



REACTS

Records Exchange Advice, Communication, and Technical Support Newsletter

Dear MSIX User,

We welcome you to the first issue of the Records Exchange Advice, Communication, and Technical Support (REACTS) newsletter!

This newsletter will provide informative articles and stories, and upcoming events regarding national records exchange and information related to the Migrant Student Information Exchange (MSIX).

Please feel free to share this newsletter with your school counselors, registrars and data specialist staff. We hope this information will be useful.



MSIX: Feel the Power

Don Rood is the secondary migrant coordinator in North Dakota. In May, he was given access to the Migrant Student Information Exchange (MSIX), received training, and was told to check it out. Rood admits being a bit of a skeptic. "I had heard of MSIX, but I didn't think it would help my summer students," he said. "Wow, was I wrong!"

As migrant students began to return to North Dakota, Rood found up-to-date records from their sending states on MSIX. "This saved me hours of calling schools to find how I could best serve my students in our seven-week summer program," he said. "Not only did I find an updated record, but also clock hours for courses not completed in their home district. This gave me the ammunition I was looking for to best serve my students."

The MSIX information didn't help just one or two of Rood's students with consolidating clock hours into credits. It helped over a third of all his migrant students in North Dakota. He was able to give them the appropriate clock hours, consolidate these with their past

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Quick Links

REACTS Website

<http://reactsmsix.ed.gov>

MSIX Website

<http://msix.ed.gov>

Office of Migrant Education Website

<http://www2.ed.gov/oese/ome/>

Contributing to REACTS

Do you have an MSIX story to share?
We would love to hear from you.

Please contact us at reactshelp@ed.gov.



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Using MSIX to Assist Out-of-School Youths

Although out-of-school youths (OSY) is the fastest growing population in the Migrant Education Program (MEP), services to this group are frequently unavailable in a traditional K12 public school model. Young people not in school have little or no access to federal or state resources. Therefore, without intervention, out-of-school youths will remain poor and isolated from the larger society and economy.

OSY present a challenge to migrant educators because of the varied educational needs of this highly mobile population. OSY may be recovery youths who have dropped out of school because they were deficient in credits, or missing one or more of the state exit-level exams, or had sporadic attendance in high school. OSY may also be those who are in the United States to work, primarily from Mexico and Central America with little or no schooling in the United States, and who, many times, are limited English proficient.

Because the MSIX maintains a student's educational history, states can use the information from the MSIX consolidated student record as a starting point in determining how best to meet the needs of OSY. Reviewing student's enrollment, course and assessment history as well as English language proficiency found on the MSIX can assist MEP staff when completing a needs assessment on OSY. Because OSY are



highly mobile, MSIX should be the starting point in compiling information critical for use in determining the best approach to take in meeting the youths' educational needs.

Let's take the case of 18-year-old Javier, who dropped out of school last year. Since he was 10 years old, he has traveled off and on with his family to Arkansas, Minnesota, and Illinois, ginning cotton, hoeing sugar beets and detasseling corn. He would leave his Texas homebase in early spring and arrive back home in the fall. When Javier was in Arkansas, MEP staff turned to MSIX to determine how best to proceed in meeting the educational needs of this young man who indicated that he would like to try to reconnect with his formal education.

In the scenario above, MEP staff should review the basic demographic information contained in MSIX along with other information contained in the consolidated student record. For example, if MSIX information revealed that Javier dropped out of school in his junior year and is limited English proficient, the best route might be to assist him in obtaining a GED in Spanish. MSIX can also help MEP staff determine if an OSY has ever been schooled in the United States and can serve to assist states to coordinate services to this highly mobile population.

We wish to thank Patricia Meyertholen, Group One leader, Office of Migrant Education for this contribution.



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MSIX: Feel the Power *(Continued from page 1)*

clock hours, and grant them the credit for courses they would not have finished through traditional methods, unless they started the course over. "Now that is POWER!" said Rood.

North Dakota now has many students on track in their course work and Rood hopes that these students will have a much better chance of graduating on time. "I know from talking to my students that they feel more confident

about graduating, now that they are caught up or close to it," he said. "I look forward to next summer and seeing the success of these students, and look forward to help many



more students from this information exchange system."

After 28 years of helping students, his motto has become, "a credit is a credit, is a credit, is a credit," and with MSIX, North Dakota is now able to grant more credits and help students get the credits they deserve and had worked so hard for. Rood looks forward to updating us on their success next spring after he attends more graduations than he first thought possible at the beginning of

this summer.

We thank Donald Rood, North Dakota migrant secondary coordinator for this contribution.

REACTS Support Center

Our mission is to assist states to further their records exchange program by helping them identify gaps and solutions for their records exchange efforts. The REACTS Support Center is ready to assist you with questions that you may have on how to use the MISX consolidated record to effectively enroll a student

in school or the MEP, place a student in the correct course or grade, and assist students to accrue secondary course credits.

You may reach us via our website at <http://reactsmsix.ed.gov> or our toll-free number at 888-REACTS-0 or 888-732-2870.

OME

Office of Migrant Education (OME) News

The 2010 OME "Success Through Service" conference will take place on Nov. 15-17, 2010, at the Sheraton City Hotel in Philadelphia, PA. The goal of this annual conference is to provide a venue for coordination amongst migrant education professionals to focus on a shared vision of success through service.

There will be four hands-on MSIX computer training sessions presented at the OME conference. In order to attend one of the MSIX hands-on training sessions, you must be a registered MSIX user. Contact your State's MSIX User Administrator (<https://msix.ed.gov/msix/LocateAnAdmin?submit=d>) for more information on how to become a MSIX user. You can find your state's user administrator by using the User Administrator Search or by contacting MSIXSupport@deloitte.com or 866-878-9525.

Sign-up now. Participation is limited to 20 students per class! Contact your state director for more information on attending the conference.



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Sweets from SUGAR

The State User Group for Analysis and Recommendations (SUGAR) is a group of state representatives that have expressed interest in improving the MSIX and keeping abreast of ongoing MSIX enhancements and changes. Suggestions from this group prompted us to dedicate this space in the REACTS quarterly newsletter to “Sweets from SUGAR” as a way to showcase relevant stories by State representatives on MSIX topics.

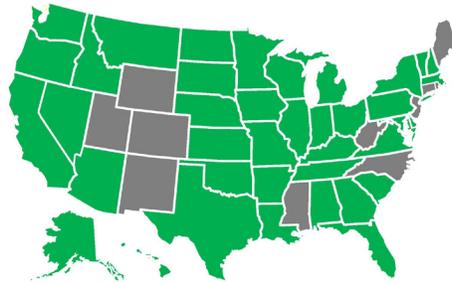


Missouri Story

“I had a recruiter call me one day about a family that had moved from Arkansas to Missouri. Although the move wasn’t a qualifying move because it was due to a death in the family, I decided to look on the MSIX database and found that the children had been qualified in Arkansas. My recruiter and I decided that we would just use the information from MSIX to find the Qualifying Arrival Date (QAD) for Arkansas and qualify them on a previous move, and they could start receiving services in Missouri. It worked!”

We thank Cassie Williams, ID&R coordinator from the Missouri Migrant Education Program for this month’s contribution.

Who is Live?



Thirty-nine states are live! Congratulations to Florida, which has begun populating MSIX with its student data along with Nebraska, Kansas, and Indiana! With the addition of these four states, MSIX is now making records available for over 90 percent of the national Migrant Education Program (MEP) population.

The thirty-nine live states are Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Vermont, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Future Newsletters

You are on the OME distribution list and will be receiving this newsletter on a quarterly basis. We would love to hear from you, and have you share your MSIX stories, issues, and advice with us for future issues.

Feel free to share this issue of the REACTS Newsletter with your staff and colleagues. If you do not wish to receive our news, feel free to contact us at reactshelp@ed.gov. We will automatically remove your address from our database.

Thank you for your continued support of the Migrant Records Exchange Initiative and MSIX. We look forward to serving you.

Sincerely,
Your REACTS Team

reactshelp@ed.gov
888-REACTS-0 or
888-732-2870
<http://reactsmsix.ed.gov>

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The United States map was created using Microsoft PowerPoint program.

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