

Save The Date

“AQuESTT for Every Student, Every Day”
<powered by data>

Formerly the data conference time frame, the new AQuESTT conference will be held **April 27 - 28, 2015** at the Younes Conference Center - Kearney, Nebraska and will provide opportunities for school personnel and teams to engage in the new accountability system, the integration of supports, the uses of data, connection to professional learning, and a variety of other relevant and timely topics.

More information will follow in upcoming weeks.



Special Education ILCD Website – New Feature

Contact: Special Education Regional Representative
Public Districts

The district secure ILCD website has been updated to include a PDF function on the Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP) page. This feature will permit sharing of the TIP. District ILCD teams are currently analyzing data and reporting Competencies and Challenges across the three Impact Areas as the teams are developing their district Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP) which is due **August 1, 2015**. District TIP work helps support the state systemic Improvement Plan required by Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) .



The NCLB Non Qualified Report - Available to your district/system as soon as your Student Grades template data is uploaded

Contact: Pat Madsen, NDE Adult Program Services (402-471-4863 or pat.madsen@nebraska.gov)
Public Districts and Special Purpose Systems only

The Report is located in NSSRS Validation, Verifications Reports, Staff. Please review your NCLB Not Qualified report and make sure information is correct and submit any HOUSSE approval requests as soon as possible. This report is generated for core academic areas as defined by NCLB using Student Grades data, teacher certification information, Elementary Education Curriculum and Instruction Assessment (EECIA), and HOUSSE approvals. NCLB set forth the goal that teachers in core academic areas be 100% NCLB qualified. New-to-the-profession elementary and elementary special education teachers must pass the Praxis II EECIA (#5017, 0011, or 5011) in order to be NCLB Qualified if they graduated from a Nebraska institution. Out of state teachers should submit the NCLB Qualified Teacher Status for Teachers Coming to Nebraska Form (<http://www.education.ne.gov/federalprograms/Documents/Title%20II/QualifiedTeachers/QualifiedTeachersOutState2007.pdf>).

Teachers appearing in the NCLB Non Qualified Report may need to complete a HOUSSE application. The NCLB Requirements, the HOUSSE application form, and instructions can be found at:
<http://www.education.ne.gov/federalprograms/Title%20II.html>

You should also review your NCLB Not Qualified Report after year-end/second semester Student Grades are reported. HOUSSE applications received by June 22, 2015 will be reflected in the 2014-15 SOSR, Federal Accountability, NCLB Qualified Teachers. For changes after that date, the CDC data collection called

“Request to Submit Data Late or Make Data Changes” will need to be completed and submitted. This data is also submitted in NDE’s Federal reporting.



NEW GUIDANCE FROM OCR AND DOJ

Contact: Terri Schuster
402-471-4694 or terri.schuster@nebraska.gov

The Office of Civil Rights (OCR) and the Department of Justice (DOJ) have recently released guidance on providing equitable access for English Language Learners. The documents provide reminders for states, school districts, and schools of their obligations under federal law to ensure that English learner students have equal access to a high-quality education and the opportunity to achieve their full academic potential.

This is the first time that a single piece of guidance has addressed the array of federal laws that govern schools’ obligations to English learners. The guidance recognizes the recent milestone 40th anniversaries of *Lau v. Nichols* and the Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974 (EEOA), as well as the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act. The EEOA, similar to *Lau*, requires public schools to take appropriate action to help English learner students overcome language barriers and ensure their ability to participate equally in school.

The documents have been posted on the NDE Title III website, <http://www.education.ne.gov/natlorigin/>, beneath the header “**IMPORTANT NOTICE UPDATED JANUARY 2015.**” You are urged to read carefully the “Dear Colleague Letter” and the two fact sheets. A new CHAPTER 1 has also been added to the ELL Toolkit, which is available at the same link.



NonPublic Curriculum Report – Open: January 12 - Due Date: February 28

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)
This is required for NonPublic Systems only.

The NonPublic Curriculum Reporting System will collect data on courses teachers teach for use in determining compliance with Rule 10 and Rule 14. The NonPublic Curriculum Report is located under the "Data Collections" tab in the Portal. Due Date: February 28. Audit Window close date: March 13.



Student Summary Attendance - Collection Period 2 - Due Date: January 30

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)
Public Districts and Special Purpose Systems only

Student Summary Attendance collection period 2 (2014-10-16 through 2014-12-31) is due January 30. Audit Window close date February 14.



Extract for NeSA labels - Due Date: January 30

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)
Public Districts and Special Purpose Systems only

Extract for preprinted labels for Nebraska State Accountability (NeSA-R, NeSA-M, and NeSA-S). Student, School Enrollment and Year-End Sped Snapshot templates should be up to date. Data will be pulled for use on February 2.



REMINDER!

Reporting Student Grades Data for Special Education Students in Regular Classes

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

Public Districts and Special Purpose Systems only

When reporting the course code for Special Education Students in Regular Classes, use the same course code used for students that are not Special Education. The same course code should be used for all students in the same course. For example, if you have two Special Education students in a regular World History class of 20 students, all 20 Student Grades should have course code 150800 in Student Grades and they will all have the same NDE Staff ID for the teacher.

The Special Education course codes that begin with '19' should be used only for those courses that are designed specifically for Special Education students in separate classes.



REMINDER!

Special Education Monthly/Year-End Snapshot

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

Public Districts and Special Purpose Systems only

This is a reminder for School Districts uploading their Monthly/Year-End Special Education Snapshot. Please remember to upload a complete file of all special education students served with verified disabilities this school year in the first upload to 2014-2015 Year End Collection. Information uploaded to the October Snapshot submission window (2014-10-01) does not automatically carry over into the Year-end Sped Snapshot (2015-06-30). After the initial upload for year-end, individual records can be uploaded in the monthly updates. A monthly Special Education Snapshot must be submitted when there are new students in special education and whenever there are changes in Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy or Speech Therapy services.

Monthly/Year-End Sped Snapshot templates should be uploaded into the "**2014-2015 Year End**" collection window, using the **snapshot date of 2015-06-30**.

The Monthly/Year-End Special Education Snapshot is the source of special education data to be compared with data provided by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) that occurs on the **24th day of each month** for the purpose of creating the Medicaid in Public Schools (MIPS) claim forms/lists. Participation in MIPS is required by Nebraska Revised Statute 43-2511.



REMINDER!

NeSA-RMSW 2014-2015 Key Dates

Contact: Valorie Foy (402-471-2495 or valorie.foy@nebraska.gov)

Key dates for NeSA-RMSW are presented in the following table.

Update Student Information in NSSRS for NeSA-RMS Operational Test	January 30, 2015
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Additional information on NeSA testing is available at the Statewide Assessment Website:

<http://www.education.ne.gov/Assessment/Index.html>

HOW TO CONTACT THE NDE HELPDESK

There are three ways to contact the NDE Helpdesk with questions.

All three ways get to the same place, so please only use one of the following options.

If you send more than one request this may delay our response as we coordinate all requests.

1. Submit a "Helpdesk Request" from your portal account. After logging into the NDE Portal, it is available in the upper right corner of the Collection Announcement page. This will be the fastest way to get your request to the NDE Helpdesk.

OR

2. Email: nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov

OR

3. Call Toll Free: 888-285-0556

Please leave your full name, organization, call back number and a brief description of your question.

ALSO: If you have contacted your area's NDE Trainer or Program Staff person, please do not also contact the Helpdesk. Multiple contacts will delay the response.

THANK YOU!

NDE Bulletin now available in RSS Feed

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

We have added an RSS feed that users can subscribe to. Don't forget that the current and past NDE Bulletins can always be found at <http://www.education.ne.gov/ndebulletins/index.html>. The RSS feature can be found at the above webpage in the upper right hand corner (orange icon). RSS feeds can be used with Outlook and a number of web-based feed readers. At this time we will also continue to send the bulletin out via e-mail.

Ginny Carter, Helpdesk Manager

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Helpdesk: Toll Free 888-285-0556

Email: nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov