



Better Data. Better Schools.

As educational leaders, we know this: high quality data is foundational to better decisions. The increasing growth and importance of data necessitates a thorough examination of our systems and practices to help make schools better.

Consider how data are touched and how often they must be re-touched. Every handoff of data increases the likelihood of errors. The longer the chain of handlers, the greater the distance from the source of accurate data.

The same holds true for the timely entry of data. If information is acquired on forms and stacked up to be acted upon later, the likelihood of errors increases.

If we were to treat data like we treat dollars, the data at the local level reported to CALPADS would be of higher quality, require less re-touching, and cost fewer staff hours.

Consider the art and science of AB1200 oversight. The model is a template for designing a better data management model. No one is better positioned to provide leadership and create better models for better data than County Superintendents.

We emphasize the need for a thorough examination of our systems and practices because significant changes to CALPADS are coming in October. These changes will affect every LEA in the state.

The most noticeable change is a new design that makes CALPADS more accessible for people with different kinds of disabilities. What cannot be seen is that CALPADS will have a security design that enables it to accept CASEMIS data in the future.

CSIS will do everything we can to help you evaluate the specific needs in your counties. With that in mind, please consider the following:

- Remind your LEAs that submission windows have shorter, earlier deadlines this year.
- Encourage your LEAs to start submitting and reviewing data early in the year.
- Contact CSIS for customized, live CALPADS trainings in your regions and counties.
- Review the FCMAT Fiscal Alert on CALPADS.

You are always welcome to contact us, personally.

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