



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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February 4, 2011

TO: Chief School Administrators
Charter School Lead Persons

FROM: Suzanne Ochse, Director
Office of Student Achievement and Accountability

SUBJECT: Immigrant Student Count - 2011

Title III of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act* (ESEA) requires states to report the number of immigrant students enrolled in school districts. This mandatory data collection, known as the Immigrant Student Data Collection (ISDC), is also authorized in state administrative code (*N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.6(b)1*). **The need for accurate data reporting is imperative. Districts that submit inaccurate data may face recovery or adjustment of funds. All districts must submit their immigrant student data even if the number to be reported is zero.**

The ISDC is a Web-based data collection located on the New Jersey Department of Education's Web page at <http://homeroom.state.nj.us>. The ISDC will be available for data submission from February 1, 2011 to April 1, 2011. For further information, please refer to the User Manual at <http://homeroom.state.nj.us> under Immigrant Student Data Collection (ISDC).

Federal regulations define immigrant students as those who:

- are age 3 to 21;
- were not born in any US state or US territory; and
- have not been attending one or more schools in any one or more states for more than three full academic years.

To determine if a student meets the federal definition of "immigrant," a district must not require students to disclose their immigration status or make inquiries of students or parents that may expose their undocumented status. Districts should use existing student records, such as birth certificates or prior school records to determine if a student meets the federal definition of "immigrant" for this data collection.

NOTE:

- **The 2011 ISDC no longer requests students' country of origin;**
- **LEP students who are also immigrant students must be identified and counted;**
- **Students' home language must be provided (use the federal language list http://www.loc.gov/standards/iso639-2/php/English_list.php); and**
- **The immigrant student count must include nonpublic school immigrant students.**

If you have any questions, please call the Office of Student Achievement and Accountability at (609) 292-8777 or e-mail isge@doe.state.nj.us.

SO/LR/G/LORI/Immigrant Count 2011/Jan.2011CSA letter1

c: Members, State Board of Education
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