FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Admissions Application, Education Test Score Reporting, & IPEDS Approved As Education Community Standards

Washington, D.C. ~ PESC, the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council, is pleased to announce the release of the Admissions Application, Education Test Score Reporting, and the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) as approved education community standards. All supporting documentation will be made available within 30 days at www.PESC.org.

The Admissions Application standard can be used by any number of organizations to send admissions application data and information to colleges and universities. The Education Test Score Reporting standard can be used by any testing agency to fully communicate test score information to high schools, colleges and universities, affiliated third parties (clearinghouses, employers, research facilities, etc.), and local, state and federal agencies.

Sponsored by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), IPEDS was implemented to help NCES meet its mandate to report full and complete statistics on the condition of postsecondary education in the United States. IPEDS provides NCES with the basic data needed to describe the size of the postsecondary system in terms of students enrolled, staff employed, dollars expended, and degrees earned. As of Fall 2007, the IPEDS universe contained approximately 6,800 Title-IV participating institutions, and approximately 200 non-Title-IV institutions that participate voluntarily.

“PESC provides a balanced and neutral environment in which policymakers and business leaders can work together with data experts across various sectors to create and maintain tools and standards that enable efficient data exchange and reporting,” stated Michael D. Sessa, PESC President & CEO. “The value-add and strength of PESC have always originated from the leadership of PESC’s membership – that is volunteers who invest time and resources and believe in bringing true interoperability to the higher education lifecycle.”

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PESC Members that approved the Admissions Application, Education Test Score Reporting, and IPEDS:

- AACRAO – American Association of Collegiate Registrars & Admissions Officers
- AAMC – Association of American Medical Colleges
- AcademyOne, Inc.
- ACT, Inc.
- California Community College System
- Central Connecticut State University
- CollegeSource, Inc.
- ConnectEdu, Inc.
- Datatel, Inc.
- Docufide, Inc.
- Florida International University
- Georgetown University
- George Washington University
- Iowa State University
- Jenzabar
- NASLA – National Association of Student Loan Administrators
- National Student Clearinghouse
- Oracle Corporation
- Oregon State University
- Pearson Education
- Pennsylvania College of Technology
- Purdue University
- redLantern
- San Francisco State University
- Smart Catalog
- Stanford University
- SunGard Higher Education
- University of California at Berkeley
- University of Denver
- University of Illinois – Student Financial Services
- University of Illinois at Chicago
- University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign
- University of Lethbridge
- University of Minnesota
- University of Mississippi
- University of Northern Iowa
- University of Oklahoma
- University of Oregon
- University of Phoenix
- University of Texas at Austin
- University of Virginia
- USA Funds
- U.S. Department of Education
- Washington State University
- XAP

For any organization looking to communicate their specific use and implementation of PESC approved standards, please contact Michael Sessa or Jennifer Kim directly at Michael.Sessa@PESC.org 202-261-6516 or Jennifer.Kim@PESC.org 202-261-6514 respectively. For more information on PESC or PESC approved standards, please visit www.PESC.org

Testimonials from PESC members:

“The University of Lethbridge is pleased to approve the Admissions Application standard and to have had the opportunity to contribute to these standards as part of the working group. The Province of Alberta and its 21 public, postsecondary institutions are in the final stages of implementing an electronic application system that incorporates the admissions application and transcript transfer standards developed by PESC. These
standards will bring about many benefits such as better service to students, processing efficiencies, and therefore, cost savings.”

- Debi Sandul, Associate Registrar, Records & Registration, University of Lethbridge

“Thank you to PESC and all the people on the Education Test Score Reporting Workgroup who participated in developing the new Education Test Score Reporting standard. Standards assist our institutions in collaborating effectively so that we can better serve our students and applicants.”

- Monterey Sims, Director of Operations, University of Phoenix

“The cooperation and effort of many has contributed to these three specifications for the higher education community ecosystem. They demonstrate how the voluntary PESC community is delivering on the promise of creating and maintaining industry data descriptions and electronic message sets required by thousand of organizations who are developing integration, reporting and interface programs independently. The three message sets are just a small step in upgrading the higher education industry’s data exchange infrastructure replacing defacto methods. The culmination of the workgroup efforts will allow software developers and implementers to reuse the PESC implementation guides, which in the long run, will minimize the cost and complexity of adoption and ongoing support for these functions. Work continues on many other fronts. And, we look forward to supporting PESC in this important, and often invisible work that is the foundation of new systems and tools desired by the industry overall.”

- David K. Moldoff, Founder & CEO, AcademyOne, Inc

“Docufide welcomes these new standards which will aid in the transition to electronic interchange between schools. We have supported PESC for many years and have made PESC XML transcript delivery available in all of our 10 statewide initiatives.”

- John Reese, CEO, Docufide, Inc.

“USA Funds is very pleased to approve these PESC standards that bring needed efficiency to the process. USA Funds has a long-standing history of investing both personnel and resources to advance industry standards in the higher education arena. We strongly believe standards provide effective, efficient and cost-saving exchange of information within the higher education community. USA Funds is pleased to support these efforts and looks forward to continuing to play a key role in the development of standards to improve access to higher education.”

- Kim Shiflette, Product Manager – Technology Initiatives, USA Funds

About PESC
Established in 1997 & located in Washington, D.C., the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, community-based, umbrella association of colleges & universities; professional & commercial organizations; data, software & service providers; non-profit organizations & associations; and state & federal government agencies. Through open and transparent community participation, PESC enables quality research and efficient connectivity to ensure cost-effective data sharing and reporting across the higher education lifecycle.

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