

## Assessment Data Sources: Frequently Asked Questions

### Keystone Exams

Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) recommends gathering student level assessment data from multiple sources to assist in determining if a student has met the Proficiency or Composite pathway for graduation as defined by Act 158 of 2018. Within an LEA, school administrators, the District Assessment Coordinator and the PIMS Administrator should work as a team to access the DRC eDIRECT, eMetric's Data Interaction, and PIMS systems. Each of these systems provides unique data that contributes to the complete picture of a student's achievement leading up to graduation.

#### 1. Where can I find Keystone Exam data to assist in determining a student's graduation pathway status?

Keystone Exam data used for enrolled students is available in the following ways:

- **DRC eDIRECT system:** This is Accountability data that shows Keystone Grade 11 results (including whether a student was granted a COVID exemption), Full Academic Year (FAY) status, numeric and non-numeric proficiency, scale score, where a student tested, and their attribution - among other data points such as demographic data.
- **eMetric's Data Interaction:** This data shows where and when a student tested by Administration (i.e., winter, spring, summer). A student PAsecureID search feature is available and displays student assessment data across both Administrations and LEAs. eMetric data are not used for Accountability as attributions are not applied and data are reported for all grade levels. The Data Interaction tool shows Administration data for enrolled students: Assessment subject, Administration, non-numeric proficiency, scale score, Module 1 and Module 2 result data, who needs to test in Module 1 or Module 2, assessment anchor level data, and student demographics.
- **PIMSReportsV2:** The Keystone Exemption Non-Numeric Proficiency and Best Exam Results report (PIMSReportsV2 > Keystone Exemption) displays all students reported in grades 9 through 12 in the LEA's Student Template in the selected school year, including each of the three Keystone subject areas, Keystone exemption status (if any) for each subject area, and the highest scale score and related proficiency level in each subject area (if any).

This report will assist school leaders in determining Act 158 graduation status, particularly with eligibility for the Proficiency and Composite pathways. An LEA can view both the scaled-scores and non-numeric Proficiency scores earned by

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the student and the student's best-score-to-date on each Keystone Exam. Note: Scores are loaded to PIMS after the student's 11<sup>th</sup> grade year.

For each student in the report, the student's status as a first-time or repeat would-be tester and the student's status as having passed or not passed a Keystone trigger course or equivalent in the 2019-20 school year will be displayed. If there is conflicting data reported, the report will display the data most beneficial to the student:

- A student reported as both a first-time would-be tester and a repeat would-be tester in the same subject area will be displayed as a first-time would-be tester ("FIRST" is displayed in the "FIRST OR REPEAT" column). A first-time tester is considered exempt and is not included in accountability calculations. A repeat tester is not considered exempt and is not excluded from accountability calculations.
- A student reported as having passed the subject course and reported as not having passed the subject course in the same subject area, will be displayed as having passed the course. ("YES" is displayed in the "PASSED COURSE" column).

If the student has Keystone Exam results that PDE was able to successfully load to PIMS, the student's best score and related proficiency level will also be displayed. Note: Data errors may exist on test materials that prevent test records from being uploaded to PIMS.

#### **2. Where can I find if a student is exempt from testing based on exemptions provided by USDE and Act 136 of 2020?**

- **DRC's eDIRECT system** includes the student's COVID exemption status. This data are uploaded to PIMS by the LEA and is updated annually in the LEA's Accountability data file. The exemption data are used in the assessment calculations displayed in the annual Future Ready dashboard.
- **PIMSReportsV2:** The Student Template Keystone Exemption Search (PIMSReportsV2 > Keystone Exemption) will display all students reported in the Student Template in the selected school year who have also been reported in the C6 Keystone Exemption data set by any LEA in any school year.

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- For each student in the report, the student’s status as a first-time or repeat would-be tester and the student’s status as having passed or not passed a Keystone trigger course or equivalent in the 2019-20 school year will be displayed. If there is conflicting data reported, the report will display the data most beneficial to the student:
  - A student reported as both a first-time would-be tester, and a repeat would-be tester in the same subject area will be displayed as a first-time would-be tester (“FIRST” is displayed in the “FIRST OR REPEAT” column). A first-time tester is considered exempt and is not included in accountability calculations. A repeat tester is not considered exempt and is not excluded from accountability calculations.
  - A student reported as having passed the subject course and reported as not having passed the subject course in the same subject area, will be displayed as having passed the course. (“YES” is displayed in the “PASSED COURSE” column).

### 3. Where can I find results for students who did not test at my LEA?

- eMetric’s Data Interaction system has a PAsecureID search feature that allows an LEA access to student results across LEAs, across subjects, and encompassing all administrations.

### 4. Who has initial access to each system and how may I be granted access?

- **DRC’s eDIRECT:** This site is password protected. District Assessment Coordinators and the Chief School Administrator (CSA) have access to this data set. Access is granted by the CSA (i.e., superintendent, chief academic officer, IU director).
- **eMetric’s (Data Interaction):** This site is password protected. District Assessment Coordinators and the Chief School Administrator (CSA) have access to this data set; other staff can be given access by the CSA (e.g., superintendent, chief academic officer, IU director).
- **PIMSReportsV2:** MyPDESuite users with the District All role in the PIMSReports\_V2 application. MyPDESuite help: [MyPDESuite \(pa.gov\)](https://www.pdesuite.com/pa/).

### 5. Who do I contact if I have questions?

- Questions about **PSSA and Keystone assessments, eDIRECT and eMetric data** can be referred to [RA-EDFUTUREREADYPA@pa.gov](mailto:RA-EDFUTUREREADYPA@pa.gov).

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- Questions about **PIMS reports** can be directed to [ra-DDQDataCollection@pa.gov](mailto:ra-DDQDataCollection@pa.gov).
- Questions about **data displayed for Federal and State reporting** can be sent to [RA-EDFUTUREREADYPA@pa.gov](mailto:RA-EDFUTUREREADYPA@pa.gov).
- Questions about **Act 158 graduation requirements** can be sent to [RA-EDGRADREQUIREMENT@pa.gov](mailto:RA-EDGRADREQUIREMENT@pa.gov).