



Data Advisory Group Meeting Minutes

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

November 4, 2024

[Teams Meeting](#)

1. Welcome & Introductions

In attendance: Mark Chisholm, Dina Advani, Johanna Sandoval, William Brown, Jody Weber, Dr. Vanessa Hawker, Kathleen Sena, Kate McGowan, Doug Comes, Dr. Barbara Medina, Charla Orozco

2. Review Previous Meeting Minutes

No corrections noted.

3. NMHED data request from Senate Finance committee

Mark Chisholm informed the DAG that NMHED received a data request from the SFC. NMHED developed a survey based on the data request. Mark Chisholm shared the survey for feedback. Mark Chisholm stated he was hoping to be sending it out to Dr. Vanessa Hawker, Dr. Barbara Medina and Mark Saveedra who would then distribute to NM HEI's. DEAR data will be used to fill out the FASFA data. Dina Advani advised the Data would have a deadline of November 13, 2024. Dr. Barbara Medina stated that the short turnaround may be a burden for some of the smaller campuses. Mark Chisholm- those campuses with no dormitories may put N/A on the Housing tab. Dina Advani advised we will get survey out today after meeting to Dr. Vanessa Hawker, Dr. Barbara Medina And Mark Saveedra for distribution to institutions.

4. NCHEMS Peer Lists

NCHEMS has the Peer list available. NCHEMS took the recommendations for drops and additions. Mark Chisholm shared a NM Peer list that explains how Peers were selected the criteria and what they are used for. I will send this document out to DAG. Informed attendees list is available on IPEDS. I'm not sure how the data will be used. William Brown noted that 2 institutions were requested to be dropped off but noticed the institutions are still on the list. Mark Chisholm stated he will email list after meeting for review. List of Peers was sent to Campus Presidents. Kate McGowen noted that if we wanted the IRs to review list it should be sent to IR offices as well. William Brown noted that NMJC compared quiet well with its Peers. Mark Chisholm stated he will run some queries using the Peers data as comparison to see how useful the data may be for future reference to NM HEI's and will share outcome of comparisons. William Brown shared in chat that Middlesex Community College (129756) and Nashua Community college (183141) were asked to be removed from the NCHEMS Peer list.



5. Financial Aid files (DEAR) redesign

Mark Chisholm -how many of you have focused on the changes in the FASFA that all the institutions are under this year.

Mark Chisholm shared a list of reference websites that have FASFA change information and tools. Kate McGowan asked if the email was received that she sent to Mark Chisholm, Dina Advani, Heather Romero, and maybe Johanna Sandoval containing additional resources. Mark Chisholm, I may need to go back and look at email. Kate McGowan stated that she has had an extensive discussion with their financial aid department regarding the FASFA changes. I have looked over the data in detail for NMSU. Mark Chisholm stated that NMHED had a meeting on Friday to look over links and talk over new changes. The issue is that the FASFA website uses the IRS website to fill in the income portion of FASFA. There are a lot of laws that determine how IRS data can be used. It seems IRS data can only be used for financial aid awards purposes and not any other data analysis or reporting. It is not at all clear to me if Institutions can legally report to us on the DEAR file the student income , parent income and family size. We are purposing that until we get clear guidance from the Feds that we do not collect income or family size. The Expected Family contribution DEAR data will now be null. Unless we hear different income and family size data will no longer be collected by NMHED to protect NMHED and the institutions from violating Federal law. We may however be able to collect and use SAI info for determining eligibility. Kate McGowan the information I sent you was specifically on the usage of SAI and research we have done and how it is used to determine PELL eligibility. References also have formulas that are used to determine PELL eligibility along with extra measures of financial need that are not covered by SAI. Mark Chisholm I do believe we will need to at least collect SAI information.

6. DEAR training and FAQ's

Dina Advani – We are looking to start quarterly trainings starting in January along with a FAQ page to help mitigate reporting errors. Dr. Vanessa Hawker thinks this is a fabulous idea, especially since there has been a high number of turnovers. It will also help IRs to understand how the data is used. Kate McGowan has volunteered to attend and help from the Institution point of view/perspective. Dina Advani- accepted Kate's offer and noted she will be in contact with the scheduled hours.

7. Next meeting

- a. Currently scheduled for December 2, at 10:00 AM
- b. Proposed meeting dates for first seven months of 2025:
 - i. January 13th
 - ii. February 2025 No meeting



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- iii. March 17th
 - iv. April 14th
 - v. May 12th
 - vi. June 9th and
 - vii. July 14th, 2025.
- c. Are there any topics that should be added to upcoming agendas?