

**Change in Ethnicity Reporting in CIMS
Effecting Multi Racial and Hispanic/Latino
* Effective Immediately – March 15, 2010 ***

Due to new federal reporting mandates, schools now need to ask two questions in an effort to determine race and ethnicity. This is to take effect with the 2010-11 school year so it is important that you know how to do this while you are pre-enrolling students for next school year. While I will not explain this in depth, I hope your school administration is informing you of this change and how your individual enrollment forms and processes will change, as well as what to do with students who are currently marked as Hispanic in CIMS.

The first question is whether or not the student is of Hispanic ethnicity. The second question is in addition to the first and is what race the student belongs to, regardless of the answer to the first question. Done correctly, a student of Hispanic ethnicity will also be marked in any combination of the five racial categories –

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

The use of the 06 MultiRacial code in CIMS for the Ethnic Group attribute on the Student Basic Information Screen has been used for the last several years for the reporting of more than one code for SRSD/MSDS reporting. As you know, an attribute in CIMS represents a single value field; that is the 06 did not correctly mean anything unless you also marked the desired values, either on the SRSD Basic Screen or via the pop-up window launched by the use of the 06 code. It is programmatically possible to have a student with 06 in the Ethnic Group attribute but have only one racial category on the SRSD screen; it has always been up to the user to select the multiple categories as necessary.

CIMS currently does not have separate fields for housing the two distinct questions in regards to children of Hispanic ethnicity. So, in an effort to easily transition to the use of marking more than one racial category on those students who say Yes to Hispanic, I am changing the administrative program that links the attribute value to the pop-up window in CIMS. For students of Hispanic ethnicity, the racial codes should be marked with Hispanic as number 1 and the other choice(s) marked as anything other than one. So for example, you may have a Hispanic student who is also African American and White. This student can be reported with a 1 in the Hispanic field and a 2 in both of the others. This will be reported to the state as a student of Hispanic ethnicity who is equally of African American and White racial heritage.

I believe that if a staff member were enrolling a student and indicated the 06 MultiRacial code, that they would know they need to make the proper racial selections. Since the use of multiple fields for Hispanic students is a new procedure, I hope that by using the FJ/Hispanic code in CIMS to launch the racial selection window, it will help people to remember this change in reporting.

On Monday morning, March 15, 2010 I will change the programs so that new enrollees or changes to students currently marked as Hispanic will trigger the Multi-Category window.

As always if you have any questions in this procedure, please feel free to contact me.