

Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)

Aimee Copas
*Academic Affairs Associate
ND State IPEDS Coordinator
North Dakota University System*

IPEDS Collection is a Mandatory Activity

Compliance Notice: Mandatory Reporting Requirements for Institutions with Program Participation Agreements.

Section 490 of the Higher Education Amendments of 1992 (P.L. 102-325) requires that "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". Thus, reporting to IPEDS is mandatory for institutions that participate in or are applicants for participation in any Federal financial assistance program authorized by Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (20 USC 1094, Section 487(a)(17)).

INTEGRATED POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION DATA SYSTEM

GLOSSARY

The online version of the IPEDS Glossary provides definitions for almost 800 postsecondary-related concepts listed in the publications and disseminations of IPEDS data.

Full-time equivalent student

Persons identified by the institution as being full-time equivalent student are those for the purpose of computing institutional enrollment for public accountancy or a particular subject in the institution. They are not legal students and their status as students is not reported in the institution's enrollment data. Full-time equivalent students are those persons who are enrolled in a program of instruction, whether on-campus or off-campus, and whose enrollment is reported in the institution's enrollment data. Full-time equivalent students are those persons who are enrolled in a program of instruction, whether on-campus or off-campus, and whose enrollment is reported in the institution's enrollment data. Full-time equivalent students are those persons who are enrolled in a program of instruction, whether on-campus or off-campus, and whose enrollment is reported in the institution's enrollment data.

Students reported are those enrolled in courses creditable toward a degree or other formal award; students enrolled in courses that are part of a vocational or occupational program, including those enrolled in off-campus or extension centers; and high school students taking regular college courses for credit.

IPEDS – Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System

IPEDS is a system of interrelated surveys conducted annually by the US Department's National Center for Educational Statistics.

IPEDS gathers data from every college, university, and technical and vocational institution that participates in the federal student financial aid program.

IPEDS provides basic data needed to describe – and analyze trends in – postsecondary education in the US, in terms of the numbers of students enrolled, staff employed, dollars expended, and degrees earned.

Congress, federal agencies, state governments, education providers, professional associations, private businesses, media, students and parents, and others rely on the IPEDS data for this basic information on postsecondary institutions.

The data is made available to the public through the COLLEGE NAVIGATOR college search website and to researchers and others through the IPEDS Data Center.

IPED's Cycle

2011-12 Data Collection Schedule

Collection Dates	August 2	September 7	October 7	December 2
Collection Dates for Institutions		October 19	February 27	April 11
Collection Dates for Career Centers		November 2	February 27	April 11
Components Included	Geography Institutional Enrollment (16 IC Header)	Completion 12-month	Program Retention Student Personnel	Fall Enrollment (16 IC Header) 20% Graduation Rates Finance

All institutions will be required to register for the 2011-12 data collection cycle.

Direct and passives for 2011-12 will be published to all institutions on August 2. Those with designated as shutoff and passive institutions are great. All institutions for which there is no identified header will receive a letter directed by the ICIS department requesting information.

Institutions are encouraged but not required to complete institution identification and IC header during the registration period.

Institution identification must be completed and IC header must be locked before the Fall survey can be started. IC header is available until the end of the Fall collection. Institution identification is available through Spring.

By August 24, ICIS will review the registration status of each institution. If an institution has not registered all of the data, a letter will be sent to the CEO (requesting appointment of a new header).

Deadline Extension: There are no deadline extensions available for the IPEDS survey components.

Compliance: Methods Mandatory Reporting Requirements for Institutions and Program Participation Agreements.

Section 504 of the Higher Education Amendments of 1992 (PL 102-321): Institutions that participate will receive certain benefits as part of the National Postsecondary Education Longitudinal Study (IPEDS) 2011-12 study period and in the collection of and payment of their survey to IPEDS is mandatory for institutions that participate in or are covered for institutions in the national longitudinal system according to the IPEDS report (Section 504 of PL 102-321) or Section 504 of PL 102-321.

IPEDS Fall Enrollment

(when data released, it is categorized by 2 year or 4 year)

Who is included?

FIRST TIME DEGREE/CERTIFICATE-SEEKING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT

First time students are undergraduate students with no prior postsecondary experience. Exceptions are made for students who enrolled for the first time in the prior summer term and for students entering with advanced standing (college credits earned before graduation from high school.)

First time student counts impact other sections of the Fall Enrollment survey and several other survey components. For example, your institutions Graduation Rates survey (GRS) cohort is defined as your first-time, full time students.

NONDEGREE/CERTIFICATE SEEKING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT

Non-degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students are students enrolled for credit, but are not attending to earn a formal award. High school students enrolled for credit are considered non-degree/certificate-seeking until they earn their high school diploma (or equivalent), regardless of their degree/certificate intentions.

IPEDS Fall Enrollment

(when data released, it is categorized by 2 year or 4 year)

FIRST TIME STUDENT RETENTION

First time student retention is a Fall-to-Fall retention rate, tracking the number of first time students enrolled in a particular Fall and counting the number of those students who are still enrolled the following fall.

For 4-year institutions the retention rate is for bachelor's degree-seeking students only (first time bachelor's degree-seeking students). But for 2-year and less than 2-year institutions, all first time students are tracked.

2-year and less than 2-year institutions should include in their count of "retained" students, first time degree/certificate-seeking students from the prior Fall who are still enrolled, and first-time degree/certificate seeking students from the prior Fall who have completed their 1-year or less than 1-year program

Areas of needed IPEDS Additional Functionality of Data

- IPEDs is unable to track the success of our students who transfer to other system institutions to complete their degree.
- When institutions discover errors to the data, it can take 12+ months to correct the numbers on college navigator AFTER then correction has been made.
- IPEDs moves 2 year institutions who offer even just one 4 year program to the 4 year program model (thereby comparing them to other 4 year institutions, and only utilizing that singular degree to measure student retention.
 - This is a problem nation wide with IPED's and they are working on ways to correct this to provide a better measurement for those schools.

