



Welcome to Wednesday's Wisdom

Your weekly dose of support!

September 7, 2016

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'TIS THE SEASON

School is starting and that means the October state reports are right around the corner. It's not too early to start preparing. See our initial recommendations in the [Support Announcements](#) and [iPass Tips & Tricks](#) sections below. More to come!

SUPPORT ANOUNCEMENTS

It's never too early to get started preparing for the October 1, 2016, Massachusetts State Reports. We will be sharing more information on the following in upcoming Wednesday's Wisdom emails.

- Updated SIMS DOE009: Gender code – The DESE is adding a new Non-binary code value (N). We are working on making a new field for Gender to allow for the new code value. We will let you know when this is ready.
- New SIMS DOE041: SLIFE code – The DESE is adding a new element to identify ELL students who have limited or interrupted formal education. We are in the process of building this field for our client sites with the codes needed and will be setting the default value for all students. We will let you know when this is ready.
- Updated EPIMS ID05: Gender code – The DESE is adding a new Non-binary code value (N). We are working on making a new field for Gender to allow for the new code value. We will let you know when this is ready.
- Discontinued EPIMS SR35 Educator Evaluation Plan – The DESE no longer will collect this information. This DOE field code should be reported as “99.” Other codes should be set to “Discontinued.”
- New SSDR Offense Type Code – The DESE is adding a new value of code 19 = Felony Complaint (Charge) Outside of School. This value is being added to distinguish between felony charges and the existing code 16 which is for felony convictions outside of school. This code will need to be added to your district's Discipline Incident Codes.
- IMPORTANT: SIF Data Transmission for October Reporting – There are steps you need to follow to set up for each new reporting period and to send your initial SIF Objects to the DESE. Please refer to the iPass Tips & Tricks section below for recommended steps.

iPASS TIPS & TRICKS

SIF – Setting Up for the Next State Reporting Period

- Set the DOE Parameters Last Transmission Date at each school to the report date of 10/01/2016.
- Set the iStaff Configuration As of Date to the report date of 10/01/16.
- Make sure the SIF Events Processor is sending data. Recycle it by shutting it down and starting a new one.
- Make sure the SIF Response Processor is sending data. Recycle it by shutting it down and starting a new one.
- You will need to do an initial "push" of your SIF data to the DESE. Data for this year has been flowing to the DESE as live events. This push is to make sure that all data for all enrolled students has been updated on the DESE side in SIF. Remember to send just one SIF Object at a time. Directions on how to push SIF Objects can be found in iPass Help > SIF > Help. [Click here](#) for directions.

Note: Make sure that before you push your SCS SIF Objects that you make sure you have set up your SIF ("fake") Terms.

For more detailed steps go to iPass Help > SIF > [SIF – Setting Up for the Next State Reporting Period](#).

Additional support resources for MA State Reporting can be found in iPass Help > DOE ID Manager > Help > Subcategory folders of [SIMS](#), [SCS](#), [EPIMS](#) and iPass Help > SIF > [Help](#).

iPASS RELEASES & UPDATES

Patch Release v. 7.0.20160830_sync

A patch release (v. 7.0.20160830_sync) went out on August 30 to the Massachusetts and Pennsylvania Sync Version sites. The patch addressed an issue with Gradebook student rosters for unscheduled meeting time courses. Please refer to [Release Notes](#) for more detail.

UPCOMING EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

September User's Group Meeting Webex

The **September 14** User's Group Meeting Webex will be a "**Review of EOY Procedures: Setting up for the New School Year.**" Sharon O'Connor will review the final steps to wrap up the end of one school year and prepare for the 2016-2017 school year. She will review the steps every district needs to take to rollover to the new year, prepare for grading and report cards, and make schedule changes prior to and after October 1. This review will help insure you don't get stuck with grades not working at Progress Report or Report Card entry.

Please join us **Wednesday, September 14 at 1:00 p.m.** [Click here for User's Group Webex link](#). Meeting Number: 638 099 385. Meeting Password: harris. Audio conference information: 218-486-2881, passcode 832927.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Is Your School District Using iPass To Its Fullest Potential?

Recent business reviews have revealed that most districts only use about 30% of the available features and functionality of iPass. Please contact Sharon O'Connor, Professional Services & Training Manager, at sjoconnor@harriscomputer.com to schedule a complimentary business review at your district. We will meet with

your district's administrative team to discuss past practices, future implementations, and training options, and to look at ways to maximize your SIS investment.



Please forward this email to other iPASS users in your district that would benefit from the information shared. Let us know if there is someone who should be added to the weekly email list.

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The banner features a dark teal background with the Harris School Solutions logo at the top center. Below the logo is a horizontal line of text listing various services: "STUDENT INFORMATION | FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT | SCHOOL NUTRITION | SPECIALIZED STUDENT SOLUTIONS". A teal bar at the bottom of the banner contains the website URL "www.harrisschoolsolutions.com" followed by a vertical line and the text "CONNECT WITH US!". To the right of this text are icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google Plus, YouTube, and RSS. The bottom section of the banner is a light gray area containing the company's address and phone number.

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