



# Introduction to the U.S. Department of Education Data Governance

The *EDFacts* Data Governance Board (EDGB), established in 2006, is an intra-agency council with representatives from prekindergarten through grade 12 (PreK–12) program offices across the U.S. Department of Education (ED), that resolves issues and creates the policies needed to manage ED’s PreK–12 asset of education data.

## EDGB Mission

The EDGB supports data quality and data integrity by identifying common standards, developing operating policies, and implementing processes for managing data. EDGB work is leading to more informed and confident data use.

EDGB accomplishes this by

- Inter-office coordination
- Timely and effective resolution of data issues
- Clear and organized documentation of how data issues are resolved

## Approach to Governance

### Data assets managed by data stewardship

- One data owner; multiple levels of stewardship
- Defined roles and responsibilities

### Member-driven data governance

- EDGB meets monthly
- Data issues are introduced by members
- Workgroups engage ED stakeholders to analyze data issues and propose resolutions
- Decisions are made via consensus
- Workgroups are led by EDGB members
- Information is disseminated through a shared drive to support group access to information and transparent decision making

## FOUR PILLARS OF EDGB

Define	Acquire	Validate	Improve Usage
Set the rules, policies, and procedures related to data management and establish the lines of communication to do so.	Provide user documentation and guidance, and the resolution of data submission issue escalations to support the submission of <i>EDFacts</i> data.	Measure and improve the timeliness, completeness, accuracy, validity, and usability of <i>EDFacts</i> data through a system of data quality checks.	Expand capacity of <i>EDFacts</i> users to effectively access and use <i>EDFacts</i> data.



## Related Bodies

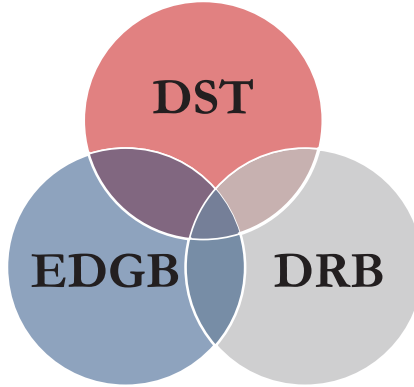
### Relationship to the Data Strategy Team and Disclosure Review Board

#### Data Strategy Team (DST)

DST members represent ED policy and program offices. DST supports coordination of policy and data decisions to enable the release of better, more consistent and more comprehensive data resources for the public. DST provides direction about EDGB priorities.

#### Disclosure Review Board (DRB)

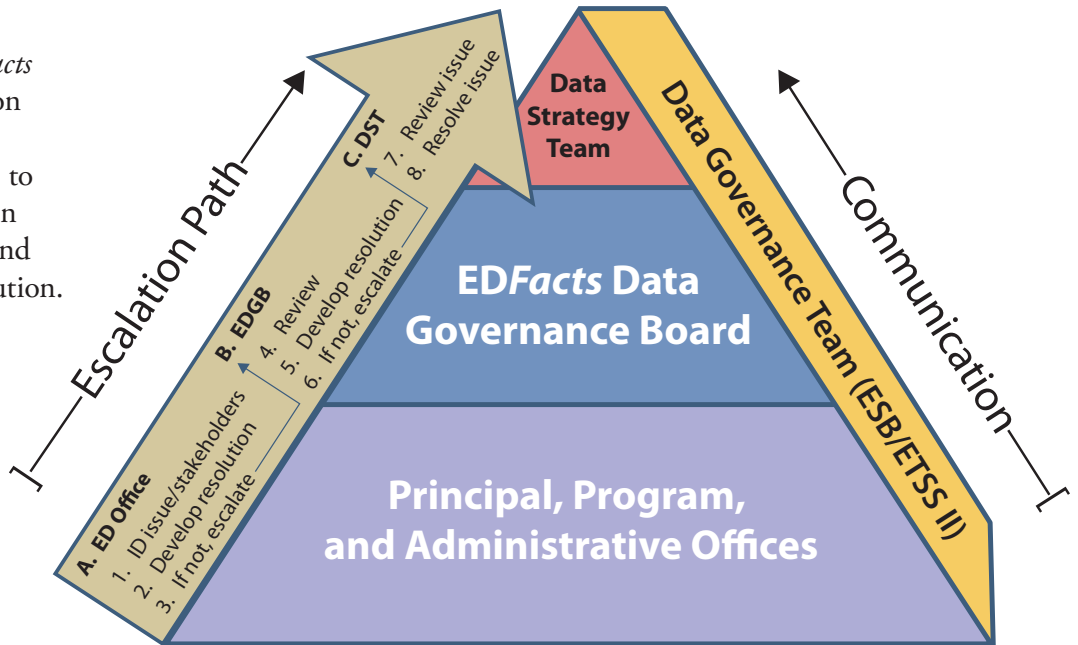
DRB members have analytic expertise and are from various ED offices. DRB reviews proposed ED data releases for appropriate privacy protections.



The **DST**, **EDGB**, and **DRB** oversee ED’s strategic and tactical data decisions, and set policies related to data release and privacy controls.

## EDGB Escalation Path

The EDGB Escalation Path establishes the process for ED Facts data management issue escalation and resolution. EDGB takes escalated issues and collaborates to develop a resolution. If resolution is not found, DST will review and provide direction for issue resolution.



Adapted from Non-Invasive Data Governance™ Operating Model



## Why Have Data Governance?

- Fosters ED-wide data-driven decision-making
- Resolves data ownership issues
- Leads to information sharing across program offices
- Proactively manages data vulnerabilities
- Improves the quality of data collection, reporting, and usage

## Key Responsibilities of Data Governance

- **Data Leadership**—Demonstrating to others the importance and value of data governance
- **Data Stewardship**—Actively managing data required by a policy or grant, including data review and data use
- **Data Coordination and Collaboration**—Making data decisions collaboratively, with consideration for their potential impact on others
- **Data Quality**—Working to ensure that data are usable and timely and that the same definitions are used across ED
- **Data Improvement**—Identifying areas for continuous improvement, including improving access to data and better use of data
- **Data Dissemination**—Working to ensure data are shared and made available, with stakeholders knowing what data are available and how they can be used

## Current EDGB Membership

Chair: Kelly Worthington, Branch Chief, National Center for Education Statistics, Administrative Data Division, Elementary and Secondary Branch

Stewarding Offices		Non stewarding Offices	
IES/NCES	OESE	OCIO	OM/OCPO
OCR	OII	OCO	OPEPD/PPSS
ODS/RMS	OSERS/OSEP	ODS/PIO	OGC
OELA	OCTAE	OLCA	

Members are appointed by the leadership of each representative office.

 EDGB general inquiries: [EDFacts@ed.gov](mailto:EDFacts@ed.gov)

 ED's Data Governance: <https://www2.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/edfacts/index.html>