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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

ED*Facts* Submission System

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| **FS195 - Chronic Absenteeism File Specifications** |
| **SY 2020-21** |

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DOCUMENT CONTROL

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title:** | FS195 - Chronic Absenteeism File Specifications |
| **Security Level:** | Unclassified – For Official Use Only |

DOCUMENT HISTORY

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Version Number** | **Date** | **Summary of Change** |
| 1.0 – 16.0 |  | Versions 1.0 through 16.0 are used to build files for school years prior to SY 2020-21. |
| 17.0 | January 2021 | Updated for SY 2020-21:   * Section 2.5 * Renamed heading "Guidance" to "Data Reporting Guidelines" * Streamlined questions and answers to ensure the file specification emphasizes technical guidance and includes references for any critical policy guidance |
| 17.1 | April 2021 | * Section 2.5: Corrected a typo in the response to question *What is meant by unduplicated number of students?* |

PREFACE

This document provides technical instructions for building files that are submitted through the ED*Facts* Submission System (ESS). The ESS is an electronic system that facilitates the efficient and timely transmission of data from SEAs to the U.S. Department of Education.

This document is to be used in coordination with other documentation posted on the [ED*Facts* Initiative Home Page](http://www2.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/edfacts/index.html) under ED*Facts* System Documentation, including:

* ED*Facts* Workbook – a reference guide to using the ED*Facts*

Submission System (ESS); particularly useful to new users; contains multiple appendices, including one that explains how to use the file specifications

* ESS User Guide – provides assistance to new users of the ED*Facts* Submission System (ESS); it addresses the basic mechanics of system access and data submission
* ED*Facts* Business Rules Single Inventory (BRSI) - a single inventory containing business rules applied to ED*Facts* data throughout the pre- and post-submission lifecycle of that data. The inventory describes each business rule, including the error number, type, message, definition, edit logic, and the file specifications where the business rules are applied

Please contact the Partner Support Center (PSC) with questions about the documents. You will find contact information for PSC and each State ED*Facts* Coordinator on the [ED*Facts* Contact Page](http://www2.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/edfacts/eden/contacts.html).

Data submitted through the ESS are authorized by an Annual Mandatory Collection of Elementary and Secondary Education Data Through ED*Facts* (OMB 1850-0925, expires 8/31/2022). ED*Facts* is a U.S. Department of Education (ED) initiative to govern, acquire, validate, and use high-quality, pre-kindergarten through grade 12 (pre-K–12) performance data for education planning, policymaking, and management and budget decision-making to improve outcomes for students. ED*Facts* centralizes data provided by SEAs, LEAs and schools, and provides users with the ability to easily analyze and report data. This initiative has significantly reduced the reporting burden for state and local data producers, and has streamlined data collection, analysis and reporting functions at the federal, state and local levels.

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# PURPOSE

This document contains instructions for building files to submit ED*Facts* Data Group 814: Chronic absenteeism table. The definition for this data group is:

The unduplicated number of students absent 10% or more school days during the school year

The data collected using this file specification are collected under the authority of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (2015), and the Department of Education Organization Act (20 USC 3413(c)(1)).

The ED data stewarding office/s for this file: OESE and OCR

# GUIDANCE FOR SUBMITTING THIS FILE

This section contains changes from the previous school year, core requirements for submitting this file, required categories and totals, and general guidance.

## Changes from the SY 2019-20 File Specifications

As noted in the document history on page ii, Section 2.5 has been renamed to "Data Reporting Guidelines" and the questions and answers have been streamlined to ensure the file specification emphasizes technical guidance and includes references for any critical policy guidance (statutory, regulatory, or program priority). Our goal is to be transparent about the source of reporting guidance and requirements. We encourage grantees and survey respondents to use the references to build contextual understanding about the reporting requirements. There have been no other changes to this file specification.

## Core Requirements for Submitting this File

The following table contains the reporting period, the education units included or excluded, the type of count, and zero count reporting.

**Table 2.2-1: Core Reporting Requirements**

|  | **SEA** | **LEA** | **School** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Reporting Period |  |  | School Year - Any 12-month period |
| Education units included |  |  | Operational schools |
| Education units not reported |  |  | Closed, inactive or future schools |
| Type of count |  |  | At any school where the student was absent more than the prescribed time |
| Zero counts |  |  | Not required |
| Zero exceptions or not applicable |  |  | None |
| Missing |  |  | Use “-1” to report missing counts.  Use “MISSING” when a category is not available |
| Related metadata survey |  |  |  |

## Required Categories and Totals

The table below lists the combinations of the categories and totals that are expected to be submitted for each school that should be included in the file.

* An “X” in the column indicates that the category value must be submitted when reporting that aggregation.
* The total indicator must be either “Y” (Yes) or “N” (No).
  + If the record is for a category set, specify an “N” (No).
  + If the record is for a subtotal or education unit total, specify a “Y” (Yes).
* The abbreviations in the “Table Name” column represent the technical name of the data used in the file.

**Table 2.3–1: Required Categories and Totals**

| **Aggregation** | **Table Name** | **Sex (Membership)** | **Racial Ethnic** | **Disability Status (Only)** | **Disability Status (504)** | **English Learner Status (Only)** | **Homeless Enrolled Status** | **Total Indicator** | **Comments** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category Set A** | **CHRONABSENT** | X | X |  |  |  |  | N | Student Count by Sex (Membership) by Racial Ethnic |
| **Category Set B** | **CHRONABSENT** | X |  | X |  |  |  | N | Student Count by Sex (Membership) by Disability Status (Only) |
| **Category Set C** | **CHRONABSENT** | X |  |  | X |  |  | N | Student Count by Sex (Membership) by Disability Status (504) |
| **Category Set D** | **CHRONABSENT** | X |  |  |  | X |  | N | Student Count by Sex (Membership) by English Learner Status (Only) |
| **Category Set E** | **CHRONABSENT** | X |  |  |  |  | X | N | Student Count by Sex (Membership) by Homeless Enrolled Status |
| **Education Unit Total** | **CHRONABSENT** |  |  |  |  |  |  | Y | Education Unit Total of Student Count |

## Categories and Permitted Values

This section contains the categories and permitted values used for submitting this file.

**DG814 - Chronic absenteeism table:**

**Sex (Membership)**

An indication that students are either female or male.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Permitted Value Abbreviation** | **Permitted Value Description** | **Comments** |
| F | Female |  |
| M | Male |  |
| MISSING | Missing | Use when data are not available by this category. |

**Racial Ethnic**

The general racial category that most clearly reflects individuals' recognition of their community or with which the individuals most identify.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Permitted Value Abbreviation** | **Permitted Value Description** | **Comments** |
| AM7 | American Indian or Alaska Native |  |
| AS7 | Asian |  |
| BL7 | Black or African American |  |
| HI7 | Hispanic/Latino |  |
| PI7 | Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander |  |
| MU7 | Two or more races |  |
| WH7 | White |  |
| MISSING | Missing | Use when data are not available by this category. |

**Disability Status (Only)**

An indication that children (students) are children with disabilities (IDEA).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Permitted Value Abbreviation** | **Permitted Value Description** | **Comments** |
| WDIS | Children with one or more disabilities (IDEA) |  |
| MISSING | Missing | Use when data are not available by this category. |

**Disability Status (504)**

***Revised!*** An indication that students have disability status under Rehabilitation Act, as amended, Section 504 (and not the definition of disability under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Permitted Value Abbreviation** | **Permitted Value Description** | **Comments** |
| DISAB504STAT | Section 504 Status |  |
| MISSING | Missing | Use when data are not available by this category. |

**English Learner Status (Only)**

An indication that students met the definition of an English learner.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Permitted Value Abbreviation** | **Permitted Value Description** | **Comments** |
| LEP | English learner |  |
| MISSING | Missing | Use when data are not available by this category. |

**Homeless Enrolled Status**

An indication that students were identified as homeless.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Permitted Value Abbreviation** | **Permitted Value Description** | **Comments** |
| HOMELSENRL | Homeless enrolled |  |
| MISSING | Missing | Use when data are not available by this category. |

## *Revised!* Data Reporting Guidelines

This section contains guidance for submitting this file in the format of questions and answers.

The responses in this section are based on guidance from the data stewards.

**What students should be reported in this file?**

Include all students in grades Kindergarten through Grade 12, and comparable ungraded levels, who were enrolled in the school for at least 10 school days at any time during the school year, and who were absent 10% of the school days in the school in which they were enrolled.

**When are students considered absent?**

Students are absent when not physically on school grounds and were not participating in instruction or instruction-related activities at an approved off-grounds location for at least half the school day. See definition of Chronic Student Absenteeism in section 2.6.

***Revised!* What is meant by unduplicated number of students?**

Students should be counted once at each school where the student meets the definition of chronically absent. For example, a student is enrolled in school A for half the school year and school B for the other half of the school year and is chronically absent in both schools, this student should be counted at both school A and B.

**Is there a minimum number of days a student has to be enrolled before they are counted as chronically absent?**

Students should be counted in the Chronic Absenteeism data once they have been enrolled in a school for a minimum of 10 school days.

**How should a student who attends school part-time be reported as absent?**

The absence for a part-time student should be based on the student’s schedule instead of the school day.  For example, if a student attends school normally for 4 hours daily, then an absence would be counted when a student is out of school two or more hours.

**Should state institutions be counted in this file?**

Yes, States should include state institutions (juvenile justice schools and department of health services schools) in their Chronic Absenteeism data**. Student must be enrolled in a state institution for 60 school days before Chronic Absenteeism starts being collected.**

**Are all students reported in all category sets?**

No. All students are included in category set A and the total of the education unit.

## Definitions

The following definition supports this file:

**Chronic Student Absenteeism** - In accordance with the Office for Civil Rights’ guidance, student absence is defined as, “A student was absent if he or she was not physically on school grounds and was not participating in instruction or instruction-related activities at an approved off-grounds location for at least half the school day”.

See the [ED*Facts* Workbook](https://www2.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/edfacts/eden-workbook.html) for the standard definitions.

# FILE NAMING CONVENTION

The following file naming convention is to help identify files to provide technical assistance.

A maximum of 25 characters (including the file extension) is allowed for the file name.

The following is the naming convention for file submissions:

sslev**filename**vvvvvvv.ext

**Table 3.0-1: File Naming Convention**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Where** | **Means** | **Limit in characters** |
| ss | USPS State Abbreviation | 2 |
| lev | Abbreviation for level:   * SCH for a school level | 3 |
| filename | **CHRONABSE** | 9 |
| vvvvvvv | Alphanumeric string designated by the SEA to uniquely identify the individual submission (*e.g.,* ver0001, v010803) | 7 |
| .ext | Extension identifying the file format:  .txt – fixed  .csv – comma delimited  .tab – tab delimited | 4 |

# FIXED OR DELIMITED FILES

This section describes the fixed file and delimited file specifications. The fixed file and delimited files contain a header record followed by data records. The file type is specified in the header record.

The “Pop” column in the header and data records is coded as follows:

M - Mandatory, this field must always be populated

A - This field is populated in accordance with table 2.3-1 “Required Categories and Totals”

O - Optional, data in this field are optional

## Header Record Definition

The header record is required and is the first record in every file submitted to the ESS. The purpose of the header record is to provide information as to the file type, number of data records in the file, file name, file identifier, and file reporting period.

**Table 4.1–1: Header Record**

| **Data Element Name** | **Start Position** | **Length** | **Type** | **Pop** | **Definition / Comments** | **Permitted Values**  **Abbreviations** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| File Type | 1 | 50 | String | M | Identifies the type of file being submitted. | **SCH CHRON ABSENT** |
| Total Records in File | 51 | 10 | Number | M | The total number of data records contained in the file. The header record is NOT included in this count. |  |
| File Name | 61 | 25 | String | M | The file name including extension, the same as the external file name. | See section 3.0 |
| File Identifier | 86 | 32 | String | M | Any combination of standard characters to further identify the file as specified by the SEA (e.g., a date, person’s name, and version number). |  |
| File Reporting Period | 118 | 9 | String | M | The school year for which data are being reported. The required format is "CCYY–CCYY" or "CCYY CCYY", where either a hyphen or a space separates the beginning and ending years. | **2020-2021**  OR  **2020 2021** |
| Filler | 127 | 333 | String | M | Leave filler field blank. |  |
| Carriage Return / Line Feed (CRLF) | 460 | 1 |  | M |  |  |

Below is an example of a header record.

**Table 4.1–2: Header Record Example**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Format | File Type,Total Records in File,File Name,File Identifier,File Reporting Period,Filler,Carriage Return / Line Feed (CRLF) |
| Example | SCH CHRON ABSENT,15,euschCHRONABSEv000001.csv,characters to identify file,2020-2021,¶ |

## Data Record Definition

Data records are required and immediately follow the header record in every file submitted to the ESS. Data records provide counts for the specified category sets, subtotals and education unit totals.

**Table 4.2–1: Data Records**

| **Data Element Name** | **Start Position** | **Length** | **Type** | **Pop** | **Definition / Comments** | **Permitted Values**  **Abbreviations** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| File Record Number | 1 | 10 | Number | M | A sequential number assigned by the State that is unique to each row entry within the file. |  |
| **DG559** State Code | 11 | 2 | String | M | The two-digit American National Standards Institute (ANSI) code for the state, District of Columbia, and the outlying areas and freely associated areas of the United States. | For a list of valid State Codes, refer to the ED*Facts* Workbook. |
| **DG570** State Agency Number | 13 | 2 | String | M | A number used to uniquely identify state agencies. This ID cannot be updated through this file. | **01** – State Education Agency |
| **DG4** LEA Identifier (State) | 15 | 14 | String | M | The identifier assigned to a local education agency (LEA) by the state education agency (SEA). Also known as State LEA Identification Number (ID). This data element cannot be updated through this file. |  |
| **DG5** School Identifier (State) | 29 | 20 | String | M | The identifier assigned to a school by the state education agency (SEA).  Also known as the State School Identification Number (ID).  This ID cannot be updated through this file. |  |
| Table Name | 49 | 20 | String | M | See table 2.3-1 Required Categories and Totals | CHRONABSENT |
| Sex (Membership) | 69 | 15 | String | A | An indication that students are either female or male. | **F** – Female  **M** – Male  **MISSING** |
| Racial Ethnic | 84 | 15 | String | A | The general racial category that most clearly reflects individuals' recognition of their community or with which the individuals most identify. | **AM7** – American Indian or Alaska Native  **AS7** – Asian  **BL7** – Black or African American  **HI7** – Hispanic/Latino  **PI7** – Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander  **MU7** – Two or more races  **WH7** – White  **MISSING** |
| Disability Status (Only) | 99 | 15 | String | A | An indication that children (students) are children with disabilities (IDEA). | **WDIS** – Children with one or more disabilities (IDEA)  **MISSING** |
| Disability Status (504) | 114 | 15 | String | A | An indication that students have disability status under Section 504. | **DISAB504STAT** – Section 504 Status  **MISSING** |
| English Learner Status (Only) | 129 | 15 | String | A | An indication that students met the definition of an English learner. | **LEP** – English learner  **MISSING** |
| Homeless Enrolled Status | 144 | 15 | String | A | An indication that students were identified as homeless. | **HOMELSENRL** – Homeless enrolled  **MISSING** |
| Filler | 159 | 90 | String | M | Leave filler field blank. |  |
| Total Indicator | 249 | 1 | String | M | An indicator that defines the count level – see table 2.3-1 Required Categories and Totals | **N** – Specifies category set  **Y** – Specifies subtotal or total of the education unit |
| Explanation | 250 | 200 | String | O | Text field for state use. |  |
| Student Count | 450 | 10 | Number | M |  |  |
| Carriage Return / Line Feed (CRLF) | 460 | 1 |  | M |  |  |

Below is an example of a data record. This is the set of data that should be submitted for each education unit. See table 2.3-1.

**Table 4.2–2: Data Record Examples –School Level**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Aggregation** | **Example** |
| Format | File Record Number,State Code,State Agency Number,LEA Identifier (State),School Identifier (State),Table Name,Sex (Membership),Racial Ethnic,Disability Status (Only),Disability Status (504),English Learner Status (Only),Homeless Enrolled Status,Filler,Total Indicator,Explanation,Student Count,Carriage Return / Line Feed (CRLF) |
| Category Set A | 01,12,01,FL0001,SCHOOO1,CHRONABSENT,M,HI7,,,,,,N,,25¶ |
| Category Set B | 01,12,01,FL0001,SCHOOO1,CHRONABSENT,M,,WDIS,,,,,N,,25¶ |
| Category Set C | 01,12,01,FL0001,SCHOOO1,CHRONABSENT,M,,,DISAB504STAT,,,,N,,25¶ |
| Category Set D | 01,12,01,FL0001,SCHOOO1,CHRONABSENT,F,,,,LEP,,,N,,25¶ |
| Category Set E | 01,12,01,FL0001,SCHOOO1,CHRONABSENT,F,,,,,HOMELSENRL,,N,,25¶ |
| Total of education unit | 01,12,01,FL0001,SCHOOO1,CHRONABSENT,,,,,,,,Y,,25¶ |



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