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Duplicate and Improper Enrollments Leads to Changes by National Direct Grantee

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Closed 2016-11-21

CNCS management reported that it discovered anomalies with the National Service Participants (NSP) accounts in the National Service Trust (NST) database in which AmeriCorps members had been enrolled in Teach for America (TFA) Idaho and Chicago AmeriCorps programs between Grant Years (GY) 2013 - 2017 under multiple NSP accounts with different Social Security Numbers.

The CNCS-OIG investigation found that a TFA Regional Operations Manager improperly enrolled TFA members at its Chicago, IL, and Nampa, ID, sites between 2013 and 2017. The investigation also found that in two instances duplicate accounts were included in drawdown calculations for the National Direct enrollment fees, which TFA used to cover its administrative grant costs. This allowed TFA to receive \$1,600 (\$800 per member) it was not entitled. Further, the TFA Regional Operations Manager improperly certified several members to receive dual education awards for the same grant period based on the duplicate enrollments.

TFA management, working with CNCS management, corrected the members' accounts and implement internal controls and training to ensure future compliance. TFA management reported that it had terminated the employee involved for failing to follow their internal policies. None of the members who improperly received a second award used their duplicate award.

Case ID: 2017-005

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