

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Demonstration of Compliance with Indicator (b)(1)

September 2012

Element #1

A unique statewide student identifier that does not permit a student to be individually identified by users of the system

Guiding Questions

1. Does the State SLDS assign each student in preschool through postsecondary education a unique student identifier?

Yes. Each student is assigned a unique identifier upon entry into Virginia Public Schools, including public Pre-Kindergarten programs. The identifier is passed to higher education via a paper or electronic transcript.

Please see the Specifications for the Student Record Collection here:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/student_record_collection/2012-2013/specifications_for_completing_src.pdf.

Please see the Data Dictionary for the Student Record Collection here:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/student_record_collection/2012-2013/data_elements.pdf.

Please see the Board of Education Regulations Governing the Secondary School Transcript at Attachment A, Board of Education Regulations Governing the Secondary School Transcript.

2. Does the State link the student identifier to early childhood programs and/or institutions of higher education (IHEs)? (At a minimum, a State must have a student identifier that links to both State-supported early childhood programs and public IHEs.)

The Department of Education participates in Project Child HANDS (www.childhands.org), a multi-agency effort to link child data across the human services, health, and education sectors. Results of linking child care data to education data may be found on slide 16 of Attachment B, Project Child Hands.

Please see the Data Dictionary for the Student Record Collection here:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/student_record_collection/2012-2013/data_elements.pdf.

Please see the data specification for the Higher Education Fall Cohort Collection which contains the unique State Testing Identifier at Attachment C, Fall Cohort Collection.

Please see the Postsecondary Enrollment Reports that contain linked data to meet SFSF Indicator (c)(11) here:

https://p1pe.doe.virginia.gov/postsec_public/postsec.do?dowhat=LOAD_REPORT_C11.

Please see the Postsecondary Achievement Reports that contain linked data to meet SFSF Indicator (c)(12) here:

https://p1pe.doe.virginia.gov/postsec_public/postsec.do?dowhat=LOAD_REPORT_C12.

3. How does the State transmit and share student identifiers with individuals who have access to the data (e.g., by disc, by login in the building or remotely)?

The state transmits identifiers to school divisions electronically, either in a flat file that can be downloaded from the state portal or via the Schools Interoperability Framework (SIF) Student Locator Framework. Please see Attachment D, EIMS June 2012 Procedures File Management, and Attachment E, SIF School Year Transition NYR Checklist.

4. What are the State's policies and procedures for ensuring that no personally identifiable information on a student is released?

Please see Attachment F, Restricted Use Policy.

Other Documentation

Please see Attachment G, Restricted Use Data Agreement, which is executed between the state and third parties when personally identifiable information is released for approved research and evaluation.

Please see this site for a description of Virginia's data quality program, "Investing in Data Quality": http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_quality/index.shtml.

Element #2

Student-level enrollment, demographic, and program participation information

Guiding Questions

1. Does the SLDS allow for connection of student-level data (i.e., enrollment, demographic, and program participation) across key State databases (e.g., databases maintained by the SEA, State department of labor or human services)?

While previous linking of student data to produce postsecondary enrollment and achievement reports was a manual process, the state is in the process of building a federated longitudinal linking system that will securely and automatically link K-12, Higher Education, and Work Force data. The system is scheduled to be piloted in October 2012. For more information, go to http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/longitudinal_data_system/index.shtml or watch this short video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MIxJqNqrAuc&feature=player_embedded.

2. How does the SLDS accommodate changes in enrollment, demographic, program participation, and other information?

Because the data in the SLDS are longitudinal, linking student records across time is possible. Therefore, it is possible to follow a given student in and out of school and programs as well as view changes in demographics. For an example of longitudinal data please see the Virginia Cohort Reports here:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/statistics_reports/graduation_completion/cohort_reports/index.shtml.

3. How often does the State collect this information?

Student Records are collected in fall, winter (December 1 child count), spring, at end of school, and at end of summer (for summer graduate information). For all data collection schedules, please see Virginia's Calendar of Reports here:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/calendar_reports/calendar_reports.pdf

Other Documentation

Please see the Specifications for the Student Record Collection here:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/student_record_collection/2012-2013/specifications_for_completing_src.pdf.

Please see the Data Dictionary for the Student Record Collection here:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/student_record_collection/2012-2013/data_elements.pdf.

Please see the documents and Power Points that were used to provide guidance to LEAs on the Student Record Collection at the bottom of this page:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/student_record_collection/index.shtml

Please see Attachment H, Announcement of Webinar, an e-mail recently sent to LEAs scheduling a webinar about updates to the Student Record Collection.

Please see Attachment I, Sample Student Level Growth Report (redacted), for an example of student-level data.

Element #3

Student-level information about the points at which students exit, transfer in, transfer out, drop out, or complete P–16 education programs

Guiding Question

1. Does the SLDS collect information on when a student exits, transfers in or out of a school, or completes a preschool through grade 12 or postsecondary education program?

Yes. Please see the withdrawal codes listed here:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/student_record_collection/code_values/exit_withdrawal_codes.pdf.

Please see the dropout coding guidelines here:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/student_record_collection/nces_dropout_coding_guidelines.pdf.

Please see the dropout calculations professional development Power Point at the bottom of this page:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/student_record_collection/index.shtml.

Other Documentation

Please see Attachment J, Student Record Collection Error Details, for a listing of all of the edits and validations that take place when student records are submitted.

Please see the Specifications for the Student Record Collection here:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/student_record_collection/2012-2013/specifications_for_completing_src.pdf.

Please see the Data Dictionary for the Student Record Collection here:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/student_record_collection/2012-2013/data_elements.pdf.

Element #4

The capacity to communicate with higher education systems

Guiding Questions

1. How does the State's SLDS communicate with higher education data systems?

Data on IHEs are collected and maintained by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV). SCHEV has exposed these data to the SLDS. Communication takes place over a secure Internet connection using Web Services. Please see Attachment K, Shaker Overview, for a diagram of the communication process.

2. Are data systems between the SEA and IHEs interoperable?

Data are exchanged between IHEs and SCHEV electronically using a standard reporting format.

3. What is the State's method of linking preschool through grade12 and postsecondary data?

The state uses a combination of deterministic and probabilistic matching techniques. Please see Attachment L, Identity Resolution and Query Execution Process.

Other Documentation

Virginia uses the National Transcript Center (<http://www.pearsondatasolutions.com/products/national-transcript-center/for-k-12-districts>) for LEAs to submit electronic transcripts to IHEs.

Please see Attachment M, eTrans Activity, for the number of electronic transcripts sent by Institutions.

Please see Attachment N, VLDS Lexicon, for a current list of data elements available for merging from K-12, Higher Education, and Workforce.

Please see Attachment V, VLDS Book of Data Governance.

Element #5

A State data audit system assessing data quality, validity, and reliability

Guiding Question

1. Does the SEA have in place a process to assess data quality/validity/reliability of both preschool through grade12 data and postsecondary data (e.g., notifying LEAs of outlier data and requiring data auditing, editing, and rationale; providing error reports to local entities for validation purposes; verifying that LEAs are submitting data for all students for which they claim state funds)?

Yes. Each data submission is checked for errors within and across records. Detailed “Fatal” and “Alert” messages are provided. Data are not accepted until all “Fatal” errors have been cleared. School divisions are provided with detailed aggregate reports that include all of the indicators that will be generated from their data. These verification reports must be signed by the school division superintendent before an LEA’s submission is considered to be complete. In addition, the Department of Education sponsors a data quality training program for LEAs: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_quality/index.shtml.

Please see Attachment J, Student Record Collection Error Details, for a listing of all of the edits and validations that take place when student records are submitted.

Please see Attachment O, SRC Detail Error Report, as an example of an actual school division error report (student identifiers have been removed).

Please see Attachment P, Sample Verification Report, for an example of tables presented for school division review as well as a signoff page.

Element #6

Yearly test records of individual students with respect to assessments under Section 1111(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311(b) (ESEA)

Guiding Questions

1. Does the SLDS include yearly test records of individual students for the assessments required under Section 1111(b) of the ESEA?

Yes. Please see the School Report Cards for an example of aggregated student test records:
<https://p1pe.doe.virginia.gov/reportcard/>.

2. Does the SLDS allow for each student's current scores to be connected to each student's previous scores?

Yes. Please see Attachment J, Sample Student Level Growth Report, for an example of students' scores connected to previous scores.

3. In addition to the assessments required under the ESEA, does the SLDS include any data from locally administered assessments? If so, does the State have any technical requirements for the assessments from which it collects data?

The SLDS does not include any data from locally administered assessments at this time.

Other Documentation

Please see Attachment Q, 2011-2012 SOL Non-Writing Student Extract Layout. The unique identifier (State Testing Identifier) at position 114 allows individual student records to be linked over time.

Element #7

Information on students not tested by grade and subject

Guiding Questions

1. Does the SLDS include information on students enrolled but not tested?

Yes. Please see the School Report Cards for an example of aggregate information (participation rate) derived from the student-level records:

<https://p1pe.doe.virginia.gov/reportcard/>.

2. Does the SLDS include information on why each student was not tested?

Yes. Please see Attachment Q, 2011-2012 SOL Non-Writing Student Extract Layout, when a student is not tested, the field at position 351 indicates the reason why.

Element #8

A teacher identifier system with the ability to match teachers to students

Guiding Questions

1. Is each teacher assigned a unique identification number?

Yes. Each teacher has a unique license number. Please see data element #17 in the MSC Data Elements link on this page:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/master_schedule_collection/index.shtml.

2. Does the SLDS have the capacity to connect students to teachers in elementary, middle, and high schools by course and/or subject?

Yes. The Master Schedule Collection connects students to teachers in elementary, middle, and high schools by course and subject. Please see the documentation on the Master Schedule Collection here:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/master_schedule_collection/index.shtml.

3. Does the SLDS provide for the capacity to determine when a student is assigned to a different teacher over the course of the school year (e.g., via a transactional reporting system or a data collection process that “looks back”)?

Yes. The end of year Master Schedule Collection records all teachers a student was assigned to throughout the year.

Other Documentation

The Master Schedule Collection is designed to satisfy both elements 8 and 9 of the elements in the America COMPETES Act.

Please see the announcement of the Master Schedule Collection here:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/superintendents_memos/2011/031-11.shtml.

Please see all of the Master Schedule Collection Documentation here:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/master_schedule_collection/index.shtml.

Multiple teachers may serve a given student. Please see the Teacher Role Codes here:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/master_schedule_collection/code_values/teacher_role.pdf.

Please see the Frequently Asked Questions for more information on how teachers are reported:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/master_schedule_collection/faq.shtml.

Please see the SCED Course Codes Crosswalk here:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/master_schedule_collection/sced_crosswalk.pdf.

Element #9

Student-level transcript information, including information on courses completed and grade earned

Guiding Questions

1. Does the SLDS include, as appropriate, information on the enrollment and completion status (e.g., completed, withdrew) of students and grade earned?

Yes. Please see the “F Record” data element number 78 in the Master Schedule Collection data elements on this page:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/master_schedule_collection/index.shtml.

Withdrawals are included among the grade codes here:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/master_schedule_collection/code_values/final_grade.pdf.

2. For what subjects is this information collected?

The Master Schedule Collection collects this information on all courses approved to be taught in Virginia. All courses are mapped to NCES’ SCED and Prior to SCED Codes.

Other Documentation

The Master Schedule Collection is designed to satisfy both elements 8 and 9 of the elements in the America COMPETES Act.

Please see all of the Master Schedule Collection Documentation here:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_management/data_collection/master_schedule_collection/index.shtml.

Element #10

Student-level college readiness test scores

Guiding Question

1. Does the SLDS include national assessment data that indicates college readiness (e.g., PSAT, SAT, ACT, AP, International Baccalaureate (IB), SAT II or other assessment data)?

Yes. PSAT, SAT, ACT, and AP data are included in the SLDS.

Please see Attachment R, College Readiness Data Elements.

Element #11

Information regarding the extent to which students transition successfully from secondary school to postsecondary education, including whether students enroll in remedial coursework

Guiding Questions

1. Does the SLDS include information on the enrollment of students in remedial coursework in IHEs?

Yes. Please see the research findings beginning on page 15 of Attachment U, College and Career Readiness Report. Please see Attachment S, SCHEV Remedial Course Data.

2. Does the SLDS include other information (e.g., coursework completed, results of placement examinations, probationary status) that assesses the success of students in transitioning successfully from secondary school to postsecondary education?

Yes. Please see the data elements beginning on page 36 of Attachment N, VLDS Lexicon. Please see Attachment T, SCHEV Fall Cohort Data.

Element #12

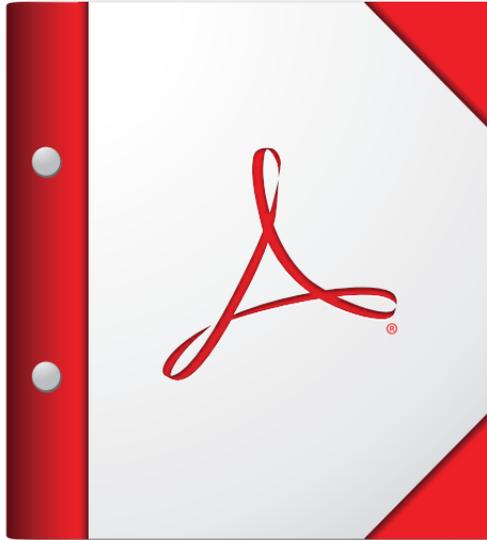
Other information determined necessary to address alignment and adequate preparation for success in postsecondary education

Guiding Question

1. What other information regarding the preparation of secondary school students for postsecondary education does the SLDS contain?

In addition to college readiness test scores (SAT, ACT, AP), the SLDS contains student-level scores on state assessments, student participation in college-level coursework while still in high school (participation in dual enrollment, AP, and IB), participation in Career and Technical Programs, and type of diploma conferred. All of these elements can be used to study the characteristics of students who go on to be successful in postsecondary and the work force. Please see the research findings beginning on page 13 of Attachment U, College and Career Readiness Report.

Please see the aggregate data developed from student-level information here:
http://www.doe.virginia.gov/statistics_reports/research_data/index.shtml.



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