



### Introduction and Context

In July of 2013 the U.S. Department of Education Performance Information Management Service (PIMS) published 18 *EDFacts* Connections (see the addendum for a list of the published *EDFacts* Connections).<sup>1</sup> Using the myConnect feature in Connect, users can now apply published Align maps to these published *EDFacts* Connections. The myConnect feature displays the CEDS elements identified in the Connection and the corresponding elements from the selected Align maps using CEDS as the bridge. See the [tutorial](#) on “myConnect” for step-by-step instructions on how to apply a published Align map to a published *EDFacts* Connection.

### The Value of myConnect

PIMS has identified CEDS elements that are likely to be necessary for building an *EDFacts* file. The linking of these elements with elements from state data systems has numerous uses for state data managers, including, but not limited to

- determining how *EDFacts* reporting translates to their own state systems;
  - Are multiple state systems required to build certain *EDFacts* files or data groups?
  - Must elements in the state system be combined to satisfy a single element required to build a certain *EDFacts* file or data group?
- evaluating whether a Statewide Longitudinal Data System has the necessary elements to generate certain *EDFacts* Reports.

Using the “Replicate” feature in Connect (which is outlined in the brief “Learning from Peers about *EDFacts* Reporting”), states can create their own Connections for *EDFacts* reporting and use myConnect on state system maps to provide a clear picture of a state’s reporting process. States can use this picture to engage in data governance and data quality discussions, as well as to train new staff on the *EDFacts* reporting process.

The myConnect feature can further be used to facilitate discussion with external organizations. Envisioned uses include

- discussions with the PIMS and Department of Education Program staff to enhance the understanding of data currently submitted;
- work with the *EDFacts* Partner Support Center to address questions or data anomalies;
- engagement with vendors when evaluating new systems or solutions to enhance *EDFacts* data reporting; and
- demonstrations to LEA or school data managers how data they report to state systems is then reported to the U.S. Department of Education.

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<sup>1</sup> PIMS published these connections as a good faith effort and with the intent that states would use features like myConnect as outlined herein to increase the mutual understanding of data needs and capabilities.



## Share Your Ideas

Can you or your team identify additional uses for the myConnect feature? If so, please share with the *EDFacts* community at [EDFacts@Communities360.org](mailto:EDFacts@Communities360.org).

## Additional Resources

See two additional briefs, “Contributing to the *EDFacts* Dialogue” and “Learning from Peers about *EDFacts* Reporting,” that explore the value of the published *EDFacts* Connections when used with additional tools and features on the CEDS website.

## Addendum

### **EDFacts Connections Published in July 2013**

- Basic Directory Data for File Specification N029
- Data Group 306, File Specification C040 Graduates Completers Table
- Data Group 326, File Specification C032 Dropouts table
- Data Group 39, File Specification C052 Membership Table (LEA)
- Data Group 39, File Specification C052 Membership Table (School)
- Data Group 39, File Specification C052 Membership Table (State)
- Data Group 528, File Specification C059 Staff FTE Table
- Data Group 565, File Specification C033 Free and reduced price lunch table
- Data Group 583, File Specification C175 Academic achievement in mathematics table
- Data Group 584, File Specification C178 Academic achievement in reading language arts table
- Data Group 585, File Specification C179 Academic achievement in science table
- Data Group 588, File Specification C185 Assessment participation in mathematics table
- Data Group 589, File Specification C188 Assessment participation in reading language arts table
- Data Group 590, File Specification C189 Assessment participation in science table
- Data Group 644, File Specification C059 Teachers (FTE)
- Data Group 695, File Specification C150 Regulatory four-year adjusted-cohort graduation rate table
- Data Group 696, File Specification C151 Cohorts for regulatory four-year adjusted-cohort graduation rate table
- Other Directory Data for File Specification N029

