As Colorado school districts work to prepare all students for success in college and careers, access to quality data is more important than ever. An accurate Teacher Student Data Link (TSDL) will support state and district efforts to learn from the past, understand the present and use data to make decisions that improve education systems for students.

What is TSDL?

The Teacher Student Data Link provides a way to link teacher and student data. Once linked, analyzing this data assists efforts to continuously improve instructional practice and student achievement in districts and across Colorado. In practical terms, the teacher student data link describes the instructional relationships that educators have with students. Below are three general examples of teacher student data links:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teacher (Educator ID)</th>
<th>Student (State Assigned Student Identifier)</th>
<th>Course (Course Code)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Ortega</td>
<td>Olivia K.</td>
<td>Algebra 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Kelley</td>
<td>Jackson P.</td>
<td>4th grade (all subjects)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Jones &amp; Ms. Perry</td>
<td>Delores L.</td>
<td>6th grade ELA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Generally speaking the teacher(s) that is/are responsible for planning, instructing and assigning grades in a given class/course can be linked to the students that are enrolled in and completing that class/course.

**How can an accurate TSDL support districts?**

An accurate Teacher Student Data Link enables districts to analyze student learning trends, educator performance across schools, subject areas and educator groups.

With Teacher Student Data Links, districts may be able to use data to:
- Provide differentiated support to teachers
- Support teachers to personalize classroom instruction
- Inform educator evaluation and staffing assignments
- Identify and deploy district resources to meet demonstrated needs
- Conduct program evaluation

**How can CDE use an accurate TSDL to support state improvement?**

An accurate Teacher Student Data Link enables statewide analysis of student learning and educator performance across districts and schools with similar attributes, subject areas, educator groups, student groups, etc. While districts may already have the ability to connect their student and educator data, they may not have the ability to compare their data with other districts and schools across the state.

With the reported Teacher Student Data Links, CDE may be able to use data to:
- Identify and support professional development needs
- Provide educator effectiveness information to preparation programs for program improvement
- Research best practices that result in increased student outcomes
- Deploy department resources to areas or regions with demonstrated needs

**When will districts submit their TSDL to the state?**

Beginning in September 2013, all Colorado school districts will begin submitting Teacher Student Data Link information into Data Pipeline.

CDE is working to identify tools that support districts in creating and reporting accurate teacher student data links.

**Where can I learn more?**
- To learn more about TSDL, visit: [www.cde.state.co.us/rise/tsdl](http://www.cde.state.co.us/rise/tsdl)
- To learn more about Data Pipeline, visit: [www.cde.state.co.us/DataPipeline/](http://www.cde.state.co.us/DataPipeline/)