

Questions from the Field

Q: Is there any guidance on course codes for elementary AIS?

A: *The most recent update to the SIRS Manual lists course codes specific to AIS courses:*

For Grades K-6 Districts should use the following course code(s) based on the content area:

51996- Eng Lang & Lit- Supplemental

52996- Mathematics- Supplemental

53996- Life & Phys Sci- Supplemental

54996- Social Sci & Hist- Supplemental

For Grades 7-12 Districts should use the following course code(s) based on the content area:

01996- Eng Lang & Lit- Supplemental

02996- Mathematics- Supplemental

03996- Life & Phys Sci- Supplemental

04996- Social Sci & Hist- Supplemental

Questions from the Field

Q: There seems to be conflicting directions on reporting Employment Basis of Itinerant Staff in the SIRS Manual. On Page 89 Employment Basis (Field 60) IS NOT listed as a required field for itinerant staff. On Page 118 Employment Basis(Field 60) IS listed as a required field. Is Employment Basis required for Itinerant Staff?

A: No, employment basis is not required for Itinerant Staff. This was an error on p.118 of the SIRS Manual and has been corrected in the most recent update.

Questions from the Field

Q: A district has a student that was in the district many years ago and was ELL Eligible and reported as such. They left the country for 5 years and returned 2 years ago at which time the district gave the NYSITELL again to determine ELL eligibility. They again were determined ELL eligible and reported as such.

The new SIRS-650 report is showing this student as “Long Term” as the student was reported back originally with the same ID. **Should the district change the LEP duration to when the student was first in the district so it matches the report or is reporting the 2 years as LEP duration correct and there is just an issue with the report?**

A: Long Term ELLs status is calculated based on the “number of cumulative years the student has received services in an ELL program in NYS schools”. So for the scenario below we do not advise adding the years he left the country, as this would erroneously inflate our LTE figures.

Questions from the Field

Q: In regards to student attendance is there guidance on what is considered an “excused” absence and an “unexcused” absence?

A: *The decision on what constitutes an excused or unexcused absence lies with the district. Below, please find a link that offers FAQ in regards to students attendance. Question #27 directly addresses your question. Be reminded that for chronic absenteeism purposes, chronic absenteeism differs from traditional attendance measures because its emphasis is on missed instructional time, which takes into account both unexcused and excused absences rather than focusing on unexcused absences or truancy.*

Questions from the Field

Q: Now that Level 0 Historical is open and moving data to Level 2, will historical data continue to refresh throughout the year (UIAS reports specifically)? Are the only reports that this will reflect in L2RPT is Cohort for accountability purposes?

A: UIAS will update/refresh. None of the 2017-18 reports will be rerun. So, where the data will show is in the cohort reports (201 and 202), but only if you look at current year status. In other words, if there was a graduate that didn't get counted, you'd have to look at the 2014 5 year cohort outcomes to verify that it's now correct. Once SED releases the 2018-19 accountability reports, they will also show changed data for grad rate because it's lagged a year.