

NOTE – Race/Ethnicity: New federal race and ethnicity standards for 2010-2011

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) revised the way state education agencies (SEA), local education agencies (LEA) and charter schools are expected to maintain, collect and report data on race and ethnicity.

Beginning in the fall of 2010, SEAs, LEAs and charter schools are required to report aggregated data to the U.S. Department of Education using new standards for the 2010-2011 school year. *(Do not implement these new race/ethnicity standards for data collected in the fall of 2010 for the 2009-2010 school year.)*

The new standards mandate a two-question format categorizing the race and ethnicity of students and educators. Refer to the chart on the following page for further instructions. In order to implement the required change with minimal burden, LEA requirements for collecting and maintaining race/ethnicity differ from those for reporting these data in PIMS.

Collecting Race/Ethnicity Data

A two-part question is mandatory, with the ethnicity part asked first and the race part asked second.

Part 1: **Ethnicity** (choose one):

- Hispanic/Latino
- Not Hispanic/Latino

Part 2: **Race** (choose one or more, regardless of ethnicity):

- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White

As in the past, individuals (or students' parents) are asked to self-identify themselves. Observer identification is required if individuals decline to choose a race/ethnicity.

Reporting Race/Ethnicity Data in PIMS

LEAs should use the following standards when reporting race/ethnicity data in PIMS:

if Ethnicity selected is: (Part 1)	and Race selected is: (Part 2)	then report this:
Hispanic/Latino		Students are reported as Hispanic/Latino if they identify themselves as such. This designation overrides any race selected in Part 2.
Not Hispanic/Latino	American Indian or Alaskan Native	American Indian or Alaskan native only
Not Hispanic/Latino	Asian	Asian only
Not Hispanic/Latino	Black or African American	Black or African American only
Not Hispanic/Latino	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander only
Not Hispanic/Latino	White	White only
Not Hispanic/Latino	Two or more races	Multi-racial

Recordkeeping

As in the past, original records must be maintained for three years. However, when there is litigation, a claim, an audit or another action involving the records, original responses must be retained until the completion of the action.

The above information is a summarization of standards detailed in: *MANAGING an IDENTITY CRISIS...Forum Guide to Implementing New Federal Race and Ethnicity Categories* (publication NFES 2008-802). This publication is available from the U.S. Department of Education online (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch>) or call toll free (1-877-4ED-Pubs).

Race/Ethnicity Definitions

These are categories used to describe groups to which individuals belong, identify with, or belong to in the eyes of the community. These categories do not denote scientific definitions of anthropological origins.

- AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKAN NATIVE – A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.
- ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER – A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or Pacific Islands. This includes people from China, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands, Samoa, India, and Vietnam.
- BLACK (NON-HISPANIC) – A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa (except those of Hispanic origin).
- HISPANIC – A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
- WHITE (NON-HISPANIC) – A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East (except those of Hispanic origin).