

Technology Adoption and Assistance for State Education Agencies (SEAs)

Abstract

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) Office of Migrant Education (OME) was established to provide leadership, technical assistance, and financial support to improve education opportunities and academic success of migrant children and their families. OME created a Migrant Student Information Exchange (MSIX) to assist in their objectives. MSIX is a technology that allows States to share educational and health information on migrant children who travel from State to State and as a result, have student records in multiple States' information systems. MSIX works in concert with the existing migrant student information systems that States currently use to manage their migrant student data in order to fulfill its mission to ensure the appropriate enrollment, placement, and accrual of credits for migrant children nationwide.

Strategic Objectives

- Ensure the use of the MSIX software application to facilitate the electronic exchange and transfer of migrant student education and health data among State Education Agencies (SEAs)
- Ensure the use of the consolidated migrant student record (i.e. student transcript) produced by the MSIX system for the

purposes of enrollment, placement, and accrual of credits of migrant students

- Provide expert advice and consultation to SEAs and Local Education Agencies (LEAs)
- Facilitate communication between stakeholders (e.g. SEAs, LEAs, and OME)
- Administer data collection and analysis to improve the overall records exchange program
- Provide work products and tools to SEAs to assist in their migrant student records exchange efforts
- Provide data analysis and clean up to improve the data quality submitted to MSIX
- Create Management Dashboard that aggregates records exchange performance nationally

The Challenge

- Build awareness of MSIX across the country for SEAs and LEAs to adopt MSIX as a tool to identify students and retrieve their course history and assessment data
- Increase the use of MSIX to facilitate migrant student records exchange for SEAs and LEAs
- Assist states with identifying data sources to provide the Minimum Data Elements (MDEs) for MSIX operate as intended
- Assist states with process improvements for effective MSIX use



How We Helped

Through Keith Scott's leadership, the team provided expert advice, technical support and subject matter expertise to SEAs and LEAs to increase awareness and adoption of the MSIX system. The team administered the creation and distribution of quarterly electronic newsletters that provided success stories to all stakeholders on the benefits of using MSIX, best practices for records exchange, and technical support information; created a web portal where stakeholders can access Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), technical assistance tools, archived webinars, and white papers; participated in state, regional and national conferences to build awareness of the benefits of using MSIX; facilitated webinars to provide high level training on MSIX functionality and how it can be used to assist education administrators; administered data collection and research to implement process improvements for SEAs; facilitated onsite strategic planning sessions with SEAs to identify and provide recommendations to become more effective and efficient; provided data analytic reports that identified migratory patterns across the country; and managed a call center to provide remote support for SEAs in need of assistance with migrant student records exchange.

What We Learned

The team successfully provided a technology adoption and outreach strategy for OME that increased the usage of the MSIX application for records exchange by 218% within three years. In addition, the team assisted 40 of the 48 participating states in creating long term

migrant student records exchange strategic plan and implementation. The team transformed a highly useful, but fairly unused application into a highly employed system with a developed community of practice.

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