Rule 10 Assurance Statement – OPEN: August 15 – DUE DATE: November 1
Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

All accredited school systems (public and non-public) are required to complete a Rule 10 Assurance Statement annually. The Assurance Statement must be completed to reflect compliance or indicate areas of noncompliance as your school system starts the 2016-2017 school year.

The Assurance Statement for public school districts will be web-based, as it was last school year, and will be available on the NDE Portal, August 15. The Assurance Statement for non-public schools will continue to be included in the Fall Mailing and will be sent by August 15th. FAQ and instruction documents regarding completion of the Rule 10 Assurance Statement will be available in the Fall mailing and within the Portal.

NSSRS Data Manager: “Notice of Data Redisclosure” – OPEN: August 17
Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

As last year, prior to submitting 2016-2017 data, a district’s NSSRS Data Manager “District Approve” user must indicate understanding of data re-disclosure requirements, which require NDE to make data submitted available to Nebraska postsecondary institutions (Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 79-776), and to other districts where a student intends to enroll. This “splash screen” is the notification required under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). FERPA requires advance notification and development of the new P-16 data system continues.

The “District Approver” (district administrator) user indicates understanding by clicking the “I Understand” button prior to any submissions. Other users of NSSRS Data Manager will only be presented with the option to click the “Close this Window” button. All users will be presented with a notice of data redisclosure the first time logging into NSSRS Data Manager each day and must click the “I Understand” button in order to gain access to this system.

ATTENTION ALL NDE PORTAL USERS:
Please log onto your portal accounts and go to the “My Profile” tab and check to make sure your contact information (especially the email address) is up to date. It is very important to keep this information updated as the Department of Education uses the email address that is in the users’ Portal account to send vital information. Thank you!!

Training for ESU technical staff that will support districts working with the Power School Ed-Fi component for the ADVISER dashboard.
Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)
On August 25 there will be training for ESU technical staff that will support districts working with Power School Ed-Fi components and assist with active directory and google domain for the ADVISER Dashboard. At least one staff member from each ESU needs to attend. The training will be held at ESU 10 in Kearney from 9 am – 4 pm. Please contact ESU 10 directly to register. Topics to be included are:

- Overview, history, Dashboard Preview, terminology lingo
- EAP site (quick tour)
- How do ESUs get access to the dashboard for districts
- How do we connect to the ODS, single sign on
- Secrets and Keys
- JitBit overview
- PowerSchool Plug Ins
- PowerSchool Security Roles
- Troubleshooting/Things to Check/who to contact

**NEW**

**Title III Professional Development** – OPEN: September 1 – DUE: October 1
Contact: Terri Schuster (402-471-4694 terri.schuster@nebraska.gov)

**Title III subgrantees only**
Districts or Educational Service Unit consortia that receive funds under Title III Limited English Proficient grants should complete this information. It is designed to collect information on the types of professional development provided under Title III for the previous school year. Audit window closes on October 15

**NEW**

**New Superintendents – 2016-2017 School Year**
Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

If your district/system has a new Superintendent for the 2016-2017 school year, please have them contact the NDE Helpdesk to get set up on the NDE Portal as the new District Administrator for your district. We will provide them with the district administrator activation code specific to their district. The previous District Administrator will also need to be removed and should contact the Helpdesk to advise us of their new position. The Helpdesk can also provide new administrators with information on where instructions are located for the District Administrator Responsibilities and assigning activation codes.

**REMEMBER!**

**2016-2017 Staff Reporting** – OPEN: August 8 – DUE: September 15
Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

The 2016-2017 Staff Reporting collection opened Monday, August 8. State statute requires Public Districts and NonPublic Systems to submit a Fall Personnel Report by September 15. The NSSRS Staff Reporting data collection is located under the “Student & Staff (NSSRS)” tab in the portal. Special Purpose Schools (State Operated), Education Service Units and Interim Programs (Rule 18) should report during this timeframe as well. Options for submission are online entry and upload. Staff Reporting Instructions are available [https://www.education.ne.gov/nssrs/docs/STAFF_INSTRUCTION_MANUAL_20162017.pdf](https://www.education.ne.gov/nssrs/docs/STAFF_INSTRUCTION_MANUAL_20162017.pdf). Appendix A in the Staff Reporting Instructions details the changes that were made since 2015-2016.

When completing the Staff Reporting 2016-2017, double check to make sure the email addresses are correct for each staff member that is required to have one. If a correction is made to the email address that NDE had in
Staff Reporting, have the staff member log into their portal account under the “My Profile” tab and verify if their email address is correct, or have them update it. NDE uses the email addresses from Staff Reporting and the Portal for communications so keeping them current is very important.

**Summer School Supplement (CDC collection) – DUE: August 17**
Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

The Summer School Supplement opened in the CDC on August 1. This collection is due on August 17 with the audit window from August 18 through August 31. At the end of each regular school term the Nebraska Department of Education collects the attendance data for each school district and system in Nebraska. State total ADA is reported to the U.S. Department of Education and is used in formulas for allocating federal entitlement for Title 1, Impact Aid, Indian Education and other federal programs.

The federal government requires that the total aggregate days of attendance for summer school be added to the total aggregate days of attendance for the regular school term to provide the **numerator** for the calculation of state Average Daily Attendance (ADA). The **denominator** for this calculation is the average number of days in session during the regular school year. In this collection, Districts will report the total Prorated Days of Attendance for their Summer School Program. **Only Public Districts are required to complete this form.**

**High Ability Learners (HAL) – NDE Portal Collection – DUE: August 31**
Contact: Cory Eppler at cory.eppler@nebraska.gov

High Ability Learners (HAL) 16-17 Applications for Base Only and Base and Matching Funds AND 16-17 Budget and Year-End Reports; due no later than 11:59 PM, August 31 with an audit window close date of September 15. HAL is an online submission under the Data Collection tab in the NDE Portal. The collection will close at that time and only those reports entered will be considered for HAL grants. **Audit Window Close Date September 15.**

**LC-2 – DUE DATE: September 20**
Contact: Janice Eret (402-471-2248 or janice.eret@nebraska.gov) or Bill Biven (402-471-0526 or bill.biven@nebraska.gov)

The Budget Form LC-2 is now open. The LC-2 must be submitted by all public school districts and is due on September 20.

**MOE Eligibility Application – DUE DATE: November 15**
Contact: Pete Biaggio (402-471-4308 or pete.biaggio@nebraska.gov)

The purpose of this application is to provide IDEA special education Maintenance of Effort (MOE) information to establish school eligibility for receipt of IDEA current year funds.

**Additional Versions of DHHS Superintendent Letter – OPEN: August 7**
Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)
Beginning August 7, two additional versions of the automated DHHS Superintendent Letter will be available to school districts via the NDE Portal: (1) YRTC Placement; and (2) New School Year. The DHHS Superintendent Letter was originally developed by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services - Children and Family Services Division (DHHS-CFS) to notify school districts when any of their students became State wards and their current status in the child welfare system. The new YRTC Placement version of the Letter notifies school districts when one of their students enters or exits the DHHS-operated Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center (YRTC) in Geneva (for girls) or Kearney (for boys).

The New School Year version of the Letter is sent at the beginning of each school year to update the school district about a State ward’s current status in the child welfare system. For the 2016-2017 School Year, these letters are being sent between August 7 and August 28. In districts that will receive multiple New School Year Letters, the Superintendent is sent only one e-notification at the end of each day rather than an e-notification for each letter.

The DHHS Superintendent Letter collection can be found under the Data Collections tab in the NDE Portal.

2016-2017 NSSRS Calendar Version 7.1
Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

The 2016-2017 NSSRS Calendar has been updated and a new version is now available on the NSSRS Resources web page at https://www.education.ne.gov/nssrs/Resources.html.

NDE Student Unique Identifier – It’s That Time Again to Update
Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)

All students in Pre-Kindergarten – Grade 12 (Public, NonPublic and State Operated Systems) and Postsecondary students (Nebraska Community Colleges, State Colleges and University of Nebraska students) need to be updated each year with current school information. Step-by-Step instructions can be found on our website at the following web address: https://www.education.ne.gov/nssrs/docs/NSSRS_Steps_Uniqid_2016-03-02.pdf

Prior to submitting the Student template for the first time for 2016-2017 school year, ALL new and returning students should have their Unique Identifier (State ID’s) assigned/updated. On all returning students, any information that has changed (grade level, school building and school year) needs to be updated in the Student Unique Identifier Collection.

DIRECT CERTIFICATION WITH MEDICAID DEMONSTRATION PROJECT
Contact: Sharon Davis (402-471-3559 or sharon.davis@nebraska.gov)

Beginning in 2016-17, Nebraska will start directly certifying students using Medicaid eligibility for both free and reduced price meal eligibility under the authority of Section 18(c) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA). The Demonstration Project has the potential to improve student access to school meals, reduce administrative burden for schools and local educational agencies (LEAs), and improve certification accuracy in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP).

Scheduled Webinars

Verification Report and the Direct Certification with Medicaid
CNP System Updates

For the 2016-17 School Year, the SFA staff will see changes to the Direct Certification/Direct Verification | View Direct Certification | Qualified Student List Direct Certified as Free screen in the Child Nutrition Program (CNP) system located at: https://nutrition.education.ne.gov/

- The "Q" field new values: **M-F** = Medicaid-Free, **M-R** = Medicaid-Reduced.
- Heading updated from “Qualified Student List Directly Certified as Free” to “Qualified Student List Directly Certified”.
- Additional text under the NOTICE statement: If a student’s record is reported with only the “**M-R**” value on the direct certified list in the CNP system, than the households with children directly certified for reduced price meals must receive a notice of the income level used and be offered the opportunity to apply if their income, based on NSLP eligibility policies, is within the limit for free meals (using the National School Lunch Program (NSLP)’s current income eligibility guidelines). For information click on: https://www.education.ne.gov/ns/forms/nslpforms/DirectCert.html
- A template letter for the child reported with only the “**M-R**” value on the direct certification list is available on this webpage: https://www.education.ne.gov/ns/forms/nslpforms/DirectCert.html

During the coming weeks, the Direct Certification and Direct Verification webpage will be updated with new documents that include information regarding the Direct Certification with Medicaid Demonstration project: https://www.education.ne.gov/ns/forms/nslpforms/DirectCert.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 – **This is a Voicemail line ONLY.** Please leave your full name, organization, call back number and a brief description of your question. **ALSO:** If you have contacted the NDE Program Staff person, please do not also contact the Helpdesk. Multiple contacts will delay the response. **THANK YOU!**

**NDE Bulletins: Past and Present:**
Current and past NDE Bulletins can be found at http://www.education.ne.gov/ndebulletins/index.html. We will also continue to send the bulletin out via e-mail.

**Denise Schuyler**  
Data, Research, and Evaluation - NDE IT Helpdesk Specialist