March 29, 2022

Nancy Skinner
Joint Legislative Budget Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8630
Sacramento, CA 95814

Gabriel Petek
Legislative Analyst Office
925 L Street, #1000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Keely Bosler, Director
Department of Finance
1021 O Street, Suite 3110
Sacramento, CA 95814

Erika Contreras
Secretary of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 305
Sacramento, CA 95814

Cara L. Jenkins
Legislative Counsel
1021 O Street, Suite 3210
Sacramento, CA 95814

Sue Parker
Chief Clerk of the Assembly
State Capitol, Room 3196
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Unique Statewide Pupil Identifiers Progress Report

The following report complies with Section 10803 of the Education Code, which states: “10803. (a) The Chancellor's Office of the California Community Colleges, the University of California, and the California State University shall each establish a process by which colleges and universities within those systems issue, maintain, and report information using the unique statewide pupil identifiers specified in paragraph (3) of subdivision (e) of Section 60900. (b) Annually, on or before April 1, the Chancellor's Office of the California Community Colleges, the University of California, and the California State University shall provide a progress report to the Governor and the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature. The report shall include a detailed timeline for the implementation, maintenance, and use of the unique statewide pupil identifiers pursuant to subdivision (a).”
The California State University (CSU) continues to support efforts to incorporate a unique student identifier, or similar person matching key, across the CSU, California Community Colleges, the University of California and other agencies involved in the planning and design process outlined in the California Cradle-to-Career (C2C) Data System Act (SB 75). Input from these segments and other stakeholders, as part of C2C workgroups in 2020 and 2021, have been provided to C2C staff. This will help inform that effort which focuses on improving student data linkages across education agencies in the state.

Should you have any questions about this report, please contact Eric Bakke, Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor, Advocacy and State Relations at (916) 445-5983.

Sincerely,

Steve Relyea
Executive Vice Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

SR:dr


c: Members, California State Legislature
Members, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Lisa Qing, Senior Fiscal & Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst Office
Steve Relyea, Acting Chancellor, California State University
Sylvia A. Alva, Executive Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs
Eric Bakke, Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor, Advocacy and State Relations
Ryan Storm, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Budget
Jeni Kitchell, Executive Budget Director
Edward Sullivan, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Institutional Research and Analyses
California State University
Report on Unique Statewide Pupil Identifiers

The following report complies with Section 10803 of the Education Code, which states:

"10803. (a) The Chancellor's Office of the California Community Colleges, the University of California, and the California State University shall each establish a process by which colleges and universities within those systems issue, maintain, and report information using the unique statewide pupil identifiers specified in paragraph (3) of subdivision (e) of Section 60900.

(b) Annually, on or before April 1, the Chancellor's Office of the California Community Colleges, the University of California, and the California State University shall provide a progress report to the Governor and the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature. The report shall include a detailed timeline for the implementation, maintenance, and use of the unique statewide pupil identifiers pursuant to subdivision (a)."

This document is the annual report responding to this legislative request.

Background

Adopting a unique Statewide Student Identifier (SSID) paves the way for longitudinally-linked student-level data across the education segments for students that attended California public high schools. The ability to track students over time will prove an invaluable tool for assessing student progress in relation to academic preparation, participation in special programs as well as campus outreach efforts. In addition, the SSID will facilitate a more comprehensive assessment of graduation and retention rates as students advance in education as well as inform employment trends (for graduates and non-graduates alike). While in recent years the CSU has improved its collection of SSID from CSU applicants previously attending a California public high school, not all CSU applicants have, or correctly, report their SSID. In the absence of a truly intersegmental common identifier (or a reliable Social Security Number available in the data sets of other segment partners) for all applicants, the CSU has relied on using a combination of student-specific variables common across the segments to uniquely identify and match records.
Progress in 2021-22 and Detailed Timeline for the Implementation, Maintenance and Use of the Unique Statewide Pupil Identifiers

The CSU remains committed to and interested in achieving and leveraging a common Statewide Student Identifier. The statewide P-20 longitudinal data system envisioned in the California Cradle-to-Career Data System Act (Senate Bill 75) acknowledges that a SSID, or similar person matching key, will be required in order to match appropriately students across education segments in the state. Those segments include the University of California, the CSU, California Community Colleges and K-12 institutions (California Department of Education - CDE). Cradle-to-Career discussions during 2020 recognized that SSID would not fully achieve the goals of a single common identifier across segments. Cradle-to-Career discussions have instead prioritized a master person record approach as a key for matching data across agencies. CSU student data systems are ready to incorporate the SSID and/or a common identifier developed through California Cradle-to-Career Data System discussions. The CSU continues to be a willing participant in the ongoing efforts to achieve and use a SSID, master person record approach and/or any other common identifier developed through California Cradle-to-Career Data System discussions.