

California State University Report on Unique Statewide Pupil Identifier

The following report is forwarded in compliance with Section 10803 of the Education Code, which states:

"10803. (a) The Chancellor's Office of the California Community Colleges, the University of California, and the California State University shall each establish a process by which colleges and universities within those systems issue, maintain, and report information using the unique statewide pupil identifiers specified in paragraph (3) of subdivision (e) of Section 60900.

(b) Annually, on or before April 1, the Chancellor's Office of the California Community Colleges, the University of California, and the California State University shall provide a progress report to the Governor and the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature. The report shall include a detailed timeline for the implementation, maintenance, and use of the unique statewide pupil identifiers pursuant to subdivision (a)."

This document is the annual report responding to this legislative request.

Background

The move to adopt a unique Statewide Student Identifier (SSID) paves the way for longitudinally-linked student-level data across the education segments. The ability for the California State University (CSU) to more accurately track students over time will prove an invaluable tool for assessing student progress in relation to academic preparation, participation in special programs, as well as campus outreach efforts. In addition, the SSID will facilitate a more comprehensive assessment of graduation and retention rates as students move across segments and employment trends (for graduates and non-graduates alike). In the absence of a common identifier (or a reliable SSN available in the datasets of other segment partners) the CSU has relied on the use of a combination of student specific variables common across the segments to uniquely identify and match records.

Progress in 2015-16 and Detailed Timeline for the Implementation, Maintenance, and Use of the Unique Statewide Pupil Identifiers

No progress was made in 2015-16. The CSU remains committed and interested in achieving a common identifier (SSID). CSU student data systems are ready to incorporate the SSID. The CSU participates in student data efforts among the three public segments of higher education (University of California, California State Universities, and California Community Colleges) and K-12 institutions (California Department of Education - COE). Our long term goal of directly matching segmental data with COE student data remains. We continue to be a willing participants in the ongoing efforts to achieve and use a common student identifier (SSID).