

# Special Education Data Sources and Reporting Requirements

- ✓ **Student Information System**
- ✓ **IEP- Student Tracking and Reporting Plus (I-Star Plus)**
- ✓ **Other ISBE Special Education Data Collections**

## Student Information System

The Every Student Succeeds Act increased accountability and reporting requirements regarding student academic achievement. ISBE and the IBM Corp. developed a state-level Student Information System (SIS) to fulfill these and other federal and state reporting requirements. Students are assigned a unique identification number. All data to and from the state will use that unique identifier. The use of individual student records:

- Increases the state's capacity to follow a student's progress over time,
- Provides better quality data to drive more enlightened policy decisions resulting in enhanced educational opportunities for all children,
- Reduces data collection burden on schools and districts, and
- Enhances the use and relevance of state data by districts and schools.

## What Special Education Data is Collected in SIS?

**Assessment  
(Indicator 3)**

**Discipline  
(Indicator 4)**

**Early Childhood  
Transition  
(Indicator 12)**

**Early Childhood  
Outcomes  
(Indicator 7)**

**Exit  
Enrollment  
(Indicator 1 + 2)**

## Resources

- [Data Elements and Validations](#)
- [Documentation/Tools](#)
- [Early Childhood Transition System](#)
- [Key Dates](#)
- [Overview and Access SIS Presentation](#)
- [SIS Training Modules](#)

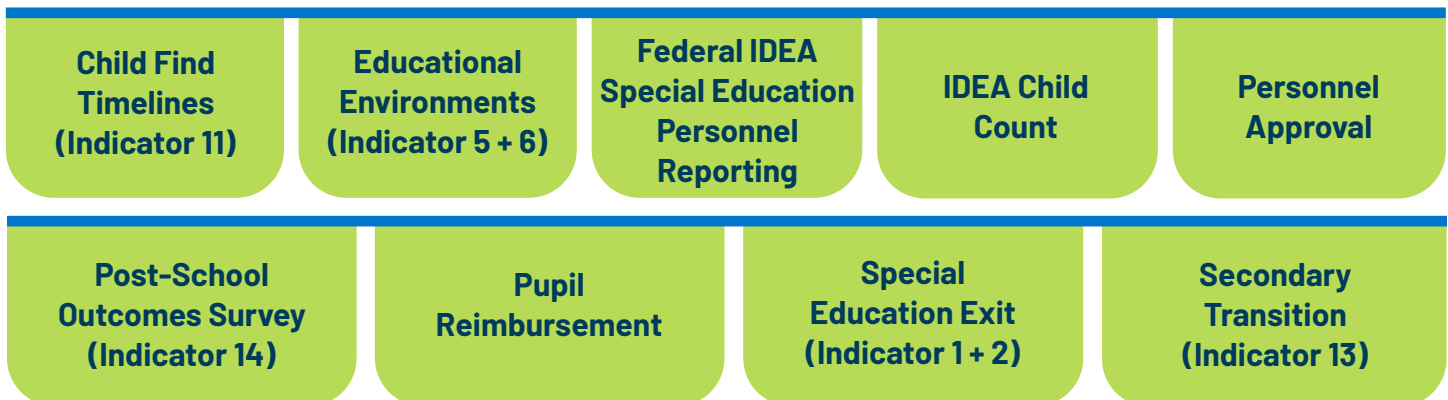
## **IEP- Student Tracking and Reporting Plus (I-Star Plus)**

I-Star Plus is an enhanced version of the existing IEP-Student Tracking and Reporting (I-Star) System application and serves as the agency’s web-based system that allows school districts and special education cooperatives to input, manage, and approve data for students with disabilities. Data can be entered and edited using online screens or submitted via batch file processing. I-Star Plus serves as the primary approval process for students with disabilities who are claimed for reimbursement under Sections 14-7.02 (Private Facility Tuition and Separate Public Day School); 14-7.02b (Students with Excess Cost); 14-7.03 (Orphanage); and 14-13.01b (Special Transportation) of the School Code [105 ILCS 5]. Many data elements are collected to comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Section 611 Part B Flow Through for students ages 3-21 and Section 619 Preschool for students ages 3-5.

Per Section 2-3.30 of the School Code, I-Star Plus compiles an unduplicated count of students with disabilities reported annually to the federal government. It is critical that all students with disabilities who are receiving services as of December 1 each year are reported accurately in an approved status in I-Star Plus. ISBE will only use approved student data to compile and report the December 1 child count, as well as process state reimbursement to districts that file claims. I-Star Plus validates all student entries via coordination and alignment with the Student Information System (SIS). A required SIS identification allows student demographics to automatically be populated, eliminating duplicate entry for school districts.

In addition, I-Star Plus verifies all personnel entries via coordination and alignment with the Employment Information System (EIS), which collects and analyzes employee-related information directly from districts. Personnel entries for proper licensure and endorsements are confirmed against the Educator Licensure Information System (ELIS), which allows all ISBE associate roles such as educators, administrators, district employees, licensure officers, and Regional Offices of Education to operate in one system. Please note that I-Star Plus also is used to collect data on select indicators of the State Performance Plan (SPP). Indicator data is used to make Local Education Agency (LEA) determinations and issue letters of noncompliance. It is critical that accurate indicator data is submitted regularly into I-Star Plus to avoid any findings of noncompliance and/or corrective actions that a district must address.

### **What Special Education Data is Collected in I-Star Plus?**



## Resources

- [2025-2026 Planning Calendar for Illinois Special Education Directors](#)
- [Commonly Questioned I-Star Plus Error Codes/ Descriptions](#)
- [I-Star Plus New User Training 2024-25-Video](#)
- [I-Star Plus User Guides](#)
- [Preparing for Child Count-Video](#)
- [Special Education Child Count Certification in I-Star Plus - Video](#)
- [Special Education Data Life Cycle](#)
- [Student Approval Recheck Edits](#)
- [Student Reports](#)
- [Students with Disabilities Claim and Reimbursement Instructions](#)
- [Student with Disabilities Data Collections and Approval Instructions](#)

## Other ISBE Special Education Data Collections

**Coordinated Early Intervention Services (CEIS) Reporting**

**Parent Involvement (Indicator 8)**