

MONTANA P-20 DATA LINKAGES: BUILDING THE CAPACITY TO COMMUNICATE

Montana Board of Education
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- The Institute of Education Sciences (US Department of Education) invites State education agencies to apply for grants to design, develop, and implement statewide P-20 longitudinal data systems to capture student data from preschool to high school, college, and career.
- \$245 Million Available (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009)
- Applications due December 4, 2009

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To be considered for grant funding the state longitudinal data system (SLDS) must have the following seven capabilities:

- Enable states to examine student progress and outcomes over time, including student's preparation to meet the demands of postsecondary education, the 21st century workforce, and the Armed Forces
- Facilitate and enable the exchange of data among agencies so that data may be used to inform policy and practice
- Enable the matching of students and teachers

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Required SLDS Capabilities (continued)

- Enable the matching of teachers with information about their certification and teacher preparation programs
- Enable data to be easily generated for continuous improvement and decision-making, including timely reporting to parents, teachers and school leaders on achievement of their students
- Ensure the quality and integrity of the data in the system

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Required SLDS Capabilities (continued)

- Must provide the state with the ability to meet the reporting requirements for the USED, especially for the State Fiscal Stabilization Funds and *EDFacts*

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What do we know from our existing systems?

- ❖ Montana has a K-12 Student Information System, AIM (Achievement in Montana), which provides student-level enrollment, demographic, and program participation information (such as Title I or special education)
- ❖ We know which K-12 students have graduated, transferred or dropped out of school
- ❖ We are able to link demographic and program participation data with CRT assessment data

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What do we have in progress?

- ❖ OPI is building a school staffing module which will include a teacher identifier system with the ability to match teachers with students.
- ❖ The purpose is to link data from teacher education programs at the institutions of higher education within Montana to the OPI data systems for educator licensure and for reporting school district teaching assignments.
- ❖ OPI plans include implementation of the NCES Secondary School Course Classification System.

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This new request is intended to address:

- the capacity to communicate with higher education data systems;
- a State data audit system assessing data quality, validity, and reliability;
- student-level transcript information, including information on courses completed and grades earned;
- student-level college readiness test scores;
- information regarding the extent to which students transition successfully from secondary school to postsecondary education, including whether students enroll in remedial coursework; and
- other information determined necessary to address alignment and adequate preparation for success in postsecondary education.

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Five Objectives for Montana's application

- (1) Establishing data linkages among state agency partners to connect from early childhood to K-12 to post-secondary and the workforce;
- (2) Creating an electronic student transcript repository for K-12 education;
- (3) creating a data governance structure for P-20;
- (4) implementing business intelligence tools and a web portal for users of the P-20 data; and
- (5) developing a system of P-20 performance measurement and reporting.