School Exit Withdrawal Codes and Graduation Cohort Status Overview

Introduction

This document gives a quick overview of how SID Management School Exit Withdrawal codes are used to determine a student's graduation cohort status. It also explains the different graduation cohort status categories. For more details about graduation rates and how they are calculated, please see the [Introduction to the Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate Calculation in New Jersey](#) and the [User Guide to High School Graduation Cohort Status Profile](#).

Beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, the NJDOE was required to make changes to the methodology used to calculate the adjusted cohort graduation rate for federal reporting and accountability purposes. The United States Department of Education (USED) determined that the NJDOE must only include students who receive a diploma that is fully aligned with the state's standards, meaning they have met the state course requirements, local attendance requirements, and, depending on the year of graduation, the state graduation assessment requirements. This means that students with disabilities who did not meet some or all graduation requirements because of a modification or exemption in their Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) may not be counted as graduates in the calculation of the adjusted cohort graduation rate used for federal reporting and accountability purposes.

As a result, the NJDOE began calculating two versions of the adjusted cohort graduation rate starting with 2021 graduation rates. The "federal version" aligns with ESSA requirements and USED guidance and is used for federal reporting and ESSA school accountability. The "state version" uses the same methodology used prior to 2021 and reflects all students who receive a state-endorsed diploma.

Due to this change, the SID Management IEP Graduation Course Requirement, IEP Graduation Attendance, and Graduation Pathway Indicators (ELA and Math) fields will be used, along with School Exit Withdrawal codes, to determine a student's graduation cohort status for the "federal version" of the graduation calculation. The Graduation Pathway Indicator data elements are only used for students who graduated in a year when graduation assessment requirements were in effect.

NJ SMART School Exit Withdrawal Codes

SID Management is the management system that establishes unique identification numbers for all students and compiles the demographic data of all students. When districts inactivate a student in SID Management, they are required to enter a School Exit Withdrawal Code that describes the reason for exit or withdrawal. For students in grades 9 through 12, these codes are used to determine the student's graduation cohort status. Districts can see all students in their graduation cohort and each student's graduation cohort status by using the High School Graduation Cohort Status Profile in NJ SMART.

NJ SMART IEP Graduation Codes

Districts are required to enter the IEP Graduation Course Requirement and IEP Graduation Attendance

fields for all students with a Special Education Classification of 01-17 (i.e., students with an IEP) to indicate whether the student met or did not meet the state course requirements and/or the attendance requirements for graduation because of an exemption or modification to their IEP.

Graduation Cohort Status

Each student in a school or district's graduation cohort is assigned to a graduation cohort status based on the student's enrollment status, Grade Level, School Exit Withdrawal Code, IEP Graduation codes ("federal version" only), and ELA/Math Graduation Pathway Indicators ("federal version" only and only for students graduating in years when assessment requirements were in effect) from NJ SMART's SID Management. Districts submit this data to NJ SMART in the Fall and at the end of each school year.

Table 1 shows each School Exit Withdrawal Code with a description and the resulting Graduation Cohort Status.

Table 2 shows each Graduation Cohort Status for the "state version" of the graduation calculation, the related NJ SMART collection(s), the corresponding student enrollment status, a description, and whether the students with that cohort status are included in the adjusted graduation cohort used to calculate graduation rates.

Table 3 shows the same information as Table 2 but reflects the "federal version" of the graduation calculation. The only differences between Table 2 and Table 3 are the definition of which students are included in the Graduated category, and the addition of the Graduated (State, Not Federal) category.

Table 1: NJ SMART School Exit Withdrawal Code Summary

Exit Code	Type/ Category	Description	Graduation Cohort Status	Included in Adjusted Graduation Cohort
T3	Transfer	Transfer to a nonpublic school within the state	Excluded from Cohort	N
T4	Transfer	Transfer to any public school outside the district and within the state	Transfer Out – Unverified*	Y
T6	Transfer	Transfer to a Juvenile Justice Commission (not including Juvenile Detention Centers) or Department of Corrections institution for incarceration where individual instruction will be provided by the institution	Transfer Out – Unverified*	Y
T7	Transfer	Transfer to a Department of Children and Families institution for treatment of a physical, mental, or emotional disability where individual instruction will be provided by the institution	Transfer Out – Unverified*	Y
T8	Transfer	Transfer out of the state or country	Excluded from Cohort	N
T9	Transfer	Transfer to parental instruction	Excluded from Cohort	N
T10	Transfer	Transfer to a Juvenile Detention Center for incarceration where instruction will be coordinated with the student's LEA	Transfer Out – Unverified*	Y
TC	Transfer	Transfer to charter school	Transfer Out – Unverified*	Y
TR	Transfer	Transfer to a renaissance school	Transfer Out – Unverified*	Y
TD	Transfer	Transfer to a choice school	Transfer Out – Unverified*	Y
TA	Transfer	Transfer to an adult high school to pursue a locally-issued, state-endorsed high school diploma	Transfer Out – Unverified*	Y
TP	Transfer	Transfer to a private facility where individual instruction is provided by the facility	Excluded from Cohort	N
D1	Dropout	Expulsion by the board of education	Dropout	Y
D3	Dropout	Dropout: Physical, mental, or emotional disability	Dropout	Y
D4	Dropout	Dropout: Dissatisfied with school	Dropout	Y
D5	Dropout	Dropout: Economic necessity and/or entered employment	Dropout	Y
D6	Dropout	Dropout: Married and/or pregnant	Dropout	Y
D7	Dropout	Dropout: New residence, school status unknown	Dropout	Y
D8	Dropout	Dropout: Reason Unknown	Dropout	Y
D9	Dropout	Death of a student	Excluded from Cohort	N
D11	Dropout	Reached maximum age	Dropout	Y
L	Graduate	Graduation	Graduated**	Y
PPE	Other	Parentally Placed Exited	Excluded from Cohort	N

*Students with these exit codes will be categorized as "Transfer Out – Unverified" and remain in the original district's cohort until a student is activated by another district or state institution. Once a student's SID Number is activated in another district, the student will be removed from the original district's graduation cohort.

**Students with an Exit Code of L will fall under either the Graduated or Graduated (State, Not Federal) status in the "federal version" of the graduation calculation, depending on values in the IEP Graduation and/or ELA and Math Graduation Pathway Indicator codes. See Table 3.

Table 2: Graduation Cohort Status Summary – State Calculation

Cohort Status	Enrollment Status	Description	Included in Adjusted Graduation Cohort
Graduated	Inactive	Students who have been exited with a School Exit Withdrawal Code of L	Y
On-Track Continuing	Active	Active students in a cohort who are progressing through grade levels on time and are considered on-track to graduating in four years (students in grade 12)	Y
Off-Track Continuing	Active	Active students in a cohort who are not progressing through grade levels on time and are considered off-track to graduating in four years (students in grades 9-11)	Y
Transfer Out – Unverified	Inactive	Students who were exited with an exit code of T4, T6, T7, T10, TC, TR, TD, or TA but have not yet been uploaded as active by another district	Y
Dropout	Inactive	Students with exit codes D1, D3, D4, D5, D6, D7, D8, or D11 who have not been uploaded by another district	Y
Excluded from Cohort	Inactive	Students with exit codes D9, T3, T8, T9, TP, or PPE	N

Table 3: Graduation Cohort Status Summary – Federal Calculation

Cohort Status	Enrollment Status	Description	Included in Adjusted Graduation Cohort
Graduated	Inactive	Students who have been exited with a School Exit Withdrawal Code of L and IEPGraduationCourseRequirement is not equal to 1, IEPGraduationAttendance is not equal to 1, and, for students with a SchoolExitDate between September 1, 2021, and August 31, 2022 or September 1, 2023 or later, ELAGraduationPathwayIndicator is not equal to M, and MathGraduationPathwayIndicator is not equal to M.	Y
Graduated (State, Not Federal)	Inactive	Students who have been exited with a School Exit Withdrawal Code of L and either IEPGraduationCourseRequirement equal to 1 or IEPGraduationAttendance equal to 1. If students have a School Exit Date between September 1, 2021, and August 31, 2022, or September 1, 2023 or later they will also be included in this category if either ELAGraduationPathwayIndicator equal to M or MathGraduationPathwayIndicator equal to M.	Y
On-Track Continuing	Active	Active students in a cohort who are progressing through grade levels on time and are considered on-track to graduating in four years (students in grade 12)	Y
Off-Track Continuing	Active	Active students in a cohort who are not progressing through grade levels on time and are considered off-track to graduating in four years (students in grades 9-11)	Y
Transfer Out – Unverified	Inactive	Students who were exited with an exit code of T4, T6, T7, T10, TC, TR, TD, or TA but have not yet been uploaded as active by another district	Y
Dropout	Inactive	Students with exit codes D1, D3, D4, D5, D6, D7, D8, or D11 who have not been uploaded by another district	Y
Excluded from Cohort	Inactive	Students with exit codes D9, T3, T8, T9, TP, or PPE	N