

**Attention: Information No Longer Current  
(Alert archived November 2011)**

## **Alert #9 – Update 3**

**Subject: Redesign of IPEDS Surveys**

**Prepared: April 1999 Summary**

The National Postsecondary Education Cooperative (NPEC) working groups dealing with the IPEDS student surveys and the IPEDS finance surveys have completed their work. Results are summarized in this update.

### **Current Status**

#### **IPEDS Student Surveys**

(See <http://www.fsu.edu/~air/ipedsrev/student3.htm> for more details and the opportunity to provide feedback.) The NPEC working group for student surveys has recommended seven additions to IPEDS:

#### **1. Three items related to admission data:**

- a screening question that would ask whether the institution has an open admission policy for all or most students (institutions with open-admission would not supply data for the other two sets of items)
- the number of applications, admits, and enrolled students for the first-time first-year cohort, by gender
- the percent and number of students submitting SAT and ACT scores and the 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentile scores for each test (but test score data would not be required for institutions that do not require test scores for admission or for whom fewer than 60% of students submitted a given test)

2. Several check-off items relating to admissions requirements (secondary school GPA, secondary school rank, secondary school record, college-preparatory program in secondary school, recommendations, formal demonstration of competencies, and whether the institution accepts dual credit, credit for prior college-level life experiences, or advanced placement credits). Other check-off items were added related to curricular offerings (whether the institution offers ROTC, study abroad, dual credits, accelerated programs, distance learning opportunities, or special curricular offerings especially designed for students who have Limited English

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Proficiency, a visual or hearing impairment, a learning disability, or are developmentally delayed).

3. The number of non-credit courses and the corresponding contact hours for a) courses for workforce development and b) other non-credit courses (but only for institutions for whom "non-credit instruction constitutes an important part of the institution's educational offerings")
4. Performance data for Individual Training Account (ITA) voucher recipients relating to vendor certification under the Workforce Investment Act (but only for "institutions that have applied to a local workforce development board or to the state for vendor certification under the Workforce Investment Act")
5. Data that will be used in Graduation Rate Surveys (GRS) to show the proportion of the entire (full-time plus part-time) undergraduate entering class (first-time, transfer, and non-degree undergraduates) represented by the GRS cohort
6. Highest education of parents (not required until 2002)
7. Completions data for students with multiple majors by Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) code, race/ethnicity, and gender

A number of items will be deleted, including 10 items on the Institutional Characteristics (IC), five items on the Fall Enrollments, and the entire Fall Enrollment in Occupationally Specific Program Survey. Additional changes include the new race/ethnicity categories (mentioned in previous AIR Alerts), new CIP codes, changes in collection dates for portions of the surveys, and changes in the language of instructions.

IPEDS Finance Surveys and Cost Study Work is proceeding on the Web-based August collection instrument (<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/augdraft.htm>). The Request for Proposal for the cost study has been issued, and plans are to name a contractor this summer who will receive assistance from a technical group.

## **Implications for Institutions**

If institutions have feedback on any of the proposed changes to the IPEDS student surveys, they should respond to questions available at <http://www.fsu.edu/~air/ipedsrev/student3.htm>.

Institutions can continue to monitor developments relating to IPEDS redesign at <http://nces.ed.gov/Iped/whatsnew.html>.

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In light of changes to the reporting dates (see <http://www.fsu.edu/~air/ipedtabl.htm> for the proposed new cycle), you will want to make sure data for your institution are submitted by the receipt closeout date each year. If your institution's data are submitted by your state, you may wish to ask your state IPEDS coordinator about how the state plans to handle submission, in particular in relation to the new Web-based submission procedures.

NCES has been working with some of the higher education software vendors. If your institution uses vendor software for its student and human resources databases, you may wish to make sure your vendor is aware of upcoming changes to race/ethnicity codes and the Web-based submission of IPEDS data and will be able to accommodate them by the proposed dates.

## **Timeline**

**Summer 1999** - First Web-based software for price (e.g., tuition, fees) and financial aid data

**October 1999** - New IPEDS reporting categories for race/ethnicity finalized

**2000** - New race/ethnicity categories added to the Web-based survey forms

**2000-1** - Web-based software for August, October, December, and March data collections implemented

**2001** - New CIP codes

**2002** - New finance form for public institutions

**2002** - Mandatory reporting of new race/ethnicity for Fall Enrollment (old categories dropped); new codes should be stored for future GRS cohorts

**2003** - Mandatory reporting of new race/ethnicity for Completions and Staff (old categories dropped).

## **Additional Resources**

- IPEDS site with latest updates: <http://nces.ed.gov/Ipeds/whatsnew.html>
- Questions related to IPEDS Students: <http://www.fsu.edu/~air/ipedsrev/student3.htm>

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- Proposal for student charges on IC Survey: <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/newicitems.html>
- August collection instrument: <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/augdraft.htm>
- Draft Performance Work Statement, College Cost Study:  
<http://ocfo.ed.gov/CONINFO/CCS.htm>
- Proposed Processing Cycle for 1999-2000: <http://www.fsu.edu/~air/ipedtabl.htm>
- [AIR Alert #9](#) describing IPEDS Redesign:
- First update to AIR Alert #9: [Alert 9 Update 1](#)
- Second update to AIR Alert #9: [Alert 9 Update 2](#)

**Authors:** Mary Sapp

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