



National Unique Student Identifier (USI) for school students

About

The national Unique Student Identifier (USI) for school students is one of eight national policy initiatives in the [National School Reform Agreement](#), which will enhance the national evidence base.

The initiative will provide a unique number to every school student in Australia and will allow for sharing of information between schools, sectors and jurisdictions without using a student's name. The purpose of the USI is to support better understanding of student progression and improve the national evidence base. To achieve this purpose, the USI will be used to:

- Support teaching, learning and student wellbeing
- Provide for more efficient administration
- Facilitate research to inform policy development.

It is expected that the USI will provide a more effective and efficient means of retrieving and exchanging student information nationally.

Delivery

The Australian Government is leading the implementation of this initiative, in collaboration with states, territories and the non-government sector.

Project milestones

In December 2019, Education Ministers agreed on design criteria and a model for the development and operation of the USI. The model allows for systems and schools to maintain their existing identifiers, and link these identifiers to the national USI.

In collaboration with states and territory officials, the Australian Government is engaging a range of expertise to support key areas of the project including privacy, legal and technical and service design. Establishing robust privacy and data arrangements will be key part of how the national system will operate.

The work over the coming months will inform a more detailed implementation plan for how a national USI will be generated and operated, with a view to all school students having a USI by 2023.

Consultation

The Australian Government has consulted with a range of school stakeholders and national data agencies. Further consultations will take place with key stakeholders, including parents, schools and the education sector on a range of important issues.

More information

- www.dese.gov.au/quality-schools-package/national-school-reform-agreement