



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

March 18, 2008

Letter to Chief State School Officers (individually addressed)

Dear (name):

As you will recall from my letter of April 6, 2007 (enclosed), the U.S. Department of Education (the Department) is in the process of implementing a Migrant Student Information Exchange (MSIX).

The MSIX is a web-based system that links all states' migrant student electronic record systems in order to facilitate the consolidation and sharing of migrant students' education and health records to authorized users. Additional information on the MSIX can be found on the Department's Office of Migrant Education's website, <http://www.ed.gov/admins/lead/account/recordstransfer.html>.

In order to begin to fully implement the MSIX, your state educational agency (SEA) must first enter into formal agreement with the Department regarding the sharing of migrant student information between your state's system and MSIX. In this regard, attached please find an Interconnectivity Agreement (IA) and Interconnection Security Agreement (ISA) that should be signed by the appropriate official from your agency as well as from the Department. When signed by both parties, these agreements will allow the exchange of migrant student records between your state and the MSIX.

The attached IA and ISA will allow the SEA and the Department to be knowledgeable about risks associated with connecting information systems thereby allowing us to work together to ensure risks are minimized. Minimizing the risks of interconnecting systems will ensure that student data are protected and available only to those individuals who will be helping to meet the needs of migrant children.

The content of and requirements for the IA and ISA flow from Appendix III of OMB Circular A-130 ([http://www.whitehouse.gov/OMB/circulars/a130/a130appendix\\_iii.html](http://www.whitehouse.gov/OMB/circulars/a130/a130appendix_iii.html)) and the Department's responsibilities under it to follow guidance prepared by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). When finalized, the IA and ISA replace the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that I previously referred to in the April 6, 2007 letter.

To facilitate your state's review of the IA and ISA, a draft copy of these agreements have also been provided to your state's Director of Migrant Education and MSIX Technical Lead.

400 MARYLAND AVE., S.W., WASHINGTON, DC 20202  
[www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)

*Our mission is to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence throughout the nation.*

The IA and ISA, once properly signed by the appropriate state official, should be mailed to:

Ms. Jennifer K. Dozier, MSIX Project Lead  
Office of Migrant Education, OESE  
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Room 3E227  
Washington, D.C. 20202

Thank you in advance for your attention in facilitating the review and signed approval of the IA and ISA by your agency. If you have any questions concerning the IA or ISA, please do not hesitate to contact Jennifer K. Dozier of my staff at (202) 205-4421, or e-mail at [jennifer.dozier@ed.gov](mailto:jennifer.dozier@ed.gov).

Sincerely,

Kerri L. Briggs, Ph.D.

Enclosures

cc: State Director of Migrant Education