

## Frequently Asked Questions about the 2017 IEPI Indicator Portal

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### 1. How have the indicators required for goal setting changed over time?

There were four *required* indicators in 2015 and four were added for 2016 (for a total of 8). There are no new required indicators for 2017. The indicators are as follows:

INDICATOR	2015	2016	2017
Course Completion Rate	Required	Required	Required
Accreditation Status	Required	Required	Required
Fund Balance	Required	Required	Required
Overall Compliance: Fiscal, State and Federal	Required		
Fiscal Audit		Required	Required
State Compliance		Required	Required
Federal Compliance		Required	Required
Required College Choice (basic skills or unprepared students)		Required	Required
Optional College Choice (any measure)		Required	Required

### 2. How do the Required College Choice, Optional College Choice, and Optional Noncredit College Choice indicators vary?

For Required College Choice, colleges **MUST** choose and set goals on one student achievement measure related to (1) basic skills OR (2) unprepared students. Please choose a metric from the optional indicators already listed on the portal.

For Optional College Choice, colleges **MAY** set a goal on whatever measure they choose. They may use their own measure or something from CCCCCO data sources. If colleges choose not to provide such a measure, they will set goals only on the remaining 7 indicators.

For Optional Noncredit College Choice, colleges **MAY** set a goal on whatever noncredit measure they choose. They may use their own measure or something from CCCCCO data sources. If colleges choose not to provide such a measure, they will set goals only on the remaining 7 indicators.

### **3. How does goal setting vary for 2017?**

In 2016, colleges and districts were required to set both short-term (1 year) and long-term (6 years) goals for each of the indicators identified in the table above. This requirement does not change for 2017 as there are no new goal setting requirements.

### **4. When setting one-year and six-year goals, what is the exact timeline to look at?**

One-year goals refer to the year immediately following the current year. So, for example, for the Spring 2017 goal setting process, the one-year course completion rate goal will be for Fall 2017 and the Scorecard metrics goals will be for the 2018 Scorecard. Six-year goals, then, refer to Fall 2022 (course completion) and the 2023 Scorecard, respectively.

### **5. When is the deadline for submitting goals to the CCCC?**

Both long-term and short-term goals must be certified and sent to the Chancellor's Office by June 15, 2016.

### **6. How aspirational should colleges be in goal setting?**

The goals should be aspirational. *Colleges will not be judged on whether they reach their goals. These indicators are to act as a tool for colleges to start a discussion about where they might have problems or be able to improve. For example:*

Using the state compliance indicator, the description on the portal is "A 'yes' indicates the district has achieved (historical) or has set a goal to achieve an 'unmodified' or 'unqualified' independent audit opinion (minimal or no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies)." The options are "yes" or "no." Because goals are aspirational, most colleges will probably answer "yes" for this goal. Of course, colleges will have to decide for themselves what is appropriate in each case.

### **7. The Scorecard data is not in the portal. How can colleges move forward with shared governance processes and approval of goals?**

There are two ways that colleges can address this issue. First, as of January 31, 2017, institutional researchers at all colleges and districts have access to draft data for 2017 Scorecard. Those researchers can be contacted for the relevant data.

8. Second, while colleges will not have final Scorecard data until March 30, they can develop goals based on percentage increases instead of raw number increases. For example, if a college has a short-term goal of increasing course completion rate 2% in the short-term and 5% in the long-term, they can move those relative goals through the approval process. Once the Scorecard data is available, they simply calculate the approved goal based on the raw data. If, on March 30, they find their previous course completion rate was 68%, they would enter a rate of 70% for their short-term goal and 73% for their long-term goal.

### **How should colleges choose the optional indicator(s)?**

The optional college choice indicators (open and noncredit) can be anything the colleges choose as long as they are measurable. Colleges could choose a metric from the Scorecard or Data Mart or something else. Perhaps college researchers do a yearly campus climate survey of underrepresented students and the college would like to see an increase in the percentage of students who feel they are “strongly supported” at their institution. That question from the survey could be used. Goals must be set as counts, percentages, or rates.

#### **9. How do colleges/districts save the data they enter?**

Changes are automatically saved as they are entered. There is no “save” button.

#### **10. I do not see a certification button. Where is it?**

The certification button has not yet appeared because there is a “validation before certification” mechanism built into the Indicators Portal, which only allows the certification button to appear once the district and all of the colleges (if you are in a multi-college district) have set all of the short and long-term goals required. Once the district and colleges have set all of the required goals, the user will be prompted to certify via a certification button. The certification button is gray and it will be located at the top left corner of the screen. The certification button reads, “Certify All District and College Goal Details.” Once clicked, the certification button will direct you to the certification form.