

Education Data Advisory Committee



COLORADO
Department of Education

ABOUT THE EDUCATION DATA ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EDAC)

EDAC is a statewide representative group of local education agency volunteers, which reviews all Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and other state agency PK-12 data collections including grant applications, surveys, plans, reports, assessments, evaluations and automated data transfers. EDAC determines whether the benefits derived from a data collection outweigh the administrative burden of producing the data, determines and recommends the most efficient ways of collecting data, determines if recommendations for new collections are redundant and proposes alternatives, and reviews data collection procedures and recommends improvements to CDE. Each EDAC-approved data collection is given a stamp which informs local education agencies whether the form is mandatory, required to obtain benefit, or voluntary. Collections without stamps are not required to be completed.

EDAC MEMBERSHIP

The State Board of Education is authorized to appoint the members of EDAC. State law 22-2-304 C.R.S. specifies that the Board shall designate at least five school districts and two boards of cooperative services and a charter school, which are representative of the state as to pupil size and population. These representatives form a voluntary committee known as the Education Data Advisory Committee. Members serve four-year terms without compensation. In rare circumstances, terms of appointment for voluntary members may be extended by one year with a majority vote of EDAC.

SELECTION PROCESS FOR EDAC MEMBERS

When an EDAC vacancy occurs, the first priority is to fill the unrepresented area of expertise. An EDAC member is asked to represent all similar data collection positions across Colorado. Regions of the state which are unrepresented or underrepresented are considered. Unofficial guidelines include not having two representatives from the same local education agency serving at the same time and to not replace any position with someone from the same local education agency. This is to ensure that all local education agencies are considered for representation over time.

Recommendations may come from various entities depending on the area of expertise. The Colorado BOCES Association recommends the BOCES replacement and the State Directors Leadership Team recommends the Special Education replacement. Generally the exiting member is asked to name possible replacements and if not, CDE business experts are consulted for a suitable representative.

REPORTS AND WORK PRODUCTS OF EDAC

EDAC produces an annual report which makes recommendations to the State Board and to the education legislative committees for the repeal or amendment of statutory and regulatory data reporting requirements that the EDAC has identified as duplicative, obsolete, or inefficient. The report also addresses the work EDAC has accomplished throughout the school year and highlights an area of concern or focus each year such as continued use of educator social security numbers, strengthening privacy protections, or education data burden. EDAC also occasionally produces special reports, the most recent being the *2017-18 EDAC Data Burden Survey* released in January 2019.