

## 200% Graduation Rates (GR200) Survey Component Overview 2021-22 Data Collection Cycle

On behalf of the National Center for Education Statistics, NCES, and the Association for Institutional Research, AIR, welcome to this tutorial on the IPEDS 200% Graduation Rates survey component, also called GR200.

The GR200 component is part of the Winter collection of IPEDS surveys, which opens in early December. Data entry must be completed and considered final by the end of the collection period, in mid-February, when the Keyholder locks their data.

IPEDS coordinators have an additional two weeks to review the data and lock the survey component.

Data collected through the IPEDS surveys provide a basis for postsecondary education analysis and consumer information. The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, requires that institutions that participate in federal student aid programs report data on enrollments, program completions, graduation rates, faculty and staff, finances, institutional costs, and student financial aid and stipulates, "...institutions will complete surveys conducted as part of the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)...in a timely manner and to the satisfaction of the Secretary."

Institutions receiving Title IV funding (student financial aid) must complete the IPEDS surveys. Currently, there are over 6,000 institutions that submit IPEDS surveys, with a number doing so voluntarily. NCES is required to provide a list of noncompliant institutions to the Office of Federal Student Aid. Non-compliance can result in warnings and costly fines, or even loss of Title IV funding. More information about fines can be found on the Statutory Requirements page (<https://surveys.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/ViewIPEDSStatutoryRequirement.aspx>)

The purpose of the GR200 component is to collect 200% graduation rates of full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduates, as required by the Higher Education Act, HEA, as amended. Include students enrolled during the fall term or during the 12-month period between September 1st and August 31st.

Report all Degree or certificate seeking students by race/ethnicity and gender. Degree or certificate seeking includes students enrolled in courses for credit who are seeking a degree, certificate, or other formal award. This includes students enrolled in vocational or occupational programs, those enrolled in off-campus centers, and those enrolled in distance learning or home study programs.

High school students also enrolled in postsecondary courses for credit are not considered degree or certificate-seeking.

Be sure to include full-time students taking remedial courses if the student is considered degree-seeking for the purpose of student financial aid determination.

This includes students who:

- Received any type of federal financial aid, regardless of what courses they took at any time;
- Received any state or locally based financial aid with an eligibility requirement that the student be enrolled in a degree, certificate, or transfer-seeking program; or
- Obtained a student visa to study at a U.S. postsecondary institution.

In certain cases, such as leaving school to join the armed forces or for the purposes of a religious mission, becoming totally and permanently disabled, or passing away, the student may be excluded from the cohort.

Data will be collected to calculate graduation rates at 200% of normal time for bachelor's degree-seeking students at 4-year institutions and for all students at less than 4-year institutions.

For some of the items, context boxes are provided so keyholders may provide text to explain or clarify data entries. For example, an institution may want to provide an explanation about differences in graduation rates from one year to the next. Notes from the context boxes may be displayed on College Navigator.

College Navigator was developed to provide comparable information to the public about postsecondary institutions and is used by students, parents, counselors, researchers and administrators from other institutions, and others. Information collected in the GR200 survey component is posted on College Navigator, where it can be used to help students and families determine the average amounts of grants and loans awarded to students and the average institutional net price at a particular institution.

It is always a good idea to begin the IPEDS reporting cycle early and seek help, when needed, from the IPEDS Help Desk. The knowledgeable Help Desk staff is eager to help. Response time may be longer near the end of the collection cycle. In addition, the IPEDS Resources page contains frequently asked questions, a link to the glossary, data tip sheets, an archive of survey instruments, and other relevant information.

This concludes the tutorial for the GR200 survey component.