Improving Education Data Part 1 – Creating a Foundation

The Online Forum Curriculum for Improving Education Data was developed by the National Forum on Education Statistics (the Forum). The Forum is a unit of the National Cooperative Education Statistics System, which was established by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

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Credits

Security is Not Just About Computers

- Paper Records
- Casual Conversations
FERPA requires the consent of parents or eligible students before personally identifiable information from education records is disclosed.

Directory information is one exception to this general consent rule.

Annually notify parents and eligible students of their rights under FERPA.

To consent to disclosure, to inspect, review, amend a student’s educational record, to appeal to the US Department of Education.
State Law and Regulation

State confidentiality laws and regulations may be more stringent than federal rules.

Confidential Student Elements

- Social Security Number
- Student health information
- Discipline information
- State-assigned student ID
- Lunch status (free or reduced lunch)
- Socioeconomic status
- Title I status
- IEP status and details
- Exceptionality
- Individual assessment results and course grades
- Migrant status, homeless status
- Medicaid status
- Other data elements parents may request to exclude from directory

Confidential Staff Elements

- Social Security Number
- Health Information
- Other Contract Issues
A Guide to Confidentiality

- Education records protected by FERPA are exempt from the HIPAA privacy rule
- Interaction between FERPA and HIPAA is complex

Things to Do

Establish data release procedures and protocols