CENTER *for the* **INTEGRATION** *of* **IDEA DATA**
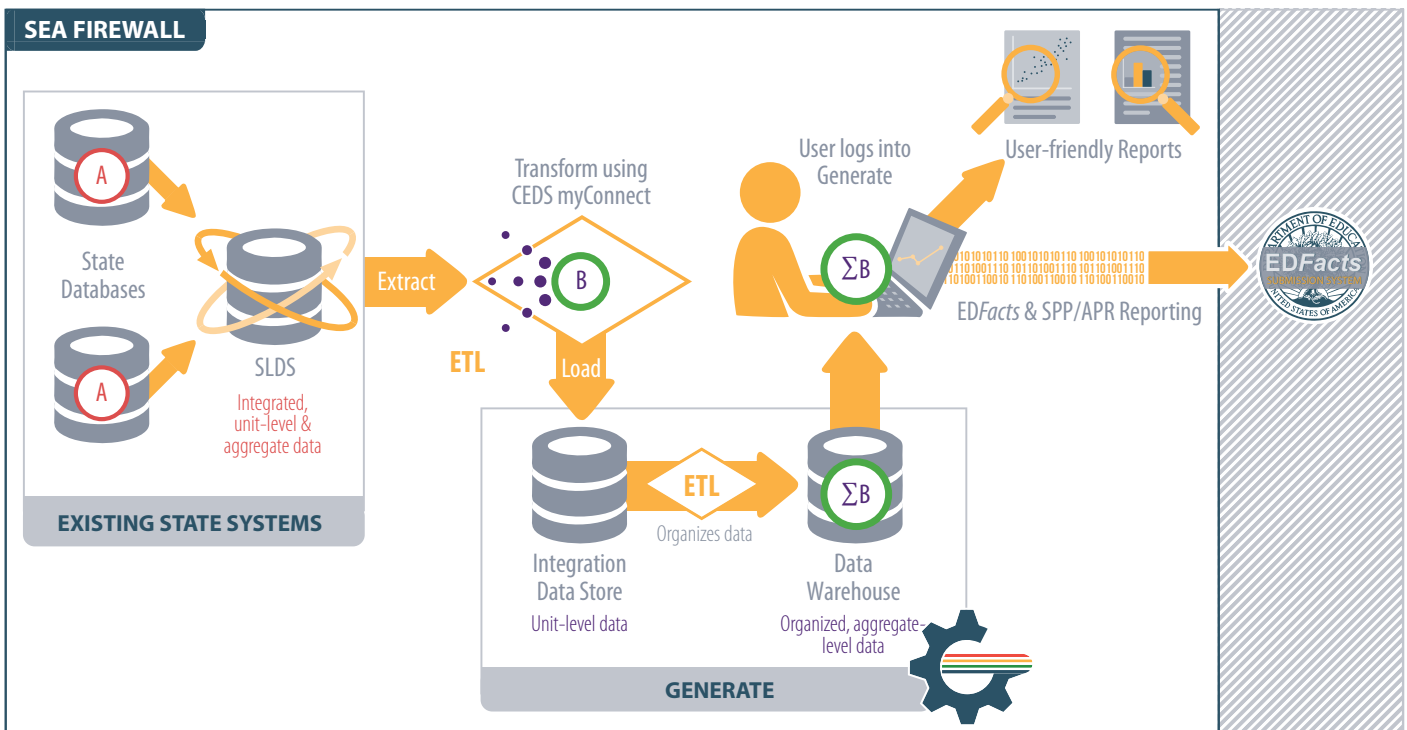
Introduction to Generate

February 2017 • **Authors: Tiffany Boyd, Travis Peterson, and Bill Huennekens**

The Center for Integration of IDEA Data (CIID) is helping state education agencies (SEAs) integrate their Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) data with statewide longitudinal data systems (SLDS). This brief provides an overview of a free tool, Generate, designed to automate and simplify ED*Facts* reporting, provide consistency across SEAs for IDEA data reporting, and produce user-friendly reports to support data use.

What is Generate?

Generate is a free tool developed by CIID that automates and simplifies IDEA ED*Facts* and State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) reporting. The ED*Facts* files and APR indicator reports that can be created using Generate include those related to children with disabilities, special education personnel, academic achievement, assessment participation, discipline, and disproportionate representation. See below for a comprehensive list. Additionally, Generate has the capability to produce reports for SEAs that can be used to support administrative and policy work towards improved educational outcomes for children with disabilities and their families. Through standardization, automated processes, and easy to use reports, Generate can help increase efficiency of data submissions and improve the quality and use of IDEA data.

IDEAs that Work
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TA&D NETWORK

How Generate Works

The figure on the previous page depicts how student- and staff-level data are loaded from a statewide longitudinal data system (SLDS) or other data source into Generate. Within Generate, the following steps occur:

1. Data from an SEA's SLDS are loaded into a student and teacher level operational data store aligned to CEDS.

2. Data are aggregated and loaded into reporting tables for efficient reporting.

3. Users log in to Generate and view the data in user-friendly reports, either on screen or in a downloadable Excel file.

4. After data have been reviewed and validated, the user selects the submission file format and clicks a button to create the ED*Facts* submission file or SPP/APR reports.

5. Generate facilitates SPP/APR reporting in the following ways:

   • The reports created for Indicator 4 can be exported and combined with qualitative information to submit via the SPP/APR.

   • The reports created for Indicators 9 and 10 are formatted so they can be exported and used with the **IDC Disproportionality Calculator** for reporting via the SPP/APR.

REPORTS AVAILABLE IN GENERATE

ED*Facts* Files

• C002 Children with Disabilities (IDEA) School Age

• C005 Children with Disabilities (IDEA) Removal to Interim Alternative Educational Setting

• C006 Children with Disabilities (IDEA) Suspensions/ Expulsions

• C007 Children with Disabilities (IDEA) Reasons for Unilateral Removal

• C009 Children with Disabilities (IDEA) Exiting Special Education

• C070 Special Education Teachers (FTE)

• C088 Children with Disabilities (IDEA) Disciplinary Removals

• C089 Children with Disabilities (IDEA) Early Childhood

• C099 Special Education Related Services Personnel

• C112 Special Education Paraprofessionals

• C143 Children with Disabilities (IDEA) Total Disciplinary Removals

• C144 Educational Services During Expulsion

• C175 Academic Achievement in Mathematics

• C178 Academic Achievement in Reading (Language Arts)

• C185 Assessment Participation in Mathematics

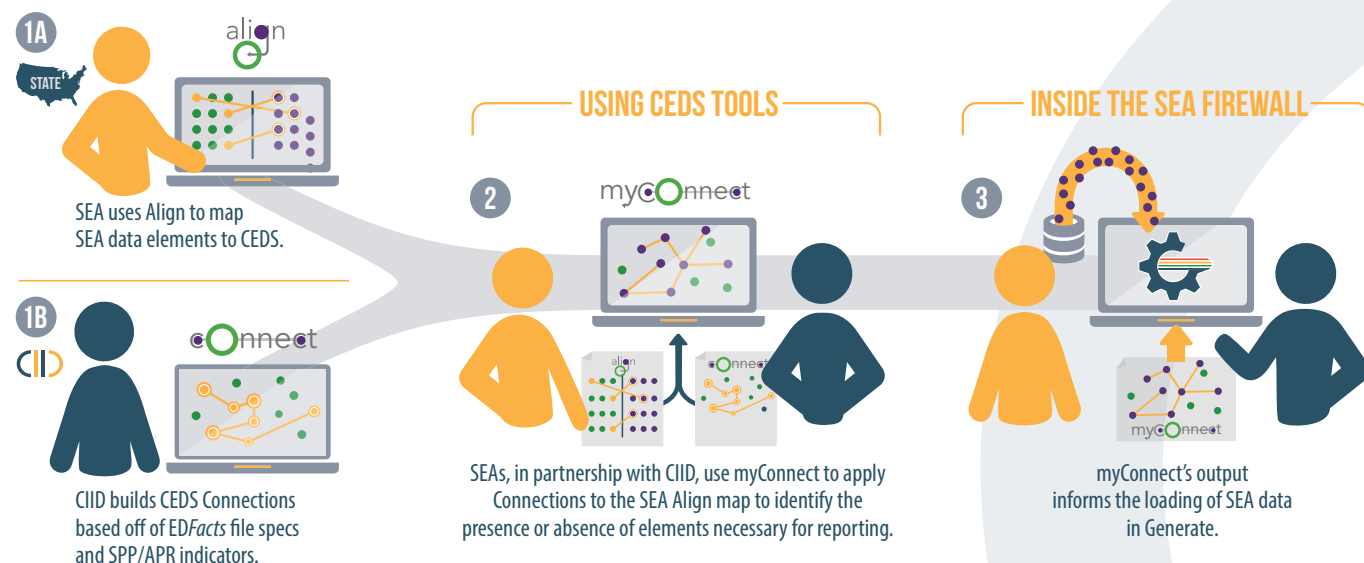• C188 Assessment Participation in Reading/ Language Arts

SPP/APR Indicators

• Indicator 4 (a and b) Suspension/Expulsion

• Indicator 9 Disproportionate Representation in Special Education

• Indicator 10 Disproportionate Representation in Specific Disability Categories

Use of Common Education Data Standards

Generate is built using **Common Education Data Standards** (CEDS) elements, definitions, and option sets (see figure below). CIID IDEA experts have used the CEDS Connect tool to identify the CEDS data elements necessary for each ED*Facts* file specification or SPP/APR indicator (1b, below). The CEDS Connections also define how the elements are used for aggregations, filtering, and calculations. Once an SEA's data have been mapped to the CEDS data elements in the Align tool (1a), the myConnect tool can apply the CEDS Connections to the SEA Align map to help identify the presence or absence of elements necessary for reporting (2). This information can also be used to support data integration efforts within the SEA.

This mapping information can then be used to inform the loading of SEA data into Generate for the creation of files for submission (3).

1A SEA uses Align to map SEA data elements to CEDS.

1B CIID builds CEDS Connections based off of ED*Facts* file specs and SPP/APR indicators.

USING CEDS TOOLS

2 SEAs, in partnership with CIID, use myConnect to apply Connections to the SEA Align map to identify the presence or absence of elements necessary for reporting.

INSIDE THE SEA FIREWALL

3 myConnect's output informs the loading of SEA data in Generate.

Generate Improves Data Quality

Generate helps improve data quality by using the elements and option sets in CEDS and standardizing the process for creating ED*Facts* files. Within the standardized process, Generate allows each SEA to set parameters based on how data is collected at the SEA. An automated process ensures consistency each time data is loaded or a submission file is generated. This improves consistency within an SEA and nationally.
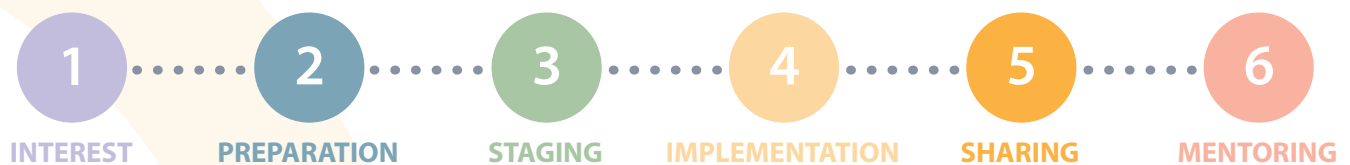
Data Privacy and Security

Generate is installed within the SEA environment and runs on existing secure networks, behind firewalls for maximum privacy protection. A SEA's single sign-on application is used to access Generate within the SEA environment to ensure controlled access to data and reports.

TA Support for Generate

Generate is available to all SEAs with support from CIID technical assistance, including:

- Data integration project support and planning
- Protection of personally identifiable information (PII)
- Building tables for SLDS to integrate data
- Database alignment to CEDS and metadata mapping in the CEDS Align tool
- Extract, transform, load (ETL) from source system(s) into Generate
- Implementation of Generate

The six stages of Generate show the progression an SEA would go through to implement Generate.

1	2	3	4	5	6
INTEREST	**PREPARATION**	**STAGING**	**IMPLEMENTATION**	**SHARING**	**MENTORING**

- **Interest:** SEA has requested additional information on Generate or asked about implementation of the application

- **Preparation:** SEA has verbally committed to Generate, planning is underway to address questions and build buy-in among stakeholders

- **Staging:** SEA is working with CIID to define the TA agreement and begin identifying items for the project plan

- **Implementation:** SEA and CIID have signed a TA agreement and are in the process of working to integrate data as necessary, and installing and testing Generate

- **Sharing:** SEA participates in communication and dissemination activities with CIID on the value and benefit of Generate

- **Mentoring:** SEA works with CIID and other SEAs to guide and support further implementation and evolution of Generate

If your SEA is interested in implementing Generate, please contact CIID experts at **CIIDTA@aemcorp.com**.

Contact Us: By email at CIIDTA@aemcorp.com.
Visit the CIID website for more information at CIIDTA.org.