9. How do I get access to MSIX?

School and MEP personnel can request an MSIX account using the "How Do I Get an Account?" link at the bottom of the MSIX login page. If parents and students want to view their MSIX records, they should work with local school personnel to gain access to this information.

10. What training is available for the MSIX?

MSIX contains web-based training that is accessible from any computer connected to the Internet. Comprehensive user manuals are available online for reading or downloading that provide step-by-step instructions for using MSIX. Users may take the online training courses at any time. MSIX also offers online help as well as a help desk.

11. How is MSIX used by guidance counselors?

Guidance counselors can use MSIX to access a student's key enrollment, course credit, and health records. Using this information, guidance counselors can appropriately place students when they arrive at a new school as well as verify the credits that the student has accrued for graduation.

12. Who should be contacted for MSIX information?

If you have any questions about the Migrant Student Record Exchange Initiative please contact Jennifer Dozier, MSIX project manager, at 202-205-4421 or the help desk at msixsupport@deloitte.com.

msix.ed.gov

Migrant Student Record Exchange Initiative

1. What is the migrant student record challenge?

Migrant children often enroll in multiple schools and school districts for varying amounts of time each year as their families migrate in search of temporary or seasonal employment in agriculture or fishing. The timely transfer of migrant children's education and health records between these schools has been a longstanding challenge. Without timely access to the critical information contained in these records, school personnel may not be able to enroll migrant students, make appropriate grade and course placement decisions, and ensure the accrual of secondary school course credits.

2. How are we addressing this challenge?

The U.S. Department of Education (ED), with direction from Congress, is assisting states in developing effective methods for electronic transfer of student records and in determining the number of migrant children in each state.

MSIX
Migrant Student Information Exchange

3. What is the Migrant Student Record Exchange Initiative?

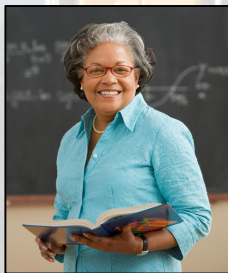It is a collaborative effort to help ED and states:

- Establish standards for the minimum education and health data that each state must collect and maintain in its existing electronic state migrant student record system;
- Develop an electronic exchange to link all states' migrant student record systems, facilitating the consolidation of migrant students' education and health information;
- Create a Web-based, consolidated, migrant student record that can be used by authorized school personnel to facilitate school enrollment, grade and course placement, and the accrual of secondary school course credits; and
- Produce useable information on the migrant children population.

4. What is the MSIX?

At the heart of this initiative is the Migrant Student Information Exchange (MSIX). MSIX development was completed in September 2007.

The MSIX does not replace existing state migrant student record systems; rather it links them in a minimally invasive manner to collect, consolidate, and make available critical education and health data. The MSIX also leverages available information provided by the states to ED's Education Data Exchange Network (EDEN) system to ease the data collection burden on states.

5. Who will use the MSIX?

The MSIX is used primarily by the frontline educators who need migrant student data to make time-sensitive and appropriate decisions on enrollment, grade or course placement, and accrual of credits. These primary users are typically local guidance counselors, school registrars, and Migrant Education Program (MEP) specialists.

State and federal government personnel also access MSIX. Some of these users work directly with migrant students and others who provide administrative and technical support to the MEP. ED is also a user of MSIX for national migrant child counts and statistical analysis.

6. How does the MSIX protect student privacy?

To help protect student privacy, MSIX minimizes the amount of personal information collected to include only those data elements required to match student records. Only authorized personnel have access to this information through the Web portal.

The MSIX is developed in accordance with federal requirements to safeguard the privacy and security of education data, including requirements set forth in the *Privacy Act of 1974,* the *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA),* and the *Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA).*
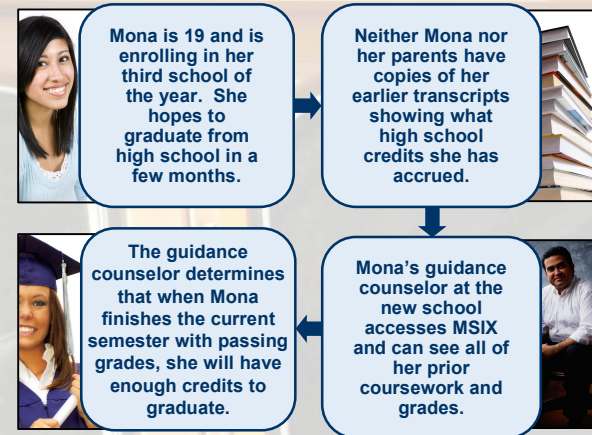
7. How often is the MSIX student data updated?

In order to provide current and accurate data, MSIX updates student records as data is received from participating states, usually on a daily basis.

8. How does the MSIX benefit school staff and students?

The information available through the MSIX allows school staff, such as guidance counselors and registrars, to make time-sensitive placement decisions more effectively. School staff are able to access quickly students' previous enrollment records, course history and assessments to determine the appropriate placement within the new school. School staff are also informed about the availability of a student's immunization record, as well as the existence of any medical alerts, prior to starting school.

Students benefit when school staff are able to place them quickly in the appropriate courses, allowing students to continue their education more seamlessly. Ultimately, the MSIX benefits students by effectively tracking their credit accrual towards graduation requirements, allowing them to earn their degrees in a timelier manner.

Mona is 19 and is enrolling in her third school of the year. She hopes to graduate from high school in a few months.

Neither Mona nor her parents have copies of her earlier transcripts showing what high school credits she has accrued.

Mona's guidance counselor at the new school accesses MSIX and can see all of her prior coursework and grades.

The guidance counselor determines that when Mona finishes the current semester with passing grades, she will have enough credits to graduate.

Guidance counselors may use MSIX to review a student's credits received in multiple states.