

Impact of the SSN/SID Modifications on FMS

There have been several inquiries on one of the impacts to FMS associated with the SSN/SID modification project. Because some Cashiering functionality had to be changed, you will no longer be able to add a new Customer ID with an **S** (student) type in Customer Accounts.

Why?

The new law states that colleges cannot use a Social Security number (SSN) as a student identifier (SID).

Currently SMS (the Student Management System) does not recognize records created in FMS (Financial Management System). For example, if a cashier creates a charge for a person on the Cashiering screen (BM1600) and then a registration clerk brings up that person's student record on the Registration Screen (SM7001), the charge created in FMS will not be reflected on the Registration Screen. Only fee calculation records, which are initiated in SMS, will display in both FMS and SMS.

In the new environment, if you were able to create a customer record for Jane Doe using an SSN (type S) in Cashiering, and later Ms. Doe becomes a student by going through the admissions process and registers for classes, her record in SMS would then be associated with an SID (not her SSN). However, the FMS record for Jane Doe would still exist under her SSN (type S). Since SMS does not read records created in FMS, you would have two records for Jane Doe in the CA database. One of these records (the SSN, type S record) would be in violation of the new law. The Business Office would need to go through the Customer ID Change Process to have the records combined under the new SID that was assigned in SMS.

Colleges are not prohibited from using SSNs for non-students. You can create records for potential students, test takers, and "never going to be a student" customers with an **O** (other) type in Cashiering using either a person's SSN or an assigned number. However, if that person later becomes a student, the Business Office will need to use the Customer ID Change Process to synchronize the SSN records in FMS with the SID records created in SMS.

Since the records will never be synchronized in FMS without using the Customer ID Change Process, SBCTC-ITD feels it would be cleaner not to have any SSN (type S) records created on FMS. Therefore, the ability to add a new Customer ID (type S) is being eliminated.

There are several ways to work around this change; following are a few:

- Use a miscellaneous Customer Id with an O type to receipt payments.
- Establish a Customer Id with an O type for a specific type of test (for example, GED0000001, 2).
- Use the customer's SSN with an O type. For this option, there is still a liability issue when you are printing receipts with Social Security numbers.
- Have a range of O type numbers for the cashiers to use.

