in compliance with the CMA.

Attached hereto is the CMA to be renewed and the Modification of that CMA.

The following match meets the conditions for renewal upon signature of the officials authorized in section VII of this renewal:

# I. <u>TITLE OF MATCH</u>:

Computer Matching Agreement Between U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the U.S. Department of Education (ED)

# II. <u>PARTIES TO THE MATCH</u>:

Source Agency: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Recipient Agency: U.S. Department of Education (ED)

# III. <u>PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT</u>:

The CMA sets forth the terms, safeguards, and procedures under which the VA will identify data on Veterans who VA has designated as (1) having a service- connected disability rating that is 100% disabling, or (2) being totally disabled based on an individual unemployability rating, as described in 38 CFR § 3.4(b) and 38 CFR § 3.340, to ED, FSA. ED will use the VA disability data to contact those Borrowers who have Title IV Loans or who have debt or service obligations under the Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program and inform those Borrowers of ED's total and permanent disability (TPD) discharge process for individuals who have a Title IV Loan debt or TEACH Grant service obligation.

This matching program will assist ED in its obligation to ensure that Borrowers of Title IV

Loans or TEACH Grant service obligations more efficiently and effectively apply for TPD discharge of their Title IV Loans or TEACH Grant service obligations. ED will send a notification to Borrowers who VA has designated as (1) having a service- connected disability rating that is 100% disabling, or (2) being totally disabled based on an individual unemployability rating, informing them that ED will discharge the Borrowers' Title IV Loans or TEACH Grant service obligations no earlier than 61 days from the date that ED sends the notification to the Borrower, unless the Borrower chooses to have their loans discharged earlier or chooses to opt out of the TPD discharge within 60 days from the date that ED sends the notification to the Borrower. The notices also will inform these Borrowers that ED has accepted VA data matched information in lieu of the Borrower's submission of a VA Statement with the Borrower's TPD loan discharge application, thereby simplifying the TPD discharge process for Borrowers.

# IV. ORIGINAL EFFECTIVE AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE MATCH:

Effective Date: December 1, 2023 Expiration Date: May 31, 2025

## V. <u>RENEWAL AND NEW EXPIRATION DATES</u>:

Renewal Date: June 1, 2025 New Expiration Date: May 31, 2026

## VI. <u>CHANGES</u>:

By this Renewal, VA and ED make the following non-substantive change to the CMA:

1. In Article XVII.B., "ED Contacts," delete and replace the contact information set forth in the "Program and Matching Agreement Contact" paragraph with the following:

Dennis Kramer II Director, Data Policy and Evaluation U.S. Department of Education Federal Student Aid Policy Implementation Division 400 Maryland Ave. SW Washington, DC 20024 Telephone: (202) 676-7918 Email: Dennis.Kramer@ed.gov

# VII. <u>AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES</u>

## The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs:

## Source Agency Certification

**Electronic Signature Acknowledgement:** The signatories may sign this document electronically by using an approved electronic signature process. Each signatory electronically signing this document agrees that his/her electronic signature has the same legal validity and effect as his/her handwritten signature on the document, and that it has the same meaning as his/her handwritten signature.

As the authorized representative of the source agency named above, I certify that: (1) the subject matching program has been conducted in compliance with the existing CMA between the parties; and (2) the subject matching program will continue without any changes for an additional 12 months, subject to the approval of the respective Data Integrity Boards of the parties.



Nina Tann Executive Director, Compensation Service U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Date

## Data Integrity Board Approval

Having jurisdiction and oversight over the VA's participation in this matching program, upon consideration of the foregoing certifications of the agencies named herein that: (1) the subject matching program has been conducted in compliance with the existing CMA between the parties, and (2) the subject matching program will continue without change for an additional 12 months, the DIB for the VA hereby approves this renewal.

MERISSA LARSON Date: 2025.05.27 10:52:58 -04'00'

Merissa Larson Chair, Data Integrity Board U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Date

### The U.S. Department of Education:

### **Recipient Agency Certification**

Electronic Signature Acknowledgement: The signatories may sign this document electronically by using an approved electronic signature process. Each signatory electronically signing this document agrees that his/her electronic signature has the same legal validity and effect as his/her handwritten signature on the document, and that it has the same meaning as his/her handwritten signature.

As the authorized representative of the recipient agency named above, I certify that: (1) the subject matching program has been conducted in compliance with the existing CMA between the parties; and (2) the subject matching program will continue without any changes for an additional 12 months, subject to the approval of the respective DIB of the parties.



Digitally signed by JAMES BERGERON

James Bergeron, Date Delegated the authority to perform the functions and duties of the Chief Operating Officer Federal Student Aid, U.S. Department of Education

#### Data Integrity Board Approval

Having jurisdiction and oversight over the ED's participation in this matching program, upon consideration of the foregoing certifications of the agencies named herein that: (1) the subject matching program has been conducted in compliance with the existing CMA between the parties, and (2) the subject matching program will continue without change for an additional 12 months, the DIB for the ED hereby approves this renewal.

FRANK MILLER Digitally signed by FRANK MILLER Date: 2025.05.12 13:45:18 -04'00'

Frank E. Miller Jr. Senior Agency Official for Privacy Chair, Data Integrity Board, U.S. Department of Education

Date

Attachments: Computer Matching Agreement Modification of the Computer Matching Agreement