Attention Forum Members
July 28-30, 2008

July 28-30 is the annual summer meeting of the National Forum on Education Statistics. Members are invited to take part in discussions and work to improve the quality and use of elementary and secondary education data. Join with your colleagues from local, state, and federal education agencies and national associations as they continue work on tools for improving education data; a comprehensive data model for schools and school districts; a guide to metadata and its importance; and other products for hands-on data improvement. Learn about state data system initiatives and policy affecting data collection and use. For more information about the Forum, visit its web site at http://nces.ed.gov/forum

Data Conference Highlights
July 30 – August 1, 2008

Come to the July 30 – August 1 NCES Summer Data Conference for professional networking, updates on federal and national activities affecting data collection and reporting, and information about the best new approaches in collecting, reporting, and using education statistics. The Conference will provide extensive information about changes in how the U.S. Department of Education collects and uses data, and about developments in electronic data standards for schools, school districts, and states. There will be up-to-the-minute presentations on NCES’s survey and assessment programs, information about the U.S. Department of Education’s innovation in data collection, and overviews of developing statewide longitudinal data systems.

Agenda/Registration Information

Please check the NCES website for additional information about the Summer Forum and Data Conference. The agendas for both activities will be updated continually between now and July. To find the information, go to the NCES home page at http://ies.ed.gov/whatsnew/conferences, then hit the prominently displayed Summer Forum and Data Conference button. This will take you to meeting agendas and to the online registration and proposal submission form. Remember — information about sessions and schedules will be updated regularly, so check the website!

There is no registration fee.

Making Your Hotel Reservations
(Please Read Carefully)

Please refer to the meeting schedule to the right when making your hotel reservation.

Hyatt Regency Bethesda
One Bethesda Metro Center
7400 Wisconsin Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20814
Reservations Phone: 800-233-1234
Phone: 301-657-1234
Fax: 301-657-6453

Please call the Hyatt Regency Bethesda directly to reserve a sleeping room. You will need to provide a personal credit card number to guarantee your room.

- Reservations for lodging must be made at the hotel prior to Thursday, July 3, 2008.
- To receive the group rate, please reference the “Summer Forum and NCES Data Conference” room block.
- The hotel is offering the Summer Forum and Data Conference participants the July 2008 federal single per diem rate for the Washington, DC area (currently $154 plus taxes per night).
- After Thursday, July 3, 2008, the hotel will accept sleeping room reservations on a space-available basis only and at a significantly higher rate.
- The meeting room block at the Hyatt Regency Bethesda could sell out prior to the cutoff date of July 3. If the block does sell out, contact the Marriott Bethesda North Hotel and Conference Center at 800-228-9290 and request the “NCES Summer Data Conference” for the federal single per diem rate of $154 plus taxes per night. The Marriott Bethesda North Hotel and Conference Center is located at 5701 Marinelli Road in Bethesda, Maryland. Please note that the hotel is not within walking distance of the Hyatt Regency Bethesda. You will need to take the Metro or another mode of transportation to get to the Hyatt.
- To ensure you have a room at the conference hotel, make your reservation early.

There is no registration fee.
### Preliminary Schedule of Events

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### Want to know more?

For online registration and regularly updated meeting information, go to [http://ies.ed.gov/whatsnew/conferences](http://ies.ed.gov/whatsnew/conferences)

To learn more about the National Forum on Education Statistics, visit [http://nces.ed.gov/forum](http://nces.ed.gov/forum)

CCD Coordinators should check the Coordinators’ Corner at [http://nces.ed.gov/CCD](http://nces.ed.gov/CCD)
Getting There by Car

From the North via I-95 (New York, Baltimore) or Baltimore/Washington International (BWI) Airport:
Take I-95 South towards Washington, DC. Take the I-495 West exit toward Rockville/Silver Spring. Take Exit 33 Connecticut Avenue South towards Chevy Chase. Continue on Connecticut Avenue. Make a right turn onto East-West Highway. Continue on East-West Highway. Make a left turn onto Wisconsin Avenue. The Hyatt Regency Bethesda hotel is located at 7400 Wisconsin Avenue (on the right).

From the North via I-270 (Frederick, Gaithersburg):
Take I-270 South towards Washington, DC. Merge onto MD-355 South (Rockville Pike/Wisconsin Avenue) via the left exit. Continue on Rockville Pike/Wisconsin Avenue for approximately 3 miles. The Hyatt Regency Bethesda hotel is located at 7400 Wisconsin Avenue (on the right).

From the South/Richmond or Reagan National Airport:

If traveling from Reagan, take the George Washington Parkway to I-495 North. Continue on I-495 North. Take Exit 34 MD-355 South/Wisconsin Avenue toward Bethesda. Continue on Rockville Pike/Wisconsin Avenue for approximately 3 miles. The Hyatt Regency Bethesda hotel is located at 7400 Wisconsin Avenue (on the right).

From the West or Dulles International Airport:
Take Dulles Access Road East to I-495 North. Continue on I-495 North. Take Exit 34 MD-355 South/Wisconsin Avenue toward Bethesda. Continue on Rockville Pike/Wisconsin Avenue for approximately 3 miles. The Hyatt Regency Bethesda hotel is located at 7400 Wisconsin Avenue (on the right).

Parking:
The Hyatt Bethesda Regency offers valet parking for $20.00 Sunday to Thursday nights and $17.00 Friday and Saturday nights. The hotel also offers self-parking for $15.00 Sunday to Thursday nights and $12.00 Friday and Saturday nights.
By Metro

**Bethesda (Red Line)**
The Hyatt Regency Bethesda hotel is located at the Bethesda Metro Station on the Red Line. When exiting the metro station via the escalator, the hotel will be to your right. When exiting the metro station via the elevator, the hotel will be to your left.

To get to the Bethesda Metro Station from Reagan National Airport, take the Yellow Line north to the Gallery Place Metro Station and transfer onto the Red Line heading toward Shady Grove. The Bethesda Metro Station is the ninth stop from the Gallery Place Station.

By SuperShuttle

The SuperShuttle serves Reagan National, Dulles International, and Baltimore/Washington International airports. No reservations are needed for service from these airports into Bethesda. Shuttles leave for the Bethesda area every 15 to 30 minutes. For return service to the airport, please call 800-BLUEVAN 24 hours before departure to reserve SuperShuttle pickup from the hotel. You can also contact the hotel’s concierge desk to make your shuttle or taxi arrangements. Please read below for specific departure information for each airport, and for more information, visit the SuperShuttle website at http://www.supershuttle.com.

**From Reagan National Airport**
Go to the ground transportation area, walk out of the terminal to the taxi stand area, and look for the onsite SuperShuttle representative. After 12:00 a.m., call 800-BLUEVAN and press 1 for dispatch to arrange for service. The approximate one-way fare is $26.00 for the first person, $10.00 for each additional person.

**From Dulles International Airport**
Follow signs for Ground Transportation/Shared Ride Vans on the lower level where SuperShuttle ticket counters are located just before the building exit. After 12:00 a.m., call 703-416-7884 to arrange for service. The approximate one-way fare is $26.00 for the first person, $10.00 for each additional person.

**From Baltimore/Washington International Airport**
Go to one of the SuperShuttle ticket counters located on the lower level to make arrangements. The ticket counters are located near Baggage Claim areas 1 and 10. When counters are closed, call 888-826-2700 to arrange service. The approximate one-way fare is $33.00 for the first person, $12.00 for each additional person.

By Taxi

Taxicabs are available in the Ground Transportation areas of all three local airports. Prices generally range between $25.00 and $70.00.

Climate

The climate for the month of July in Bethesda, Maryland is generally hot and humid. Temperatures range from the 70s to the 90s.

Important Dates

**April 2008**
Online registration and information regarding the Summer Forum and Data Conference are available on the NCES website: http://ies.ed.gov/whatsnew/conferences

**Friday, May 16**
Cut-off date for submission of presentation, workshop, or demonstration proposals.

**Week of May 26**
Presenters and demonstrators notified via e-mail of acceptance or rejection of proposal.

**Thursday, July 3**
Cut-off date for hotel room block. All meeting participants booking a room after this date will be responsible for paying a higher room rate if space is available.

**Friday, July 11**
End of pre-registration. After this date, participants must complete registration paperwork on site at the conference.
Sponsored Travel Information

Sponsored Travelers

All local education agency members of the Forum, plus the State Forum Liaisons from California, Indiana, Maine, North Carolina, Rhode Island, and Texas are eligible for sponsorship at the Summer Forum and Data Conference. Sponsorship to attend the Data Conference is also available to the CCD Coordinators and one additional person from those states. Sponsorship includes:

- Lodging at the July 2008 federal rate (currently $154 plus tax). If you book at a higher rate, you will be responsible for the difference in cost.
- Pre-paid Air/Ground Travel within GSA guidelines.
- Daily per diem (2008 Bethesda per diem is $64) and $48 (3/4) on a travel day.

Sponsored participants will be contacted by Coffey Consulting with further logistics information.

Other Travelers

For all other states, the expenses of State Forum Liaisons, CCD Coordinators, and other persons selected by the state are included in the State Cooperative System Contract under the task order for Basic Participation. Meeting expenses for these individuals are reimbursed directly by the state education agency and respective state travel regulations apply.

The expenses of all other Summer Forum and Data Conference participants are the responsibility of the individual. Please consult your organization or association regarding procedures, rules, and regulations for travel.

The expenses associated with the meeting for federal employees will be paid according to guidelines outlined by the Office of Government-wide Policy (OGP). For answers to frequently asked questions, please refer to the website http://www.gsa.gov and click on the Policy button at the top of the screen, then select Travel Management in the left margin.

A few selected speakers and presenters may be eligible for sponsorship. Please send an e-mail with your request to peggy.quinn@ed.gov and provide the following information:

1. Name, title, affiliation, full address, telephone, fax, and e-mail address.
2. Role in the conference.
3. Scope of request (e.g., travel, airfare, number of days lodging, and number of days per diem).

Funds are limited, and we regret that we will be unable to honor all requests.

Sponsorship decisions for the Data Conference will be made in June; Coffey Consulting will notify you with the decision regarding your request.

Please note:

All presenters, co-presenters, and demonstrators must register for the meeting to appear in the participant list.

Audiovisual Equipment: All presentation rooms will be equipped with a high-speed Internet line, laptop, data projector, screen, and flipchart. Overhead projectors will not be provided.

Demonstrators will be provided with a high-speed Internet line.

Presentation Guidelines: Presentations from vendors are allowed only if the vendors are co-presenting with the state or district representative with whom they are working. However, the state or district representative must submit the proposal and lead the session if the proposal is selected.
Preregistration Form  *(Please type or print clearly.)*

I will attend:  
☐ Forum only  
☐ Data Conference only  
☐ Forum and Data Conference

Name  
______________________________________________________________________________________________

Agency/Affiliation  
____________________________________________________________________________________

Title/Department  
____________________________________________________________________________________

Work Address  
_______________________________________________________________________________________

City __________________________________________  State ______________  Zip Code ______________

Phone __________________________  Fax __________________________  E-mail __________________________

Methods of Registration
- Fax this form to 301-907-2925.
- Mail this form using the enclosed envelope.
- Visit [http://ies.ed.gov/whatsnew/conferences](http://ies.ed.gov/whatsnew/conferences) to register online or to download this form.

Summer Data Conference Call for Proposals - All proposals are due by Friday, May 16, 2008
(Submit your proposal online at [http://ies.ed.gov/whatsnew/conferences](http://ies.ed.gov/whatsnew/conferences))

I am interested in making a concurrent session presentation.  
☐ YES  ☐ NO

I am interested in being a Demonstrator in the Cyber Café.  
☐ YES  ☐ NO

*(Demos will run Wednesday a.m. through 10:00 a.m. Friday)*

Topics of Interest:
- Statewide longitudinal data systems
- Innovations in data collection and usage
- Encouraging data use for instructional improvement
- Quality assurance strategies
- Interoperability: school, district, state, and national models

Presentation Type:
Individual presentation (50 minutes)
Panel presentation (50 minutes)
Workshop (2 hours)

Presentation/Demonstration Title:  
_______________________________________________________________________________________

Other presenters/demonstrators, their titles, and their agencies/affiliations:  
_______________________________________________________________________________________

Three keywords or phrases that can be used to index your presentation:  
______________________________________________________________________________________

Please submit and include a separate abstract of the presentation/demonstration.
This abstract will be used in the conference program. Summarize in 60-100 words, using complete sentences.