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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

January 27, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Ms. Kathleen Tighe

Inspector General

Office of the Inspector General

FROM:

Thomas P. Skelly

Delegated to Perform the Functions and Duties of the Chief Financial Officer

SUBJECT:

Report on High-Dollar Overpayments for the Quarter Ended December 31, 2010

The purpose of this memorandum is to comply with the high-dollar overpayments' reporting requirements addressed in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) implementation guidance M-10-13, dated March 22, 2010, relative to Executive Order 13520. The OMB implementation guidance requires agency heads to submit quarterly reports on high-dollar overpayments to the Office of Inspector General, and the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency.

During the reporting period covering October 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010, the U.S. Department of Education (Department) has identified improper payments totaling \$14,711,651. See Attachment for additional details.

The Department is committed to ensuring the integrity of its programs and is focused on identifying and managing the risk of improper payments and mitigating the risk with adequate control activities. The Department will continue to work closely with the Office of Inspector General and OMB to explore additional opportunities for identifying and reducing potential improper payments.

If you have any questions, please contact Hugh Hurwitz at (202) 245-6555.

cc:

w/attachment

Ms. Phyllis Fong, Chair Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency

Mr. Danny Werfel, Controller Office of Federal Financial Management Office of Management and Budget

U.S. Department of Education High-Dollar Overpayments October 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010

Date	Amount	Payment Type (Individual / Entity)	Location			Cognizant	Recovery Action(s)	
			City	County	State	Program	Taken / Planned	Future Preventive Action(s)
11/01/10- 11/30/10	\$14,711,650.86	Entity	Aurora	Arapahoe	Colorado	Loan Consolidation for Federal Direct Student Loans	Loan Servicer contacted and funds were returned. Returns have been validated.	Manual process for certification of payee has been automated. Process has been modified to include validation of payee codes when multiple paper documents are returned.