
IPEDS Student Financial Aid Data Review 171571

8 messages

IPEDS Email <ipedshelp@rti.org>

Mon, Apr 11, 2016 at 4:40 PM

To: "ternes@oakland.edu" <ternes@oakland.edu>

Cc: IPEDS Email <ipedshelp@rti.org>

Reuben,

Thank you for completing the winter components of the IPEDS surveys. Upon reviewing your data we noticed a discrepancy in your Student Financial Aid survey that needs to be corrected. The total amount of grant/scholarship aid reported for the Title IV students in Part E is \$11,394,255. In Part D when you reported the total amount of grants/scholarships awarded to your students you reported \$10,239,375. Because Groups 4 students are included with Group 3 students and also have fewer students (grant aid awarded students please see column 2, group 4), Group 3 aid amount awarded should not be less than Group 4 aid amount awarded. (Part D and E). Please respond with corrections.

Please let us know if we can assist you any further by contacting the IPEDS Help Desk by telephone 1-877-225-2568 or email at ipedshelp@rti.org. Our Help Desk hours are Monday - Friday from 8:30am - 5:00pm eastern standard time.

Thank you,

Markeesa Byrd

IPEDS Help Desk Agent

Phone: 877-225-2568

Email: ipedshelp@rti.org

Fax: 919-790-1601

Rueben Ternes <ternes@oakland.edu>

Mon, Apr 11, 2016 at 4:42 PM

To: Laura Schartman <schartma@oakland.edu>

Fyi... I'll forward to Cindy.

-Reuben

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—

Reuben Ternes

Assistant Director
Office of Institutional Research and Assessment
509 Wilson Hall
Oakland University
248-370-2559

Rueben Ternes <ternes@oakland.edu>

Mon, Apr 11, 2016 at 5:01 PM

To: IPEDS Email <ipedshelp@rti.org>

Cc: Laura Schartman <schartma@oakland.edu>, Cindy Hermsen <hermsen@oakland.edu>, Brian Long <bmlong@oakland.edu>

Hi Markeesa,

Thank you for your e-mail. Can I ask for a clarification before we send a revised number?

Your e-mail suggests that Group 4 should be a subset of Group 3, correct? But the definitions of the groups don't seem to suggest that. In fact, the graphic that IPEDS supplies (see page 1, attached) strongly suggests that the groups overlap, but are not actually subsets of each other. If I am reading the definitions correctly, group 3 would include all of our academic scholarship students (regardless of whether or not they completed a FAFSA application for federal aid) while group 4 students would be required, by definition, to have a completed FAFSA. In this case, the dollars amounts for Group 3 need not be greater than Group 4.

Have I misunderstood the definitions of Group 3 and Group 4? Please advise. Thank you!

-Reuben

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Reuben Ternes
Assistant Director
Office of Institutional Research and Assessment
509 Wilson Hall
Oakland University
248-370-2559



IPEDS_Student_Financial_Aid_Data (Submitted Winter 2016).pdf

440K

Rueben Ternes <ternes@oakland.edu>

Tue, Apr 12, 2016 at 9:41 AM

Cc: Laura Schartman <schartma@oakland.edu>, Cindy Hermsen <hermsen@oakland.edu>, Brian Long <bmlong@oakland.edu>

Hi Brian & Cindy,

Markeesa from the IPEDS help desk called this morning. I'm still not 100% convinced that she understands the definitional differences between group 3 and group 4. But we agreed that I would confirm that the dollar amounts reported for the total of Group 4 excludes loan values. Can I get a confirmation that this is the case and that we did in fact exclude loans when calculating the \$11,394,255 total award value for Group 4 (which was based on 1,260 students).

(This is section 1 Part E, section 04, column 3).

Thanks!

-Reuben

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Brian Long <bmlong@oakland.edu>
To: Rueben Ternes <ternes@oakland.edu>

Tue, Apr 12, 2016 at 12:10 PM

Cc: Laura Schartman <schartma@oakland.edu>, Cindy Hermsen <hermsen@oakland.edu>

The award calculations did not include loan amounts.

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—

Brian Long
Financial Aid Systems Manager
Oakland University
120 North Foundation Hall
Rochester, MI 48309
Phone: 248-370-3208

Rueben Ternes <ternes@oakland.edu>

Tue, Apr 12, 2016 at 1:32 PM

To: Brian Long <bmlong@oakland.edu>

Cc: Laura Schartman <schartma@oakland.edu>, Cindy Hermsen <hermsen@oakland.edu>

Thanks Brian. That's what I thought, but I needed to confirm.

If I'm understanding the IPEDS help desk correctly, their claim is that logically, the total dollar amount reported for Group 4 cannot be higher than that reported for Group 3. At least for the last few years, we've always reported total dollar amounts higher for Group 4 than for Group 3, and this is the first time IPEDS has questioned the data. When I tried to ask whether or not Group 4 was a strict subset of Group 3, I didn't seem to get a clear answer. At first she said no, but then she said yes.

At first glance, it really does not look like Group 4 is a subset of Group 3. However, when I examine the students from Group 4 Column 2 (let's call this Group 4S, since it is a subset of Group 4), I got to thinking that Group 4S might actually be a subset of Group 3 - which would make her logical statement correct.

This is my current thinking. The requirements for Group 3 are this:

1. First-Time Full-Time
2. Must have Grants/Scholarships from some source.

Group 4S Requirements (Different from Group 4 requirements, since 4S is a subset of Group 4).

1. First Time Full Time
2. Must have Grants/Scholarships from some source.
3. Must have been awarded federal aid.

If this interpretation is correct, then I think that Group 4S (whose dollar amount is reported in Column 2) must have a smaller dollar amount than Group 3, since 4S appears to be a subset of Group 3 by definition.

However, the definitions are complicated enough that I'm not really 100% sure this is true. I certainly didn't think that this was the case on the first read through. So I need a couple of other eyes to examine the definitions and either confirm or refute my logic here.

Either way, I'm fairly displeased with IPEDS right now. If Group 4S is a subset of Group 3, then their graphic is misleading and their instructions could have been written a lot more clearly. If it's not a subset, then their help desk employee is wrong.

Let me know what you think.

-Reuben

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Rueben Ternes <ternes@oakland.edu>

Fri, Apr 15, 2016 at 9:04 AM

To: IPEDS Email <ipedshelp@rti.org>

Hi Markeesa,

In response to the ACT question/requirement here is our policy:

The ACT (or SAT) is a formal requirement for submission per our catalog. (For freshmen applicants). However, it is not typically used for the admissions decision (with the exception of conditional admitted students, which is a very small number of our applicants). There isn't really a great option for us to select for the admissions considerations section of IPEDS, so we've been selecting the required component, as it is required to complete the application, even if it is used for placement purposes rather than for admission purposes.

In 2015 we had 44 students submit SAT scores (for 1.6% of our UG population).

Math Score Percentiles: 490 (25%) and 590 (75%)

Critical Reading Score Percentiles: 440 (25%) and 560 (75%)

We are continuing to investigate the financial aid definitions. I submitted my thoughts to our financial aid office and I am awaiting their reply.

-Reuben

On Mon, Apr 11, 2016 at 5:01 PM, Rueben Ternes <ternes@oakland.edu> wrote:

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IPEDS Email <ipedshelp@rti.org>
To: Rueben Ternes <ternes@oakland.edu>
Cc: IPEDS Email <ipedshelp@rti.org>

Fri, Apr 15, 2016 at 1:18 PM

Hello Reuben,

Thank you for the email. I updated the Admissions Survey with the information you provided. If you need additional assistance please contact the Help Desk.

Abis M. Lynch

IPEDS Help Desk Agent

Phone: [877-225-2568](tel:877-225-2568)

Email: ipedshelp@rti.org

Fax: [919-790-1601](tel:919-790-1601)

From: Rueben Ternes [<mailto:ternes@oakland.edu>]

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2016 9:04 AM

To: IPEDS Email

Subject: Re: IPEDS Student Financial Aid Data Review 171571

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