

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
New U.S. Department of Education Race and Ethnicity Data Standards

**PLEASE FILL OUT THE REVERSE SIDE AND
RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR REGISTRATION PAPERWORK
ONE FORM FOR EACH CHILD**

Dear Parent or Guardian:

In fall 2007, the U.S. Department of Education issued new guidance on the collection and reporting of race and ethnicity data for public and private school students and staff. The guidance implements new federal race and ethnicity categories that were developed to obtain a more accurate picture of the nation's diversity. The new data collection process requires respondents to answer a two-part question, indicating ethnicity first and then one or more of five races. (In the past, individuals were allowed to choose only one race or ethnicity category.)

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has begun using the new categories. This requires school districts to re-identify race and ethnicity for all students — and the identification is to be done by parents or guardians. If a student's parents or guardians decline to indicate race and/or ethnicity, observer identification by school district staff is required.

The new race and ethnicity data will be used in the same manner as previously collected data, e.g., in reporting and analyzing test results by race and ethnicity. The information will not be used to check immigration status, and the confidentiality of individual student information will be protected.

Attached is the form that parents or guardians need to complete to identify race and ethnicity for their children. Please complete one form per child, and be sure to answer both parts of the two-part question. (Remember that school district staff is required to provide any missing information by observer identification.) Return the completed form with your child's enrollment paperwork.

Thank you for your cooperation in providing the needed data. Please direct any questions you may have to Mrs. Wendy Schardt.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wendy Schardt
Administrator

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Student's Name: _____

SIS ID: Tri-County Christian School

Instructions: This form is to be filled out by the student's parents or guardians, and both questions must be answered. Part A asks about the student's ethnicity and Part B asks about the student's race. If you decline to respond to either question, the school district is required to provide the missing information by observer identification.

Part A: Is this student Hispanic/Latino? (A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.) **Choose only one.**

- No, not Hispanic/Latino
- Yes, Hispanic/Latino

Part B: What is the student's race? **Choose one or more.**

- American Indian or Alaska Native (A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America, including Central America, and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.)
- Asian (A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.)
- Black or African American (A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.)
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.)
- White (A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.)

NOTE: *The student's parents or guardians should respond to both questions (Part A and Part B). If the parents or guardians decline to respond to either question (Part A or Part B), school district staff is required to provide the missing information by observer identification.*