

Certification Data Exchange Project

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**National Association of Career and
Technical Education Information
2014 Conference**

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Purpose of the Certification Data Exchange Project

PRESENTER:

John Haigh

Chief, Performance and Accountability Branch, DATE, OCTAE,
US Department of Education, Moderator

Industry Certification Problem for Students, States, and Districts

- Perkins requirement for States to collect data at the secondary level: “a proficiency credential, certificate, or degree, in conjunction with a secondary school diploma” (if offered) (3S1).
- At the postsecondary level: a “student attainment of an industry-recognized credential, a certificate, or a degree” (2P1).

Definitions, Quality & Labor Market Value

Definitions

- Certification, certificate, credential, licensure
- Education, labor, commerce, business, organizations

Quality

- What are the key quality indicators and factors
- How will we know what is good enough and maintenance

Labor Market Value

- Relationship between quality and the market
- Publically recognized and how obtained and tracked
- Important to student, consumer & program

Two Purposes for the Certification Exchange Project

- Determine what is the best we can do for matches we can make with high confidence
- What will be good for the future Research questions to answer

States Reporting Postsecondary Data in CAR

Year	Certificates	Credentials	Degrees
2008–09	82,082	60,755	212,477
2009–10	108,835	21,816	238,391
2010–11	132,985	51,859	234,575
2011–12	137,155	41,170	259,866
2012–13	156,586	41,198	298,265

2013 Perkins Degrees, Certifications and Credentials Awarded by States

Reported in the 2013 CAR by States (2P1):

1,061,040 postsecondary concentrators left in 2013.

529,097 concentrators (49.8%) received an award, of those:

298,265 Degrees (56.3%) were awarded

156,586 Certificates (29.5%) were awarded

- 8 States reported less than 10 certificates in the state

41,198 Credentials (7.7%) were awarded

- 25 States reported less than 10 credentials in the state
- 16 States reported 0 certificates or credentials awarded in the state.

Characteristics of Alternative Credentials

US Census Bureau 2012

Who awarded:

• Government (federal, state, local)	71.4%
• Industry	10.3
• Business, company, nonprofit	5.3
• Professional association	10.5
• Other	2.5

Reason for getting it:

• Work-related	96.2%
• Personal interest	3.8

Characteristics of Alternative Credentials

US Census Bureau 2012

Fields of Certification (top 10):

Industry Certification Problem for Students, States, and Districts

Many districts and states have difficulty tracking student attainment of a third party industry-recognized credential especially when many are obtained post-coursework.

There are definitional issues and a diverse and often confusing national credentialing marketplace of degrees, certificates, certifications, credentials, licenses and even badges that are offered by a wide variety of educational institutions and credentialing organizations that increase the difficulty of matching for states.

Original Certification Data Exchange Advisory Group

Organization	Name
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COMPTia	Gretchen Koch
US Chamber Commerce	Ross Cohen
HHS	Stanley Koutstaal
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WRIS	Kate Louton
FEDES	David Stevens
IHE	Robert Sheets
IHE	Scott Parke
ASE	Tom Richardson
GSX, Corp.	Dave Wilcox
IL IHE Pilot	Nathan Wilson

State Policy and Data Context

PRESENTER:

Bob Sheets

Director of Research, Business Innovation Services, University of Illinois
at Urbana-Champaign

State Policy and Data Context

- State goals to increase the number of residents with credentials including degrees, certificates, certifications, and other types of credentials
- Integration of economic and workforce development and career and technical education around key sectors

Key questions

What is our progress in reaching our goals and how can we get there better and faster?

What is our progress in key sectors and how are our sector pipelines performing?

Can our state data systems provide us the necessary data to measure progress?

Certification Data Exchange Roadmap

- Raise awareness and gain consensus and commitment in states and industry certification communities
- Conduct state pilot projects with leading certification organizations to address issues and show value
 - Personal identification data for matching
 - Data sharing agreements
 - Value for both states and certification organizations
- Develop consistent data standards and data sharing agreements
- Establish national data exchange/clearinghouse

Resources

www.cte.ed.gov

[www.acteonline.org/certification data](http://www.acteonline.org/certification_data)



Advancing the Global IT Industry

Data Sharing Project CompTIA Update

Gretchen Koch
May 8, 2014

www.comptia.org

Data Sharing Project

Recent Activities of CompTIA

- **Worked to expand the Pilot in IL to other states and other industry sectors**
- **CA is now included in the Project and test data has been shared**
- **Several other states applied, but all were unable to sign the Indemnification Agreement**
- **FERPA clarification received from the Department of Education**
- **Continued need for Indemnification Agreement reconsidered**

Next Steps at CompTIA

- **Indemnification Agreement no longer necessary, but states will need to sign a “data sharing agreement.”**
- **Making Opt-in language for authorization for CompTIA to release information pertaining to test taker’s credentials to third party organizations more explicit in the future by specifying research studies as a potential use.**
- **Surveying past Opt-in test takers’ attitudes toward this type of sharing.**
- **Including new data elements for identification of test takers to improve quality of “matches” as requested from the Pilot, e.g. DOB, gender.**

Data Sharing Project and FERPA

PRESENTER:

Dale King

Director of Family Policy Compliance Office (FPCO), US Department of
Education

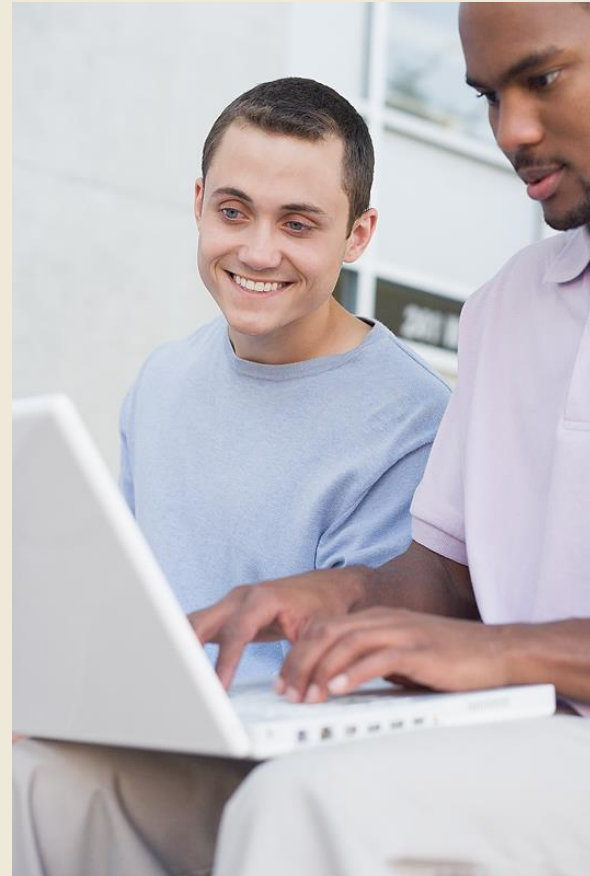
What is the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)?

A federal privacy law that affords parents the right to—

- have access to their children's education records,
- seek to have the records amended, and
- consent to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from education records, except as provided by law.

Transfer of Rights Under FERPA

When a student turns 18 years old, or enters a postsecondary institution at any age, the rights under FERPA transfer from the parents to the student (“eligible student”).



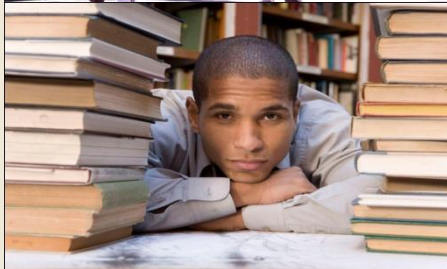
To which educational agencies and institutions does FERPA apply?



Elementary



Secondary



Postsecondary



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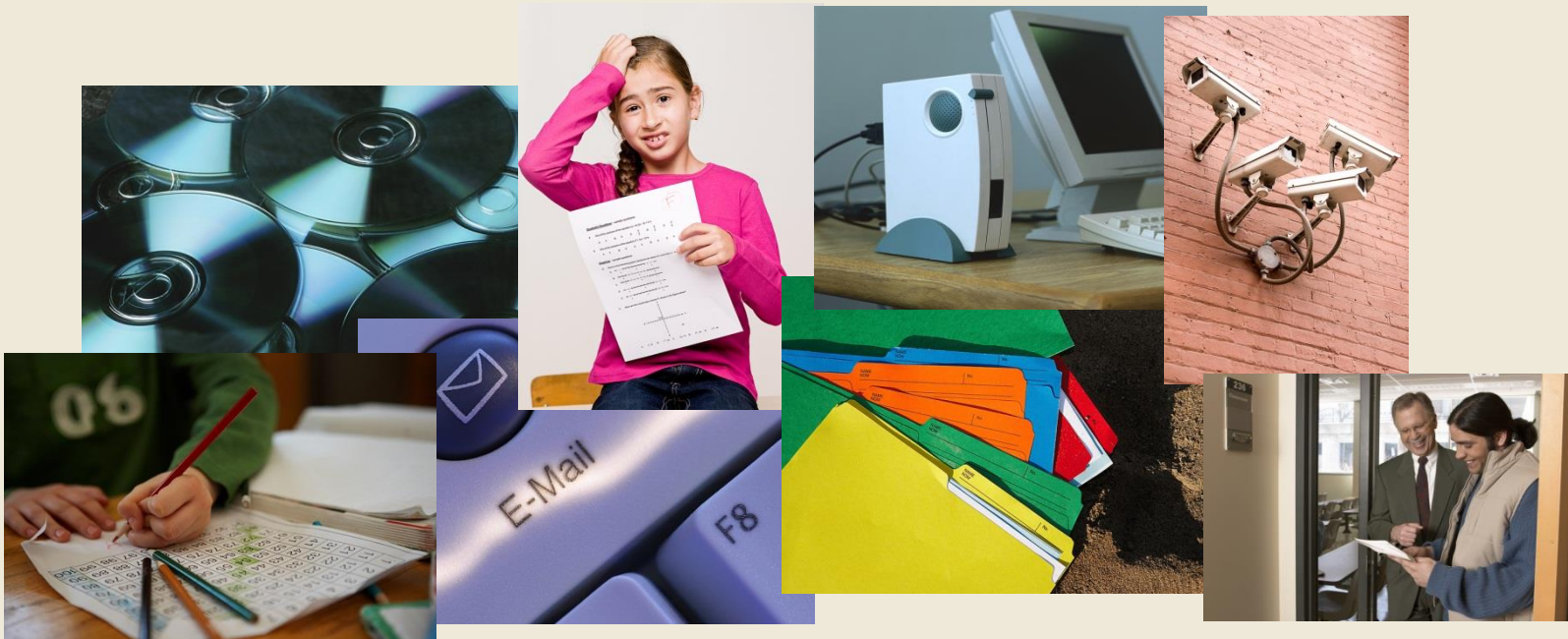
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What are education records?

Records that are –

- directly related to a student; and
- maintained by an educational agency or institution or by a party acting for the agency or institution.



What is personally identifiable information (PII)?



Name



Mother's maiden name



address



Date of birth



Social Security Number



Parent's name

Written Consent before Disclosures

A parent or eligible student shall provide a signed and dated written consent before a school may disclose education records. The consent must:

- specify records that may be disclosed;
- state purpose of disclosure; and
- identify party or class of parties to whom disclosure may be made.

What are the exceptions to general consent?

- To school officials with legitimate educational interests (defined in annual notification);
- To schools in which a student seeks or intends to enroll;
- To State and local officials pursuant to a State statute in connection with serving the student under the juvenile justice system;
- To comply with a judicial order or subpoena (reasonable effort to notify parent or student at last known address);
- To accrediting organizations;

What are exceptions to general consent? (cont.)

- To parents of a dependent student;
- To authorized representatives of Federal, State, and local educational authorities conducting an audit, evaluation, or enforcement of education programs;
- To organizations conducting studies for specific purposes on behalf of schools;
- To child welfare agencies or tribal organizations
- In a health or safety emergency; and
- Directory information.

*So, what does this mean for the
Certification Data Exchange
Project?*



Industry Partners and FERPA

Industry Partners



Industry Partners

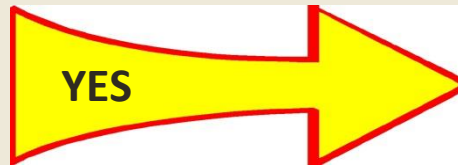


Industry Certification Data and FERPA

- Only PII from education records are subject to FERPA.
- Schools and LEAs may only disclose PII from education records to industry partners with consent or consistent with FERPA-permitted exceptions.
- FERPA does not apply to industry partners' non-FERPA protected data.
- Industry partners' data disclosed to schools and LEAs may become FERPA-protected data.
- The direction of a data exchange makes a difference.

Industry Certification Data and SLDS

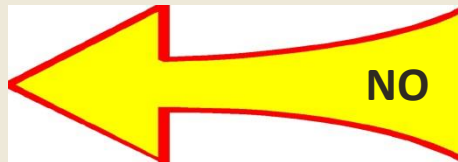
Industry Partner



SLDS



Industry Partner



SLDS



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