

ELEMENT TITLE:

Prior Degree Flag

DEFINITION: An indicator that this award (degree or certificate) has credits applied from a previous award earned at the same award level at the same institution.

FORMAT: alphabetic – 1 character

CODES: Y = Prior degree or certificate
Blank is valid

COMMENTS: The Prior Degree Flag should be used for a student returning from a previous year to earn an award at the same level or for a student earning two awards at the same degree level within the same year. For example, if a student completed 60 credits in 2005-2007 and earned an associate's degree, then returned in 2010-2011 to complete an additional 18 credits and earn a second associate's degree, the institution would have to report 78 Cumulative Degree Credit Hours Awarded (DD114) toward the degree. In the case of a student earning two awards at the same level within the same collection year, credits should be reported just as previously described, for example, the fall award should be reported with 60 credits and the spring award with an additional 18 credits should be reported as 78 cumulative credits with the flag set to "Y" for the spring award only. The Prior Degree flag should be set to 'Y' if the student has earned a prior degree at the same degree level **at the same institution**. If the student is returning for a degree at a different degree level for example, a student who has earned a certificate and is returning to pursue an associate's degree, or a student who has earned a bachelor's degree and is returning to pursue a master's degree the Prior Degree flag should be left blank. If there is a multiple major, the flag need only be set on the degree record not the multiple major degree record (99).

RELATED TO: Cumulative Degree Credit Hours Awarded

GLOSSARY:

SYSTEMS: DIS

SYSNAME: PDFLG

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