

Indiana

Indiana Department of Education
R372A120027

Project Title: *Indiana Education and Workforce Data System*

Project Description: Indiana is requesting funding for the development of a federated data system that will enable automated linkages between K-12, higher education and workforce data (RFA Priority Three). This system will advance Indiana's P-20 data system from its 1.0 version where manual linkages and time intensive protocols make data access a lengthy and arduous process to a next generation 2.0 system that leverages agency data for seamless data access and reporting without requiring the data to be physically loaded in a central repository. Working with other key agencies, the Indiana Department of Education will establish a governance council and a well-defined research agenda to guide the development and expansion of the proposed system.

Indiana has made steady progress on the development of its statewide longitudinal data system (SLDS) since initiating a unique student identifier in 2002. Work on this system was accelerated by a SLDS grant in 2007 and now Indiana has met the basic criteria for data systems outlined in the America COMPETES Act.

Key features of the existing system include role-based access to longitudinal performance data for K-12 students through the *Learning Connection* which boasts 60,000 registered users, and the development of the Indiana Workforce and Education Intelligence System that represents Indiana's first attempt to link K-12, Higher Education and Workforce data.

Indiana's reform legislation "*Putting Students First*" is propelling dramatic changes in Indiana's K-12 schools in an effort to improve outcomes for Indiana students. These student centered reforms and policies are powered by data. However, there still some agency and technology boundaries within the P-20 data continuum that make developing a complete profile of Indiana learners more challenging than it should be. For this reason, Indiana's Education Roundtable moved to fund a feasibility study for the development of a federated data system so that researchers, policy makers, state agencies and the public can have access to information about the results and trends of Indiana's education system. This study underscores Indiana's commitment to moving forward with the data system proposed in this grant application.

Working with partners such as the Commission for Higher Education and the Department of Workforce Development, the Indiana Department of Education is seeking funding under RFA Priority Three for the development of Indiana's Education and Workforce Data System, a federated data system.
