



Student Interchange 2025-2026

File Layout Updates, Changes, and Data Field Reminders

This document includes detailed information regarding the updates approved by the Education Data Advisory Committee (EDAC) for the 2025-2026 collection cycle.

Note: File layouts were updated for digital accessibility. The biggest impact to the overall look of the file due to accessibility is the removal of the red strike-through text that indicated a word or content was deleted. Instead, only the approved text is included. New content remains emphasized with yellow shading.

General Information

Data from the student interchange files is used for multiple collections, both period collections and snapshot collections, throughout the school year. Not all data fields or interchange files are used for every single student level data collection. In the case of periodic collections, sometimes the student interchange is a reference for business rules rather than a data field directly pulled into the collection. See the specific collection website for information regarding the specific student interchange data fields used in the collection.

Please remember that all data fields must contain a valid code or value for every interchange file. Zero fill all non-applicable data fields to prevent the file upload from failing. Leading zeros are necessary for numeric code data fields when indicated. Attendance related fields on the SSA file must be formatted to include a decimal (e.g., 000.0).

LEAs are encouraged to regularly upload student interchange files throughout the school year.

Timeline

The 2025-2026 Student Interchange opens July 14, 2025, and will close December 2026 with the end of the 2026 Student End of Year collection.

Connected Collections

Connected Student Collection	Collection Window
Student October Snapshot	August 2025 to December 2025
Student Attendance Snapshot	April 2026 to July 2026
Student End of Year Snapshot	May 2026 to December 2026
<i>Note: This is the only collection that utilizes GG and ADJ files</i>	
Student Discipline Snapshot	May 2026 to July 2026
Teacher Student Data Link Snapshot	February 2026 to August 2026
SPED December Snapshot	November 2025 to February 2026
SPED Discipline Snapshot	May 2026 to August 2026
SPED End of Year Snapshot	May 2026 to September 2026
SBD: Access for ELLs	March 2026
SBD: CMAS and CoAlt	May 2026
SBD: PSAT/SAT	May 2026
SBD: DLM	May/June 2026
Alternative Education Campus (AEC) Collection: Renewal Applicant File	March 2026 to April 2026
READ Spring Assessments	April 2026 to June 2026



Student Demographic File (DEM)

No new/removed data fields or codes

Definition Clarification Updates to Existing Fields:

Replaced all references to 'English Learners' with 'Multilingual Learners' throughout file. This change impacts descriptions of Language Background, Language Proficiency, and Language Instruction Program data fields. Language Proficiency code 5 changed from 'FELL' to 'Former ML' as an abbreviated description.

Minor language clarifications were made for the following fields:

- Free/Reduced Lunch Price Eligible
- Free Lunch Eligibility Identification
- Homeless

Business Rule Update Plans:

We are working to streamline the Multilingual Learner business rules designed to check if a student is following the Colorado Standardized ML Progression. Visit the Student Interchange website to review the Multilingual Learner Coding Guide for information regarding the impact of the standardized progression on Language Proficiency codes.

Other Reminders:

Multilingual Learners follow a standardized coding progression. If a new status begins, the prior status should end. Double check your LEA's practices regarding ML coding in your Student Information System (SIS) to ensure students are not accidentally coded with a prior year language proficiency. LEAs may need to consult with their SIS support to ensure they understand the logic used by their vendor's DEM reporting extract in case there are additional considerations when inputting data.

Student School Association File (SSA)

The SSA file reflects the majority of the updates/changes to the Student Interchange for the 2025-2026 reporting year.

Removed Data Field:

Innovative Learning Opportunities Pilot (ILOP) - This program sunset at the end of the 2024-2025 school year so the data field is no longer needed for state reporting.

New Data Fields:

Abbreviated School Day Schedule Status and **Total Days on an Abbreviated School Day Schedule** are new fields added in response to HB24-1063. These fields only apply to students who are either Section 504 Having a Disability or a Special Education Student.

The planned collection use for these fields is the [Student Attendance](#) snapshot collection. LEAs should begin tracking this information at the beginning of the school year in preparation for the Student Attendance collection in the Spring.

New Codes within Existing Fields:

New **school entry type** and **school exit type** codes were added. These data fields are only used as part of the [Student End of Year \(SEY\)](#) snapshot collection, which means business rules focused on appropriate use of these fields only apply to SSA records meeting the SEY snapshot criteria.



- **School Entry Type:**
 - **31**, Transfer from a HS Diploma Program at a Colorado Community College
 - **60**, Enrollment Status Change in the same School
 - **98**, Prior Graduate from a public school in another Colorado LEA transferring to participate in Special Ed 18-21 services
- **School Exit Type:**
 - **31**, Transfer to a HS Diploma Program at a Colorado Community College
 - **60**, Enrollment Status Change in the same School
 - **88**, TBD—waiting on documentation of transfer; Student absent 10+ days

Please see the examples below regarding the use case scenarios for each code.

School Exit Type 31 and School Entry Type 31

These codes are designed to be used specifically when a student exits a with [adequate documentation of transfer](#) to attend a High School Diploma Program at a Colorado Community College or re-enters a LEA after attending a High School Diploma Program at a Colorado Community College. When using school exit type 31, the student will not be counted as a dropout. More information about how these exits will be handled within a LEA's graduation rates will be provided during the 2025-2026 [Student End of Year collection](#).

Exit and Entry to the same LEA within the same school year:

SSA Record	School Code	School Entry Date	School Entry Type	School Exit Date	School Exit Type
1	Applicable code	Applicable date	Applicable code	Applicable date	31
2	Applicable code	Applicable date	31	00000000	00

Exit and Entry to the same LEA across school years:

School Year	School Code	School Entry Date	School Entry Type	School Exit Date	School Exit Type
Prior Year	Applicable code	Applicable date	Applicable code	Applicable date	31
Current Year	Applicable code	Applicable date	31	00000000	00

School Exit Type 60 and School Entry Type 60

These codes are specifically designed to capture enrollment status changes where a student is **continuing to attend the same school code** but has a change in one of the critical areas needed for SEY reporting, outlined in the examples below. LEAs may also use this pattern for some other changes to data fields only utilized in Student October report if they wish to track these select data fields, outlined in the example below.

These codes cannot be used for changes causing a student to move from meeting the criteria of the SEY collection to not meeting the criteria because school entry and exit types are only tracked across records that meet the SEY snapshot criteria. Changes to the data field primary school or student pupil attendance information (group A vs group B codes) impact whether or not the record meets the criteria for the SEY collection.

Example 1: Returning from Expelled Education Services (Critical change for SEY)

SSA Record	School Code	School Entry Date	School Entry Type	School Exit Date	School Exit Type	Expelled Education
1	5678	08152024	02	01052025	60	1
2	5678	01062025	60	00000000	00	0

Example 2: Non-School Program Code Change (Critical change for SEY)

SSA Record	School Code	School Entry Date	School Entry Type	School Exit Date	School Exit Type	Non-School Program
1	5678	08152024	02	01052025	60	00
2	5678	01062025	60	00000000	00	01, 02, 03, or 04

Example 3: Homebased Education Change (Critical change for SEY)

SSA Record	School Code	School Entry Date	School Entry Type	School Exit Date	School Exit Type	Homebased Education
1	5678	08152024	02	01052025	60	0
2	5678	01062025	60	00000000	00	1

Example 4: Post-Secondary Program Enrollment (Critical change for SEY in some situations)

It is best practice to capture any changes in this field, but changes in Concurrent Enrollment status without the use of the enrollment status change pattern (school exit type 60/school entry type 60) will not trigger any errors. For concurrent enrollment, it is preferred to have the status be cumulative adding students who were CE second semester but perhaps not first semester rather than removing the CE coding from a student who added CE first semester and not second semester.

SSA Record	School Code	School Entry Date	School Entry Type	School Exit Date	School Exit Type	Post-Secondary Program Enrollment
1	5678	08152024	02	01052025	60	00
2	5678	01062025	60	00000000	00	15

Example 5: Other Optional Changes for October only data fields

LEAs may use the enrollment status change coding pattern to capture other changes for SSA data fields used solely in the Student October collection for internal tracking purposes per LEA local practices.

SSA fields used only in OCT that do not impact SEY:

- Public School Finance Funding Status
- County code of residence for joint school districts
- District of parent's residence
- Country of parent's residence for non-residence students
- State of parent's residence for non-residence students
- Independent study course
- Work-based learning opportunity course
- Blended learning course
- Supplemental online course

SSA Record	School Code	School Entry Date	School Entry Type	School Exit Date	School Exit Type	Public School Finance
1	5678	08152024	02	01052025	60	85
2	5678	01062025	60	00000000	00	80

Other Notes:

- When capturing an enrollment status change, the **school code should be the same** for both records and the **school exit/school entry dates should be less than 10 days apart** to ensure the record is not counted as an instance of mobility. Changes that occur across school codes are not considered



enrollment status changes, but rather a transfer within the LEA even if the transfer also includes a change of a critical SSA field.

- Enrollment status changes do not apply to the *Date First Enrolled in US* or any of the 14 *Gifted and Talented* data fields as these fields should have identical information across all SSA records for a given SASID, being treated as demographic information instead of enrollment-based information.

School Entry Type 98

This entry type is used only by the receiving LEA for students who were counted as a graduate in a prior school year, who returned for SPED 18-21 Transition services in the current year and then transferred into the receiving LEA to participate in those services. It is used in place of school entry type 13 in this situation because the student was previously counted as a graduate.

This code may also be used by the original sending LEA who counted the student as a graduate in a prior year, the student left for one or more years to attend another receiving LEA for Transition services and now needs a final one-day record from the original sending LEA to issue the student a diploma upon the end of their transition services. This is the ‘Scenario 2’ coding for transition students transferring between LEAs found in the SEY collection manual.

SEY Collection Manual Excerpt: Scenario 2—Student counted as a graduate by the sending LEA

Student who met graduation requirements in the sending LEA, was counted as a graduate in the sending LEA, and transferred to the receiving LEA to receive 18-21 services in a subsequent school year. At the end of transition services, the receiving LEA will transfer the student back to the sending LEA so the sending LEA can include a one-day record to show they’ve issued the student’s diploma.

Sending LEA Initial Records

The sending LEA will use retention code 3 with school exit type 90 at the end of the school year they were counted as a graduate by the sending LEA even if they know the student is transferring over the summer to a receiving LEA. It is the following year where a one-day record is used to transfer the student out of the LEA.

Year in High School	Special Education Transition (DEM)	Grade Level (SSA)	School Entry Type (SSA)	School Exit Type (SSA)	Retention Code (SSA)	SPED Basis of Exit (SPED Participation)
12 th grade	0	120	02 or 11	00	3	00
Transition year 1 (one-day record 7/1)	1	120	02	13	3	00 or 13

Receiving LEA

The receiving LEA will use school entry type 98 the year the student enters the LEA, then continue with the standard coding pattern using school exit type 27 with retention code 3 followed by school entry type 90 the next year until the student completes transition and is ready for their final record from the sending LEA.

Year in High School	Special Education Transition (DEM)	Grade Level (SSA)	School Entry Type (SSA)	School Exit Type (SSA)	Retention Code (SSA)	SPED Basis of Exit (SPED Participation)
Transition year 1	1	120	98	27	3	00
Transition year 2	2	120	90	27	3	00
Transition year 3	3	120	90	27	3	00
Transition year 4	4	120	90	13	0	00 or 13



Sending LEA Final Record - Issue Diploma

The sending LEA will use a one-day record at the end of the student's final year of transition with school entry type 98 and school exit type 28 to indicate the student's diploma has been issued and FAPE has ended.

Year in High School	Special Education Transition (DEM)	Grade Level (SSA)	School Entry Type (SSA)	School Exit Type (SSA)	Retention Code (SSA)	SPED Basis of Exit (SPED Participation)
Transition year 4 (one-day record 6/30)	1	120	98	28	0	90

School Exit Type 88

School Exit Type 88 (TBD—Waiting on Documentation of Transfer) is an **OPTIONAL** code designed as a temporary placeholder to use throughout the school year when a student stopped attending the LEA but the LEA does not yet have adequate documentation of transfer. This code may be used for students who have 10+ consecutive days of absence who the LEA is pursuing truancy or following other LEA procedures to attempt to reengage the student.

LEAs should follow their own internal practices/policies for tracking the non-attending time. Some LEAs may utilize their Student Information System, and some may have other methods for tracking the process of working with the family to establish adequate documentation, pursue truancy, or reengage the student.

Once an outcome is known, the school exit type for the student should be updated to reflect their actual school exit type per adequate documentation of transfer or recorded mobility instance (followed by the returning record ending the mobility instance).

School Exit Type 88 allows LEAs to have an error free SSA file throughout the year with an accurate school exit date that reflects the student's last date of attendance but also easily query a list of students where additional steps are needed. During the SEY collection, an error will trigger if school exit type 88 is still being used to remind the LEA to update the student's school exit type to another applicable code. If no adequate documentation of transfer is available, school exit type 40 or 06 will be used based upon the student's grade level.

The use of school exit type 88 is optional as many LEAs may have internal practices that already allow them to track students who stopped attending and need follow-up for adequate documentation of transfer, truancy, or reengagement. The goal of this code is to provide a school exit type where business rules can be used to flag students for follow-up during the SEY collection to support LEAs with data clean-up.

Record	School Code	School Entry Date	School Entry Type	School Exit Date	Temporary School Exit Type	Final School Exit Type
Student stopped attending 10+ days	5678	08152024	02	09152024	88	14
LEA internal record/tracking for non-attending time and follow-up	Not reportable	09162024 Not Reportable	Not Reportable	Not Reportable	Not Reportable	Not Reportable

Definition Clarification Updates to Existing Fields:

Added information to **School Entry Date** and **School Exit Date** data fields regarding best practice for one-day records. One-day records are used to reconcile students who had school exit type 00 in the prior year but moved out of the LEA before the start of the current year. Best practice is to use a school entry and exit



date **on the same day** well before the start of the LEA's actual first day of school to differentiate between these records and traditional student records for attending students. The date 07/01 is encouraged because it is the first possible date of the academic reporting year, and signals to all that the record is specifically a one-day record for this reconciliation purpose. In the event of a dispute between LEAs regarding who is the last district of attendance for a student, school entry and exit dates are used to track the movement of the student. When LEAs consistently use 07/01 for one-day records this help provide clarity to student movement between LEAs as well.

An additional note was added to the **School Exit Date** field and **School Exit Type 00 (did not exit)** regarding state board rule for reporting students as school exit type 00 (did not exit) if the student completes the year within three weeks of the LEA's scheduled last day of school. When a student finishes the year within three weeks to the last scheduled day of school, school exit type 00 is used regardless of the anticipated enrollment or transfer of the student for the next school year. If the student does indeed transfer out of the LEA before the start of the next school year, a one-day record is used in the next school year to indicate the transfer.

The attendance data fields **Total Days Attended**, **Today Days Excused**, and **Total Days Unexcused** also received a clarifying statement from board rule regarding how LEAs should determine if a student should be counted as attending a full day, half day, or absent for the entire day when calculating the aggregate value for these fields.

The word *student* was added to the existing data field **Pupil Attendance Information**, renaming this field **Student Pupil Attendance Information** (Student PAI) to clarify that this value is specific to the student collections, not to be confused with the **SPED Pupil Attendance Information** (SPED PAI) field on the [SPED IEP Interchange Participation file](#). Due to the available codes and requirements of student collections compared to SPED collections, there are situations where Student PAI codes and SPED PAI codes do not match. These values should not be forced to match but rather evaluated separately based upon the student's situation and expectations of the student vs SPED collections.

Finally, a brief clarification statement was added to the **Alternative Instruction Courses** description regarding expectations for the Student October collection for the four alternative instruction course fields (Independent Study Course, Work-Based Learning Opportunity Course, Blended Learning Course, and Supplemental Online Course).

Business Rule Update Plans:

In 2024-2025 we attempted to create an SSA level business rule to compare gifted and talented field values in the prior year to the current year to support gifted and talented coding which had to be deactivated due to processing issues. In 2025-2026 the decision was made to abandon the check at the student interchange (SSA) level and instead include an error within the Student October, Student Attendance, and Student End of Year snapshots. In testing, checking this information at the snapshot level has been more reliable avoiding unnecessary processing issues for the SSA file. It is important to remember that once a student is identified gifted and talented (1=yes in one of the 14 domains, causing the snapshot internal flag to be 1=yes for gifted and talented status), they remain identified as gifted and talented throughout their educational career regardless of specific services received in the current year per their Advanced Learning Plan. Gifted and Talented status is transferable across Colorado school districts as well, which is why a CEDAR/COGNOS SASID lookup report for GT status was added to the Student Interchange category of reports in 2024-2025.

There are two planned warnings for the SSA file regarding grade level progression. These warnings will highlight a student's prior year grade level compared to the grade level in their first reported SSA record in



the current year, triggering if there is a mismatch. Grade level progression checks are part of the Student End of Year (SEY) collection, at which point they become errors if there is a mismatch between years. The warnings at the SSA level are designed to allow LEAs to check this information early, looking for issues where retention codes need to be corrected on the prior year SEY collection during the overlap between prior year SEY and the current year Student October collections to avoid future SEY errors. Accurate grade level progression coding also supports the SPED December collection.

Finally, there is a planned warning for Kindergarten students with funding code 86, 87 or 96 (non-funded) when the student had a PK record in the LEA in the prior October to assist LEAs with accurate funding code reporting for Kindergarten students whose system automatically rolled their from one year (PK) into the next (K) since PK students are always marked as unfunded in the October collection but Kindergarten students may be funded.

Other Reminders:

These are clarifications/reminders about existing data fields. These fields did not have definition updates but rather are common areas of confusion for LEAs.

Date First Enrolled in U.S.

- Treat this as demographic information for SSA records grades K-12. Students with multiple SSA records should have identical coding for the date first enrolled in US field **unless** one of those records is for a student in grade level '002' or '004' (Infant/PK) and the other for grade 006/007 or higher.
- If a student's grade level is '002' or '004' (Infant/PK), then '00000000' is required for this field
- If a LEA zero fills this field for students in Grades K through 12, then the CDE auto-calculated value will be utilized. This value is based upon earliest school entry date within historical reported student end of year data or current year.
- When a LEA inputs a specific value for students in grades K through 12, that value is utilized. Business rules check against CO reporting history to ensure this value is the same or before the earliest reported date first enrolled per CO reporting history.

Gifted and Talented Fields

Treat these fields as demographic information. Students with multiple SSA records should have identical coding for each of the 14 gifted and talented fields across each SSA record.

Expelled Education

Students receiving expelled education services should be indicated as such on the SSA record that captures the time they were considered expelled with educational services. LEAs need the ability to indicate 'yes' to specific SSA records and 'no' to others depending on the services received by the student during that time period of attendance/enrollment. This status may cross school years and cannot be determined by school entry type or a discipline event alone.

There are two main coding scenarios for students who are expelled with educational services. One where the student's term of expulsion ends in the current year, and the other where the term of expulsion crosses between school years. Please see the example coding patterns below as they highlight the use of the **expelled education** data field. This example pattern also include the non-school program data field as this is a commonly connected field when LEAs utilize a non-school program to provide the expelled educational services.

Term of expulsion ends within the school year

Record	District Code	School Code	School Entry Date	School Entry Type	School Exit Date	School Exit Type	Expelled Student	Non-School Program
#1: point of expulsion	1234	5678	08152025	02	09252025	56	0	00
#2: expelled services	1234	*5678	09262025	56	04012025	60	1	01, 02, 04
#3: return from expulsion	1234	5678	04022026	60	00000000	00	0	00

Term of expulsion ends in the subsequent school year

Record (year)	District Code	School Code	School Entry Date	School Entry Type	School Exit Date	School Exit Type	Expelled Student	Non-School Program
#1 (current): point of expulsion	1234	5678	08152025	02	09252025	56	0	00
#2 (current): expelled services	1234	*5678	09262025	56	00000000	00	1	01, 02, 04
#1 (subsequent): continued expelled services	1234	*5678	08102026	02	09252026	60	1	01, 02, 04
#2 (subsequent): return from expulsion	1234	5678	09262026	60	00000000	00	0	00

Graduation Guidelines File (GG)

No new/removed data fields or codes

Updated Expectation for Existing Field:

The data field **School Year of Completion** will no longer accept zero filled values. The school year of completion is a critical data field used to connect the applicable benchmark scores for a graduation guidelines measure in the year the measure was completed in the event a different benchmark score applies to a future school year of completion for the same guideline name.

For example, in September 2024 the State Board of Education lowered the benchmark score for SAT Math from 500 to 480 specifically for SAT Math scores connected to the 20232024, 20242025, and 20252026 school year of completion. This means SAT Math measures from the school year of completion 20222023 and prior have a different benchmark than those from 20232024 moving forward.

Ensuring accurate dates in this field is critical moving forward in preparation for any similar changes dictated by the State Board of Education.

Business Rule Update Plans:

Combining existing business rules SG10 and SG48 to a single rule, checking that a valid 8-digit school year value has been entered and that the school year of completion is not zero filled.

Add an error to check school year of completion when the guideline name indicates classic Accuplacer (ACR, ACS, ACE). The classic Accuplacer was discontinued by the vendor in 20182019, which means the school year of completion for a classic Accuplacer measure should be 20182019 or earlier.

Other Reminders:

LEAs have the option to report all attempted GG measures in the school year even if the measure is for a student in a younger high school grade who is not expected to graduate until a future year. The GG data in pipeline is connected to a student by SASID across all school years and LEAs at the point the student is



indicated as a graduate per school exit type in the SEY collection, allowing transfer students to be connected with measures completed in a prior LEA and prior year.

LEAs are encouraged to use the CEDAR/COGNOS reports *Graduation Guidelines Student Summary List* and *Graduation Guidelines Student Completion List* to monitor GG completion for students attending their LEA in the current year. These two reports only show students with an untagged DEM/SSA record who have at least one reported GG measure in any year or LEA. Students in high school without a record on these reports do not have any reported GG measures to-date.

Adjustment File (ADJ)

No new/removed data fields or codes

Definition Clarification Updates to Existing Codes:

Adjustment Justification Code names were updated to include the type of adjustment in the name of the code instead of as a separate subheading for the list of codes.

- 40, 41, and 42 - added Dropout Adjustment to code name
- 51, and 52 - added Expulsion Adjustment to code name
- 71, and 72 - added HSED Program Enrollee Adjustment to code name
- 90, 96 - added Misreported Graduate Adjustment to code name

Throughout the file, listed prior year final school exit types that may qualify for an adjustment record. There are a couple of situations where dropout adjustment justification codes 41 or 42 may be utilized even though the student did not have school exit type 40 (dropped out) in a prior year because the student did have a school exit type that remains in the AYG cohort and the school may have updated information regarding the student's educational history requiring an update to the student's final status for the AYG cohort.

Business Rule Update Plans:

No planned changes.

Other Reminders:

This file is only used in response to specific situations in the Student End of Year collection. Unlike the other student interchange files, this file will not open until May (5/7/2026) with the start of the SEY collection.

Some LEAs have indicated they only utilize the provided template on the [Student Interchange website](#) and manually build this file rather than use a file extract from their Student Information System due to the small quantity of use cases for this file. Others have indicated an extract is available in their SIS, requiring them to accurately input information into their SIS when an adjustment is being used.