

DESE Overview of State Reporting & SIMS October 2026

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Agenda

- Overview of SIMS
 - Report and certification timeline and important dates
 - State reporting process
 - Error review and correction
 - Summary report review
- Chapter 70 enrollment
 - Which data elements are key to this calculation
 - Which students are included and not included
 - Important summary reports to check
- State reporting support and additional resources
- Q&A

SIMS reporting windows and Important dates

- There are three SIMS reporting windows each school year that surround three key report dates: October 1, March 1 and EOY (last day of school)
- **Report date 10/1 = data “as-of” date**
- Because SIF is a live feed of the data, dates are very important to determine what was true on the “as-of” report date
- SIMS has two certification deadlines that are 1 week apart: the first is 10/23 and the second is 10/30.
- The week between these two deadlines is when we publish and resolve duplicate students
- Full reporting schedule with all reporting deadlines for the year is online: [Reporting Schedule and Documentation - Data Collection/Information Services \(mass.edu\)](#)

High Level steps to reporting process

These steps apply to our main data collections (SIMS, SCS, EPIMS and SSDR):

1. Go to “DESE State Reporting” on your application list, select the collection to check error reports and clear errors in your source system (SIS)
2. Bring corrections over from “live” to “snapshot” – wholesale via “re-snapshot” button. Or update a single record or group of records.
3. Request and review Summary Reports
4. Cross Validate (where applicable*)
5. Certify

*Cross Validation is applicable to SIMS/SCS/EPIMS in October and EOY

Check Record Summary

Below the error list is the Record Summary. This shows a count of each underlying SIF object that has been received from your district SIS. This is a helpful summary to review as a health check – to ensure all relevant object counts look accurate at a high level

Record Summary		
Record Type	Live Record Count	Snapshot Record Count
→ SIMS	2,269	2,269 RECORDS ↓
→ SchoolInfos	7	7 RECORDS ↓
→ StudentAttendanceSummaries	2,203	2,203 RECORDS ↓
→ StudentPersonals	2,786	2,786 RECORDS ↓
→ StudentSchoolEnrollments	5,550	5,550 RECORDS ↓
→ StudentSpecialEducationSummaries	581	581 RECORDS ↓
→ TermInfos	31	31 RECORDS ↓

Student attendance and special education SIF objects are pulled nightly. Special education is also pulled at noon daily. All other objects are updated in real-time based on the changes made in the SIS.

“Live” is the table that stores the latest that’s been received from your SIS. It’s being updated in real time every time a change is transmitted.

“Snapshot” is the table that stores the static picture of the data. It represents the last time we took a ‘picture’ of the live data.

Current collection tab

The Current Collection tab is the main hub for the collection. The top right corner displays the last “snapshot taken” date/timestamp. The data is automatically snapshotted nightly up until the 10/1 report date. It is also available on demand.

Re-snapshot data = replace the ‘snapshot’ table data with everything that is in the ‘live’ table and run all validations

Re-run validations = run all validations against existing snapshot data

Request special ed summary = delete and repull the special ed objects from your SIS

CURRENT COLLECTIONRECORD DETAILSUMMARY REPORTS

DISTRICT COLLECTION ACTIVE

Total Errors: 5

Snapshot Taken: 09/21/2026 3:00 AM EDT by automated process

Report Date: 10/01/2026 (default)

RE-SNAPSHOT DATA

RE-RUN VALIDATIONS (FULL, QUICK, SIF)

REQUEST SPECIAL ED SUMMARYS

RUN FINAL CHECKS AND CERTIFY

View Errors By:GROUPRECORD TYPEFIELDCODE

ERRORS BY CODE

Click and drag to zoom in.

Error Code	Error Count
SIMS8710	2
SIMS2150	1
SIMS2180	1
SIMS7690	1

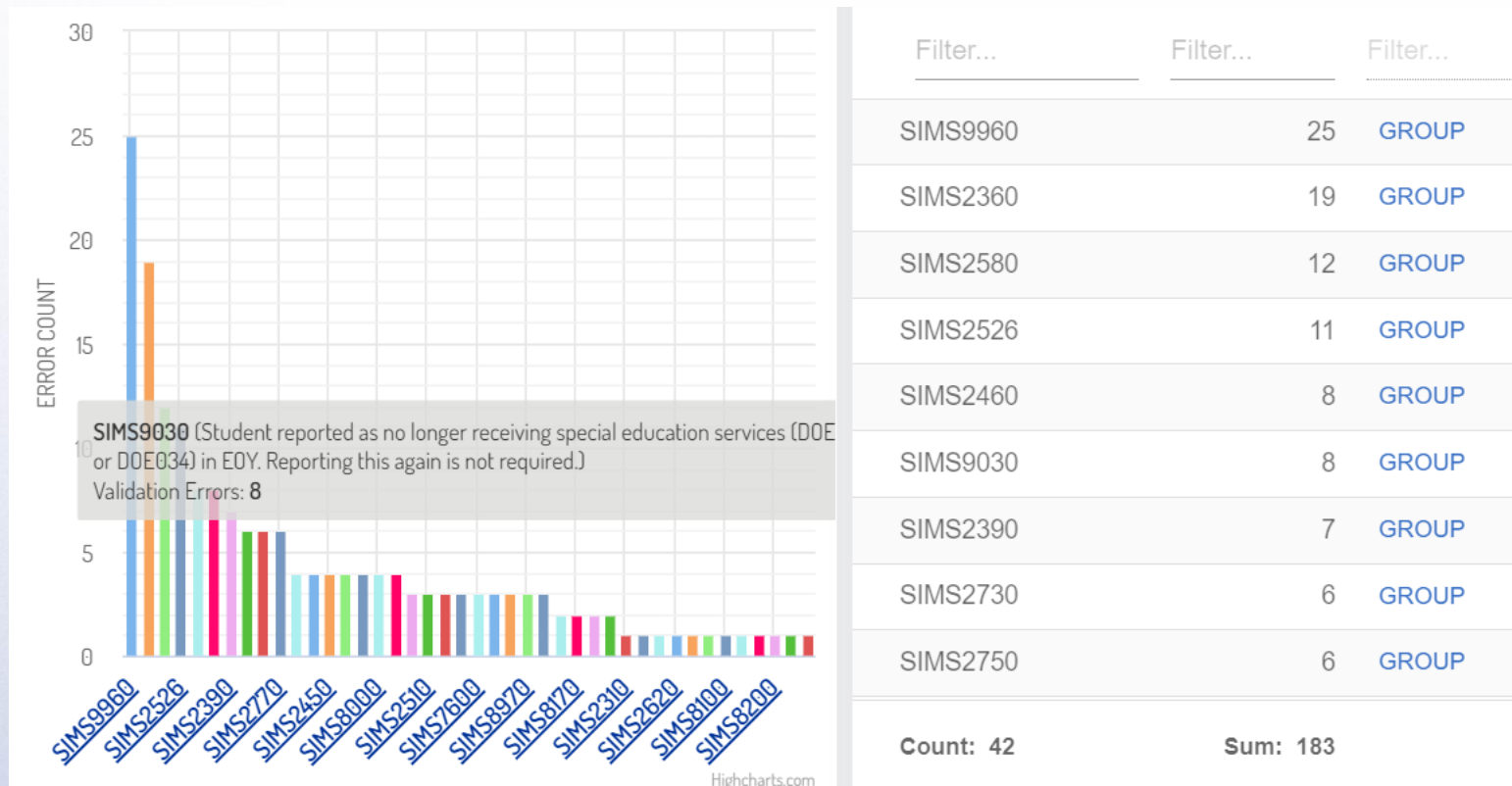
Code

Filter...

SIMS8710	2
SIMS2150	1
SIMS2180	1
SIMS7690	1
Count: 4	Sum: 5

Check Error Reports

Errors are displayed in a bar graph and a summary table, with details underneath. Click on any error or group to drill into that group.



Error Troubleshooting

The **Global Search** feature is helpful to lookup any specific record - SASID, RefID etc to see any records that contain that text
It will return any SIF objects related to the SASID/RefID that was entered

The screenshot displays the 'Collections - SIMS' interface. The top navigation bar includes a back arrow, 'Collections', and 'MA-PROD / LIVE'. The left sidebar contains 'Operational Dashboard', 'SEARCH' (with a magnifying glass icon), 'Global Search' (highlighted in yellow), 'Targeted Search', and 'By Message Id'. The main content area is titled 'Collections - SIMS' and features an 'OPEN' button. Below this, there are two dropdown menus: 'Select District' and 'Select Collection' (currently set to 'SIMS October 2023-2024 (OPEN)'). A horizontal menu below these dropdowns includes 'CURRENT COLLECTION' (underlined), 'OVERVIEW', 'DISTRICT PROGRESS', 'SUMMARY REPORTS', and 'COLLECTION SETTINGS'. A notification bell icon is in the top right corner. At the bottom, a message states: 'Please select a district above to continue.'

Misfires

When you look up a SASID in Global Search, you'll see all the related SIF objects. There may also be a category called "misfires".

Misfires are a log of anytime the system failed to create a record. For example, to look into the reason behind a SIMS2330 missing student error, look up the SASID in Global Search and open the most recent misfire. The detail says "No terminfos exist"

Search Results ██████████ ← BACK

78 matching documents found across 6 objects!

Object Name ↑	Count
Filter...	Filter...
▼ StudentAttendanceSummaries	1
▼ StudentPersonals	1
▼ StudentSchoolEnrollments	1
▼ StudentSpecialEducationSummaries	1
▼ misfires	71

misfires 71						
Root Record			Attempted Record	Root RefId	Detail	timestamp
Filter...			Filter...	Filter...	Filter...	Filter...
			studentpersonals	statereporting.sims	6D7E8E4374434459... No terminfos exist fo...	09/24/2024 3:27:15 ...
			studentpersonals	statereporting.sims	6D7E8E4374434459... No terminfos exist fo...	09/24/2024 2:05:42 ...
			studentpersonals	statereporting.sims	6D7E8E4374434459... No terminfos exist fo...	09/23/2024 1:27:10 ...

Updating snapshot

- There are 3 ways to update your SIMS snapshot:

1. **UPDATE ALL**. Click the re-snapshot data button. This updates all records in the snapshot – takes new copy of the data and re-runs validations against every record

2. **UPDATE ONE**. Click on an individual error and click “UPDATE SIMS RECORD” from the error detail screen. This updates just that individual record in the snapshot.

3. **UPDATE SELECT GROUP**. Go to the RECORD DETAIL tab and select several records, then select “Update Snapshot” from the Bulk Actions menu



Snapshot Records

Select Bulk Action

Retransform

Revalidate

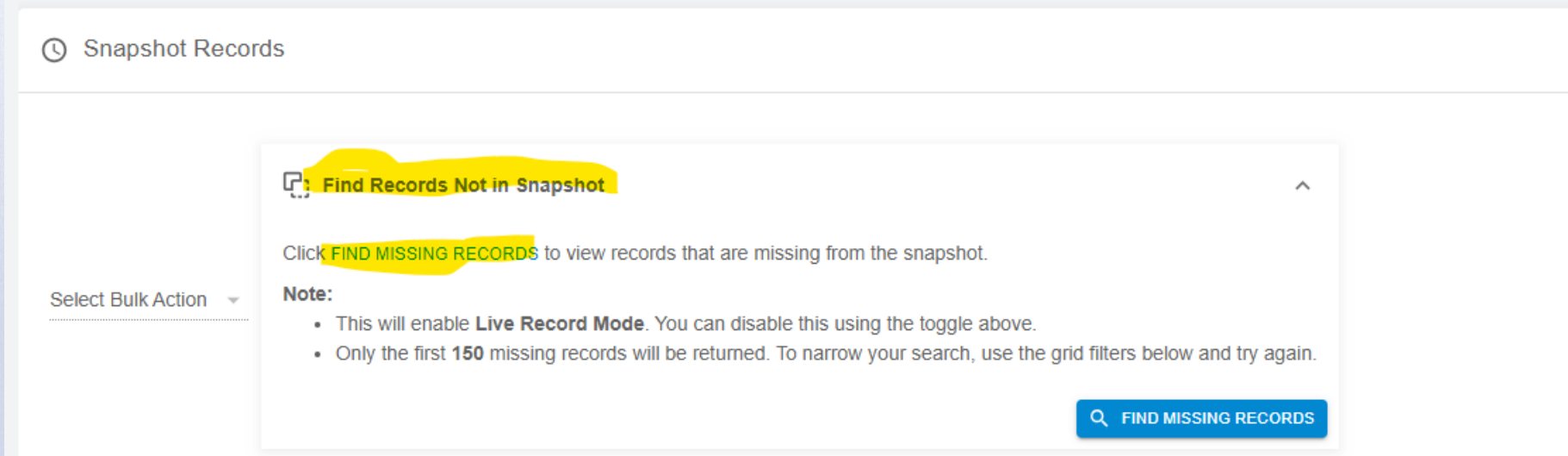
Update Snapshot

Add to Snapshot

Delete from Snapshot

Record Detail Screen

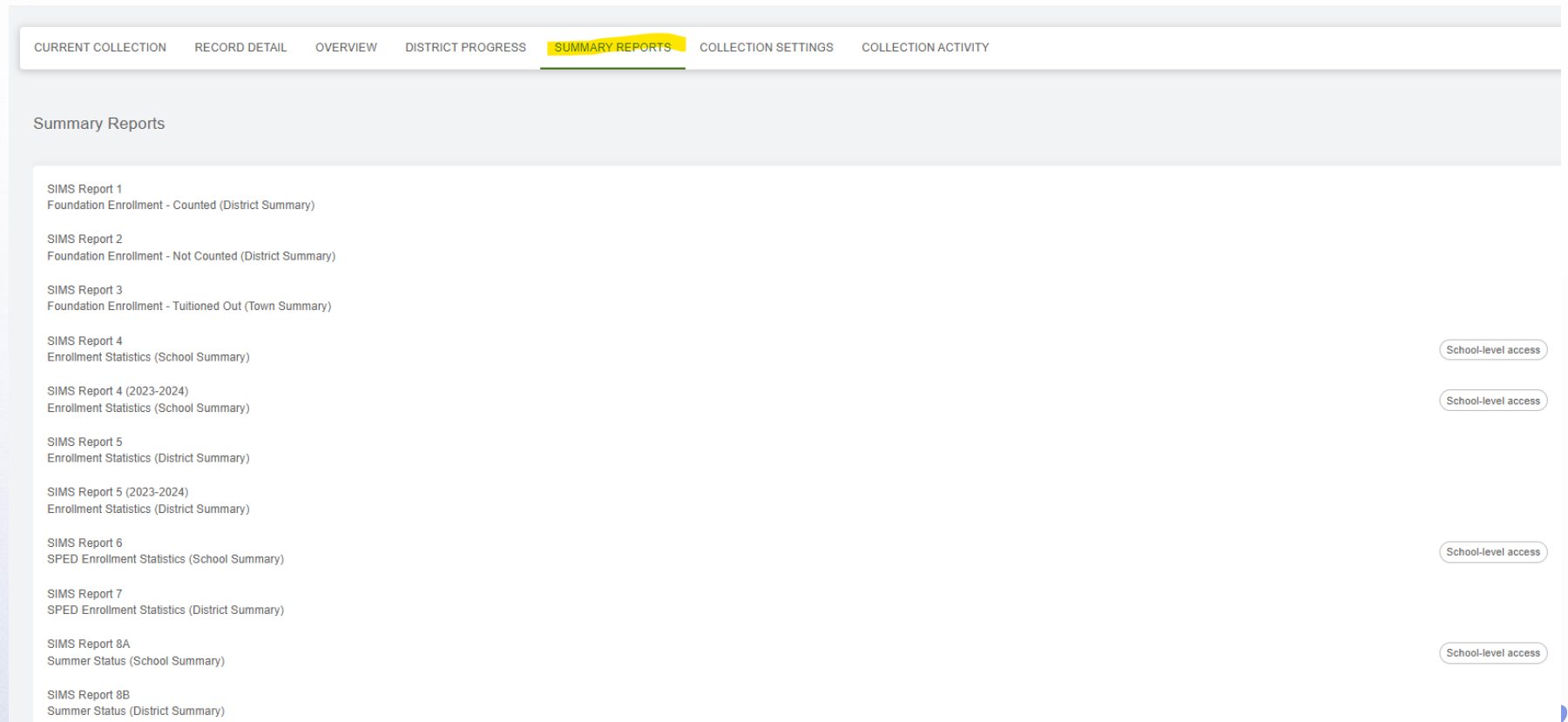
- Record detail tab is where you can view all records, not just those with errors. A feature here is “Find Records not in Snapshot”. This allows you to filter just those records that are in ‘live’ that are not in your snapshot. You can then decide to bring over those records to your snapshot.



Summary Reports

SIMS has 20 summary reports that focus on different aspects of the submitted data. The summary reports are to reflect back high level stats and counts of different populations for districts to review for accuracy prior to certifying. It is good practice for the reports to be shared with building administrators and/or department heads to ensure accuracy.

SIMS summary reports automatically update as the data is re-snapshotted. Find them by clicking the SUMMARY REPORT tab



The screenshot displays the 'Summary Reports' section of the SIMS application. At the top, a navigation bar includes tabs for 'CURRENT COLLECTION', 'RECORD DETAIL', 'OVERVIEW', 'DISTRICT PROGRESS', 'SUMMARY REPORTS' (which is highlighted in yellow), 'COLLECTION SETTINGS', and 'COLLECTION ACTIVITY'. Below the navigation bar, the 'Summary Reports' title is centered. A list of eight reports is shown, each with its name and a 'School-level access' button to its right.

Report Name	Access Level
SIMS Report 1 Foundation Enrollment - Counted (District Summary)	School-level access
SIMS Report 2 Foundation Enrollment - Not Counted (District Summary)	
SIMS Report 3 Foundation Enrollment - Tuitioned Out (Town Summary)	
SIMS Report 4 Enrollment Statistics (School Summary)	School-level access
SIMS Report 4 (2023-2024) Enrollment Statistics (School Summary)	School-level access
SIMS Report 5 Enrollment Statistics (District Summary)	
SIMS Report 5 (2023-2024) Enrollment Statistics (District Summary)	
SIMS Report 6 SPED Enrollment Statistics (School Summary)	School-level access
SIMS Report 7 SPED Enrollment Statistics (District Summary)	
SIMS Report 8A Summer Status (School Summary)	School-level access
SIMS Report 8B Summer Status (District Summary)	



Chapter 70 foundation budgets are based October 1 SIMS

- October 1, 2026 SIMS enrollment will be used to determine FY28 Chapter 70 foundation budgets, state aid, and charter school tuition rates.
- Students are assigned to enrollment categories based on grade, demographics, and program. These categories determine foundation budget rates. For instance, CTE foundation budgets rates are higher than traditional high school student rates.
- Low-income and English learner enrollment includes all qualified students who attend school in your district, where the extra costs occur, or who attend charter schools from the district's towns also are added into the district's foundation budget calculation.

7 SIMS elements that are critical to foundation enrollment

1. DOE011 = Reason for reporting
 - Home enrolled = 01
 - Outplaced = 02
 - Students received from other towns = 03
2. DOE012 = Enrollment status
3. DOE013 = Reason for enrollment
4. DOE014 = Town of residence
5. DOE016 = Grade Level
6. DOE025= English Learner
7. DOE035 = CTE program type

Which students are included in foundation enrollment?

Included (Fiscally Responsible)

- Reported by your district
 - In-district residents
 - Students attending the district through the METCO program
 - Students who are outplaced to special education placements
- Reported by other districts/charters/virtuals where your resident students are enrolled:
 - Charter schools
 - School choice districts
 - Other districts through tuition agreements
 - Non-resident vocational programs
 - Special education schools and other settings

Excluded

- Tuitioned-in students from other districts but enrolled and reported by your district:
 - School choice (and virtual school) students
 - Non-resident vocational programs
 - Tuition agreements

SIMS summary reports 1, 2, and 3 help districts review their data for accuracy

- Corrections or adds/deletes are not accepted after a collection is closed
- Summary reports 1 and 3 correspond to your foundation enrollment
 - Report 1: Resident enrollment by grade
 - Report 3: Students tuitioned to other districts (choice and charter)
- Summary report 2 provides a list of students reported by your district who are not counted in foundation enrollment (exits, school choice receiving, tuitioned-in students, etc.)

SIMS Summary Report 1: Review foundation head count & grade level

SIMS Report 1: Foundation Enrollment - Counted

Resident/Member, Tuitioned In-Metco & Tuitioned In-Waived
District Summary
Oct 2025 (FY 2026)



Grade	Non-Vocational Foundation Head Count	Vocational Foundation Head Count	Total Current FY	Prior FY Vocational Enrollment Count	Total Previous FY
01	382	0	382	0	370
02	375	0	375	0	404
03	414	0	414	0	420
04	433	0	433	0	422
05	431	0	431	0	402

SIMS Summary Report 3: Review resident students attending other districts

Town Code	Town Name	District	School	School Name	Grade	Tuition Type	Non-Vocational
001	Abington	00010000	00830505	East Bridgewater JR./SR. High School	12	02	1
001	Abington	00010000	01330505	Holbrook Middle High School	11	02	1
001	Abington	00010000	02510060	Phelps Elementary School	04	02	1
001	Abington	00010000	02510305	John W Rogers Middle	07	02	2
001	Abington	00010000	02510505	Rockland Senior High	09	02	4
001	Abington	00010000	02510505	Rockland Senior High	10	02	1
001	Abington	00010000	02510505	Rockland Senior High	11	02	3
001	Abington	00010000	02510505	Rockland Senior High	12	02	3
001	Abington	00010000	04490305	Boston Collegiate Charter School	10	03	1

SIMS Summary Report 2: Students who are excluded

District Summary
Oct 2025 (FY 2026)

2025-09-22 15:12:33

School	Sasid	Lasid	Town 014*	RFR 011*	ENSTAT 012*	RFE 013*	Grade 016*	ELL 025*	SPED 032*	SPED 034*
00000001	1074106822	30710500	031	01	41	01	SP	00	00	00
00000002	1002562942	31007100	031	01	41	01	KF	00	00	01
00000002	1032601757	31080900	031	01	40	01	KF	00	00	70
00000002	1051562946	30991700	031	01	40	01	01	00	00	10
00000002	1070562947	31000300	031	01	40	01	01	00	00	10
00090825	1031850145	30581900	031	01	41	01	12	00	00	10
00100812	1017258434	31211200	031	01	40	01	06	00	00	10
00100812	1093808441	31211300	031	01	40	01	05	00	00	10
00300920	1099921926	30339300	031	02	04	07	12	00	00	50
00310005	1000603754	31214700	031	01	22	01	KF	00	00	00

Districts and charter schools must collect paperwork to claim student in DOE056

- SIMS element DOE56 allows districts to claim students as low income if they did not match into the EOHHS database.
 - Identify students who have not matched, but who otherwise might meet income eligibility requirements (i.e., live in households with incomes below 185% of the FPL)
 - MUST use the [Supplemental Low-Income Forms](#)
 - DESE will audit individual forms
 - SIMS8460 is a data quality validation that checks for 10 or more students reported as Yes in DOE056

Want to learn more about Chapter 70 and Charter School Tuition Rates?

We will explain how foundation enrollment is calculated, including how low-income students are identified, review the SIMS Summary Reports that you can use to validate your data, and answer questions you may have.

Join us for a webinar on Thursday, September 24th at noon.

[Link to Register: Chapter 70 and Charter School Tuition Rates](#)

Who to call for support

Identify the issue you need help with:

- Is data not transmitting when it should?
 1. Check to make sure your SIF agent is on
 2. Check SIF Object Counts report to make sure data has been received recently
If not, start with your SIS vendor. If so, start with DESE support specialist
- Need help understanding why something is producing an error, or how to correct a particular data error? Or need assistance with a security portal application or function?
 1. Start with your DESE support specialist
 2. If they are not available, submit a ticket to data collection support:
[EOE Request Form - EOE Internal Portal \(service-now.com\)](#)

Additional Resources for state reporting

- **Data Collection Office Hours**

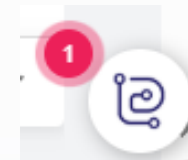
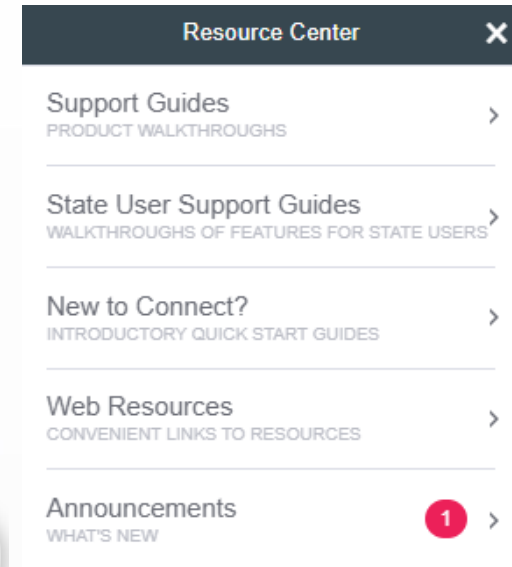
Weekly 1 hour session hosted by DESE Data Collection (Tuesdays at 11am-12pm) where users can drop in and ask questions. Register via link in the Resource Center announcements

- **METAA Data Specialists page** [Data Specialists – METAA](#)

Join the data specialists group, register for state reporting training webinars and SIS-specific sessions (for Aspen, Powerschool, SchoolBrains, and Rediker)

- **Resource Center**

The announcements tab is where we post updates. Look for the red notification that shows an unread update. There are also user guides on how to use the application



THANK YOU

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To find your district's support specialist: [Data Collections Support Specialists by District - Information Services \(mass.edu\)](https://mass.gov/data-collections-support-specialists)

District and School Finance: sfinance@mass.gov

