

MyNAEP CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT

Under this agreement you will have access to MyNAEP, a secure site maintained by Westat on behalf of the National Center for Education Statistics. By accepting this agreement, you also agree to keep information from the site confidential as outlined below.

NAEP collects data in a manner consistent with Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) privacy conventions governing the release of student data. Generally, schools must have written parental permission in order to release any information from a student's education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, to organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school [34 CFR Part 99.31(a)(6)(i)].

As a study authorized by the U.S. Secretary of Education, NAEP is permitted to obtain personally identifying student information without written parental permission. Even so, FERPA stipulates that data collection must be conducted in a manner that does not permit personal identification of parents and students by individuals other than representatives of the organization, and that the information is destroyed when no longer needed for the purposes for which the study was conducted [34 CFR Part 99.31 (a)(6)(ii)].

NAEP complies with FERPA confidentiality requirements through its use of data transmittal, data storage, and personnel protocols designed to safeguard personally identifying information. Confidential information is protected during transmission to and from NAEP systems by the use of data encryption technologies, such as Secure Socket Layer (SSL) and digital certificates and signatures that encrypt data, validate data integrity, and authenticate the parties in a transaction. NAEP uses SSL for all restricted-access websites that are used to transfer confidential data, such as www.mynaep.com. All individuals including contractors and school personnel must sign assurances of confidentiality in which they pledge to maintain data confidentiality and exercise reasonable caution to prevent access by others to this information when it is in their possession.

As a representative of your school working on NAEP, you will have access to personally identifying student information. By accepting this agreement, you are certifying that you are authorized to handle and process NAEP information on behalf of your school, and that you will keep the information secure and confidential.