

NDE Bulletin
November 18, 2010

2010-11 NCLB APPLICATION

Contact: Diane Stuehmer (402-471-1740) or the NCLB Reviewer for your District.

The NCLB Final Reimbursement Request deadline for 2009-10 was November 15th. All districts/ESU's with a 2009-10 NCLB Application must submit a Final Reimbursement Request in the Grants Management System (GMS). Finals need to be submitted ASAP. GMS will not accept any reimbursement requests after December 1, 2010. Unexpended 2009-10 funds will be identified as carryover and will be carried over to the 2010-11 program application. Payments for 2010-11 NCLB programs will not be processed until a final has been submitted and approved.

NDE Federal Programs Staff are working diligently to get 2010-11 NCLB applications approved. A number of applications were returned for changes over a month ago. Please check to see if the application for your district requires revisions and resubmission for approval.

Graduation Cohort: Training and Corrections to Data

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

Graduation rates will continue to receive much attention and 2010-2011 will be the first based on graduation cohorts. The NDE "Graduation Cohort Analysis Tool" and "Expected Graduation Lookup Tool" both assist districts ensure data accuracy. Many districts have already started using the Graduation Cohort Analysis Tool and quickly learned further clarification is necessary regarding graduation cohorts and the data corrections required. Training on graduation cohorts is being prepared for early 2011 with the goal of resolving 2011 Cohort errors by June 30, 2011.

In the meantime, the following documents are available on the NSSRS Documents page (<http://www.education.ne.gov/nssrs/Documents.htm>):

- 1) "Graduation Cohort Guide"
- 2) "Graduation Cohort Analysis Tool" Quick Reference Guide
- 3) "Expected Graduation Year Lookup Tool" Quick Reference Guide

Labels for NeSA-Writing and ELDA: December 7, 2010

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

Districts have until December 7, 2010 to update the student data in NSSRS used for NeSA-Writing and English Language Development Assessment (ELDA) labels. Again this year, NSSRS Validation provides two verification reports, "ELDA Labels" and "NeSA-Writing Labels", which enable districts to verify the correct students are listed with accurate demographic information, including: race, gender, English language learner, and special education.

New for 2010-2011:

- 1) For both NeSA-Writing and ELDA, students will be included in the special education subgroup based on the NSSRS Special Education Snapshot using **Exit Date** [Special Education Snapshot:Special Ed Exit Date (34)] . The Year-end Special Education Snapshot will be used

unless it has not yet been submitted, in which case the October Special Education Snapshot will be used.

- 2) For NeSA-Writing, high school students will be tested in their third year of high school. Testing will occur in the year prior to their Expected Graduation Year rather than their assigned grade level. A student's "expected graduation year" or cohort is determined by adding four years to the school year in which the student enters grade nine for the first time. For example, a student with a Graduation Cohort Year of 2012 will take his/her assessment tests in 2011.

Please refer to the NSSRS Calendar (<http://www.education.ne.gov/nssrs/Calendar.htm>), "Special Education Snapshot" template instructions (<http://www.education.ne.gov/nssrs/Documents.htm>), or "Standards, Assessment, and Accountability" (Volume 6, September 2010) (<http://www.education.ne.gov/assessment/SAAUpdates.htm>) for details.

CDC: Non-Certificated Staff Collection Now Open (All Public Districts, State Operated Systems, and ESUs)

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

The Non-certificated Staff Collection opened November 15, 2010 and closes January 3, 2011. All District/System non-certificated employees must be included. This collection includes the Full-Time Equivalency for staff in each of the categories who were at the District/System on October 1st (or the closest school day to October 1st). Categories are School Administrative Support Staff, District/System Administrative Support Staff, Clerical Assistants to Instructional Personnel (non-classroom), Teacher Aides (work in classroom), Plant Operation Personnel (custodians, engineers, etc.), Regular Bus Drivers, Food Service Personnel, Library Aide and Other Personnel.

ARRA 1512 Reporting (Open from December 10, 2010 through January 5, 2011/CDC Collection)

Contact Bryce Wilson at (402) 471-3323 or bryce.wilson@nebraska.gov, or Ron Mowrey at (402) 471-2396 or ron.mowrey@nebraska.gov.

Section 1512 of ARRA requires reporting of jobs created/saved and vendor information on a quarterly basis. NDE will collect this information from every sub-recipient (district or ESU) through the ARRA Section 1512 Reporting program in the NDE Portal - Consolidated Data Collections (CDC) at <http://portal.education.ne.gov/>.

Due to the holidays, the ARRA 1512 Reporting Section of the CDC will be open from December 10, 2010 through January 5, 2011 to report activity for the quarter ending December 31st. Every sub-recipient must complete the reporting requirements, even if there has not been any payment(s) received or new jobs saved/retained. Failure to comply with this reporting requirement will put the sub-recipients out of compliance and jeopardize receipt of all federal funds until the next reporting period. The Department has developed Frequently Asked Questions located at <http://www.education.ne.gov/ARRA/PDF/ARRA%20JobsAccountabilityActQA.pdf>.

Central Contractor Registration (CCR) information must be updated at least once a year and is a requirement for receiving American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds and reporting for Section 1512 of ARRA. Please check your registration to ensure that it has not expired or will not expire this year. You may check the status of your registration at <https://www.bpn.gov/ccr/default.aspx>