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Session 21

Quality Analysis Tool: *The Sharpest Tool in the Shed*



What is the Quality Analysis Tool?

- Part of the EDE suite of software
- Available to all schools in '02-'03
- Analyzes FAFSA application/ISIR data
- Generates reports showing effect of data element changes on EFC/Pell Grant eligibility



What the Quality Analysis Tool Provides

- Improve/customize verification program
- Data to suggest future changes in federal verification selection criteria (In progress).
- Data to suggest future changes to the FAFSA
- Gives schools control over “local sources” of misreporting

Evolution of the Tool

- Developed for Quality Assurance Program Schools in 99-00
- QA Program schools pilot tested the product using 1999-00 data. The result: A Tool for all Schools!





Locally Designed Verification



- Focuses on local sources of error
- Identifies changes to FAFSA fields that have an impact on awards

What are the benefits of school-designed verification procedures?



The Power of Data

- The QA Tool allows schools to conduct in-depth analysis of applicant data
- A series of reports can be designed using queries and other filters to extract specific information about a school's population.
- Provides schools with a profile of who is making changes to data and the impact on Pell eligibility.



Overview of Software



Software Components

- Import
- Tools
- Export
- Process
- Entry
- Print



Import

- ISIR Data - ASCII Format
 - “Paid On” records
 - “Initial” records



Import

- 2002-2003 EDEExpress Database
 - “Paid On” records
 - “Initial” records
 - Selection Criteria (Select Records)



Tools / Custom Formats

- Custom Report
 - for Custom Report only
- Selected Fields
 - File | Open, Reports
- Field Increments
 - Reports
- EFC Ranges
 - Reports



Tools / Query

- Quality Analysis Tool
- EDEExpress
- Field to Field Query Capability



Export

- Full Data Export
 - Student Data (“Initial” and “Paid On”)
 - User Database



Process / Data Validation

- After you Import (“Initial” and “Paid On”)
- Deletes “unmatched” records from the database
 - If you run process after only “Initial” or “Paid On” Import, *all* records will be deleted.



Process / Data Validation

- Calculates and stores data on scheduled Pell awards, which is used in some reports
 - When calculating, QA Tool makes these assumptions:
 - The student's enrollment status is full time
 - The student is Pell-eligible if the EFC is within a Pell range
 - The Pell budget is more than \$3750



Process / Data Validation

- Must complete successfully before printing student related reports
- Non-student related reports may be printed before running Data Validation



Process / Verification

- Allow schools to setup verification profiles
- Can be set through Process Menu
- Can be undone through Process Menu
- Sets/Removes Initial School Verification Flag



Entry

- Transaction Comparison
 - Demographic data
 - Initial School Verification Flag (the only field that can be “entered”)
 - Displays “Initial” values and “Paid On” values side-by-side
 - Change?
 - Can control which fields are displayed (Selected Fields Code)



Print

- Reports are the “heart” of the new software. They will be used to analyze student data populations for two major reasons:
 - To analyze corrected data in order to develop a better in-house Institutional Methodology
 - To identify and target problem populations making the most errors and educate them in the FA process



Print

- Report Types
 - 9 “analysis” reports
 - Custom Report
 - Query Management
 - 3 Record Layout reports
 - System Setup
 - User Database



Quality *Analysis* Tool

- ALL analysis is simply structured comparison
- The QA Tool provides a variety of frameworks (reports) to make comparisons
- The QA Tool allows the user a great deal of flexibility in tailoring these comparisons to suit their institution's needs



Basic Comparison

- “Initial” ISIR
- “Paid on” ISIR



Purpose of Comparing

- Descriptions of applicants who experienced changes to EFC but were “missed” by verification
- Descriptions of applicants who had no changes to EFC but were “pestered” by verification
- Descriptions of applicants who self-correct information outside the verification process



Framework of Comparisons: QA Tool Reports (Print)

- Field Range
- Pell Corrected Records in Initial EFC Range
- Transaction Comparison



Content of the Comparison: Query Function

- Selection criteria for reports specified via queries
- Allows user to limit comparisons to specific subsets of applicants
- Uses same query interface as other EDEsuite products



Field Range Report

- Within what ranges are substantive changes to FAFSA information most problematic?
- Answer helps “target” verification



Field Range Example

2000 - 2001 Quality Analysis Tool for Windows - [c:\windows\TEMP\ARTA391.TMP]

Print... Next Page Prey Page Two Page Zoom In Zoom Out Close

Report Date: 10/24/2001 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PAGE: 1
 Report Time: 14:10:58 QUALITY ANALYSIS TOOL - 2000-2001
 Field Range Report with Corrected Field Counts
 PARENTAL WORKSHEET A > 0 DEPENDENT STUDENTS
 PARENTS' ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS SENSITIVE INFORMATION PROTECTED BY THE PRIVACY ACT

 OPEID#: 31619777 School Name: UNIVERSITY OF DAN

Initial Field Range	Fields Corrected		EFC Increased (Records)		EFC Decreased (Records)		EFC Unchanged (Records)	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
1 TO 10,000	57	4.7%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%	2	2.9%
10,001 TO 20,000	208	17.0%	5	7.1%	5	7.1%	2	2.9%
20,001 TO 30,000	150	12.3%	3	4.3%	4	5.7%	1	1.4%
30,001 TO 40,000	176	14.4%	7	10.0%	1	1.4%	1	1.4%
40,001 TO 50,000	177	14.5%	8	11.4%	0	0.0%	2	2.9%
50,001 TO 60,000	89	7.3%	2	2.9%	3	4.3%	1	1.4%
60,001 TO 70,000	32	2.6%	1	1.4%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%
70,001 TO 80,000	152	12.4%	6	8.6%	2	2.9%	2	2.9%
80,001 TO 90,000	73	6.0%	2	2.9%	2	2.9%	0	0.0%
90,001 TO 100,000	44	3.6%	2	2.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<blank>	63	5.2%	2	2.9%	0	0.0%	2	2.9%
Corrected Count Totals	1221							
Total Target Size	70		39		18		13	

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Pell Corrected Records in Initial EFC Range Report

- How do changes to a given ISIR field contribute to changes in Pell eligibility – within specified Pell Cell(s)?
- Answer helps “fine tune” verification



Pell Corrected Example

2000 - 2001 Quality Analysis Tool for Windows - [c:\windows\TEMP\ART32B2.TMP]

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Report Date: 10/24/2001 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PAGE: 1
 Report Time: 14:35:43 QUALITY ANALYSIS TOOL - 2000-2001
 Corrected Records in Initial EFC Range
 PARENTAL WORKSHEET A > 0 DEPENDENT STUDENTS
 ALL INITIAL PELL ELIGIBLE

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS SENSITIVE INFORMATION PROTECTED BY THE PRIVACY ACT

 OPEID#: 31619777 School Name: UNIVERSITY OF DAN

Initial Field Selected	Records Corrected		EFC Increased		EFC Decreased		EFC Unchanged OR Still Within Initial Selected EFC Range	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
PARENT'S TOTAL FROM WRKSHT A	25	73.5%	8	23.5%	0	0%	17	50.0%
Corrected Count								
Totals	25							

Total Unduplicated Record Count Data:
 Total Unduplicated Corrected Record Count 25
 Total Unduplicated Non-corrected Record Count 9
 Total Target Size 34

Total Unduplicated EFC Increases 8
 Total Unduplicated EFC Decreases 0
 Total Unduplicated EFC Unchanged 17

Total Scheduled Award Summary Data:
 Initial Scheduled Award Total \$ 66,825
 Transposition Paid On Scheduled Award Total \$ 48,850

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Pell Corrected Example (Continued)

2000 - 2001 Quality Analysis Tool for Windows - [c:\windows\TEMP\ART1.TMP]			
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Total Unduplicated Record Count Data:			
Total Unduplicated Corrected Record Count			25
Total Unduplicated Non-corrected Record Count			9
Total Target Size			34
Total Unduplicated EFC Increases			
Total Unduplicated EFC Decreases			8
Total Unduplicated EFC Unchanged			0
Total Unduplicated EFC Unchanged			
Total Unduplicated EFC Unchanged			
Total Unduplicated EFC Unchanged			
Total Scheduled Award Summary Data:			
Initial Scheduled Award Total	\$	66,825	
Transaction Paid On Scheduled Award Total	\$	48,050	
Average Scheduled Award Increase	\$	894	
Average Scheduled Award Decrease	\$	1,064	
Pell Data:			
Total Initial Pell Eligible records that became Ineligible on Transaction Paid On			
Percentage of Students that became Pell Ineligible On Transaction Paid On			8
Total Initial Eligible Scheduled Award Loss	\$	23.5%	
Total Initial Pell Ineligible records that became Eligible on Transaction Paid On			13,575
Percentage of Students that became Pell Eligible On Transaction Paid On			0
Total Initial Ineligible Scheduled Award Gain	\$	0.0%	
			0

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Transaction Comparison Report

- How do the patterns recognized at the aggregate level play out in individual cases?
- Answer helps tie the myriad of “reasons to check” FAFSA information into an integrated verification program



Transaction Comparison Example

2000 - 2001 Quality Analysis Tool for Windows - [c:\windows\TEMP\ART6200.TMP]

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Report Date: 10/24/2001 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PAGE: 1
 Report Time: 14:22:32 QUALITY ANALYSIS TOOL - 2000-2001
 Transaction Comparison Report

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS SENSITIVE INFORMATION PROTECTED BY THE PRIVACY ACT

 OPEID#: 31619777 School Name: UNIVERSITY OF DAN

Original SSN: 012-54-3873 Current SSN: 012-54-3873
 Student Name: IM YOUNG, SALVADOR J.

	Initial	Paid On
Source of values	I	D
Transaction Number	01	
School Verification Flag	N	N
CPS Verification Flag	N	N
Dependency Status	D	D
EFC	7998	10772

Last Modified By: SYSADMIN 02/20/2001 15:57:33

Field(s) Selected	Initial Transaction Value	Paid On Transaction Value	Change
PARENT'S 1040	2	2	N
PARENTS' ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME	\$ 49,526	\$ 49,526	\$ 0
PARENTS' # IN COLLEGE	3	3	N
PARENT'S TOTAL FROM WRKSHT A	\$ 0	\$ 4,673	\$ 4,673
PARENTS' EARNED INCOME CREDIT	\$ 0	\$ 1,674	\$ 1,674
PARENTS' FEDERAL INCOME TAX	\$ 674	\$ 674	\$ 0
PARENTS' HOUSEHOLD SIZE	03	03	N
PARENTS' TOTAL FROM WRKSHT B	\$ 0	<blank>	\$ 0

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Transaction Comparison Example (Continued)

2000 - 2001 Quality Analysis Tool for Windows - [c:\windows\TEMP\ART8154.TMP]

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Transaction Comparison Report
 THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS SENSITIVE INFORMATION PROTECTED BY THE PRIVACY ACT

 OPEID#: 31619777 School Name: UNIVERSITY OF DAN
 Original SSN: 021-56-7370 Current SSN: 021-56-7370
 Student Name: MATSUMOTO, BRENDA R.

	Initial	Paid On
Source of values	I	D
Transaction Number	03	
School Verification Flag	N	N
CPS Verification Flag	Y	N
Dependency Status	D	D
EFC	292	85

Last Modified By: SYSADMIN 02/20/2001 15:57:33

Field(s) Selected	Initial Transaction Value	Paid On Transaction Value	Change
PARENTS' 1040	1	1	N
PARENTS' ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME	\$ 24,507	\$ 23,507	\$ -1,000
PARENTS' # IN COLLEGE	2	2	N
PARENTS' TOTAL FROM WRKSHT A	\$ 1,000	\$ 0	\$ -1,000
PARENTS' EARNED INCOME CREDIT	\$ 1,256	\$ 1,236	\$ -20
PARENTS' FEDERAL INCOME TAX	\$ 707	\$ 707	\$ 0
PARENTS' HOUSEHOLD SIZE	04	04	N
PARENTS' TOTAL FROM WRKSHT B	\$ 137	\$ 137	\$ 0

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Who Benefits From Making Comparisons

- QA Program participants – fine tune effective institutional verification programs
- Non-QA Program institutions – evaluate the effectiveness of CPS edits on their campus
- SFA – fine tune CPS verification and evaluation of FAFSA



Policy Applications From Pilot Study

- Improve FAFSA instructions and/or education efforts regarding estimating income and tax information
- Incorporate tax “estimators” into verification profiles
- Use – but don’t overly rely on – income level in verification profiles
- Consider collecting information on cost of verification



Further Assistance

- CPS/WAN Technical Support
 - 800-330-5947
 - cpswan@ncs.com
- QA Program Website
 - <http://qaprogram.air.org/>
- Additional Assistance
 - sfatech@inet.gov



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Questions???



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