



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

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TO: Deputy Superintendents  
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FROM: Angelica Infante, Deputy Commissioner *A. Infante - Green*

SUBJECT: ESSA Required Data Collection & Reporting Requirement re. Postsecondary Enrollment at Institutions of Higher Education

This memorandum is to inform districts and schools of an ESSA required data collection and reporting requirement regarding postsecondary enrollment at institutions of higher education.

Section 1111(h)(1)(C)(xiii) of the ESEA, as amended by the ESSA, requires a State and its LEAs to report, where available and beginning with the report card prepared for 2017, rates of enrollment of high school graduates in the academic year immediately following graduation in programs of public postsecondary education in the State and, if data are available and to the extent practicable, in programs of private postsecondary education in the State or programs of postsecondary education outside the State. The postsecondary enrollment cohort rate must be reported in the aggregate and disaggregated by each subgroup under section 1111(c)(2) of the ESEA, as amended by the ESSA, for each high school in the State for the immediately preceding school year.

To ease the burden to districts and comply with this ESSA requirement, NYSED is working to establish a statewide contract with the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) for postsecondary enrollment data for students graduating from New York State high schools. The NSC is the only source of comprehensive postsecondary enrollment data for institutions of higher education across the nation.

The benefits of a statewide NSC contract:

- Districts will not need to create an in-house mechanism for collecting postsecondary enrollment.
- Districts will not need to report postsecondary enrollment data directly to NYSED as the data will come to NYSED from NSC.

- Districts will receive enrollment data for public and private, in-state and out-of-state institutions of higher education.
- Districts will receive postsecondary retention and graduation rate data for public and private, in-state and out-of-state institutions of higher education.

What districts and schools need to know:

- NYSED will use the data to comply with ESSA reporting requirements, and for other purposes as directed by the Commissioner.
- The data will be used for informational purposes only. No accountability determinations will be based on the data.
- Postsecondary enrollment data will be available for all high schools, regardless of the size of the high school.
- There are institutions of higher education that do not report data to NSC and there are students who opt out of NSC.
- NYSED will provide each Regional Information Center (RIC) with data files for the schools and districts they service. RICS will work to provide data, in accordance with ESSA requirements, back to districts and schools. RICS may also provide additional reporting.
- NYSED will manage data going to and returning from NSC:
  - NYSED will submit data from SIRS to NSC up to four times a year.
  - NSC will provide a return file containing postsecondary enrollment and graduation data to NYSED three times a year: Fall, Spring and Summer
- NYSED will load the NSC data into existing SIRS database tables that will populate four existing L2RPT reports for district and school review:
  - SIRS-601 Postsecondary Enrollment Summary
  - SIRS-602 Postsecondary Enrollment and Progress of Student by High School Cohort
  - SIRS-603 Postsecondary Enrollment Freshman to Sophomore Retention Summary
  - SIRS-604 Postsecondary Graduation Summary

It is expected that the statewide NSC contract will go into effect for the 2019-20 school year.

For additional information, please contact your Regional Information Center.