



**COLORADO**

Department of Education

# Indicator 14: Post-School Outcomes Summer Collection School Year 2025-26

Colorado Department of Education  
Exceptional Student Services Unit  
May 2026



## **YOU HAVE BEEN SELECTED!**

You have been selected to participate in the Indicator 14 Post-School Outcomes Interview through the Colorado Department of Education.

### **What is Indicator 14?**

It's a short interview about what you are doing one year after leaving high school, such as working, going to school, training, or other opportunities. Your voice matters!

### **What you need to Know**

- A school staff member will contact you for a quick interview.
- It is friendly, confidential, and only takes a few minutes.
- Your participation helps improve support for students with IEPs after high school.

**Thank you! Your story makes a difference!**

District/school  
logo



# Objectives

---

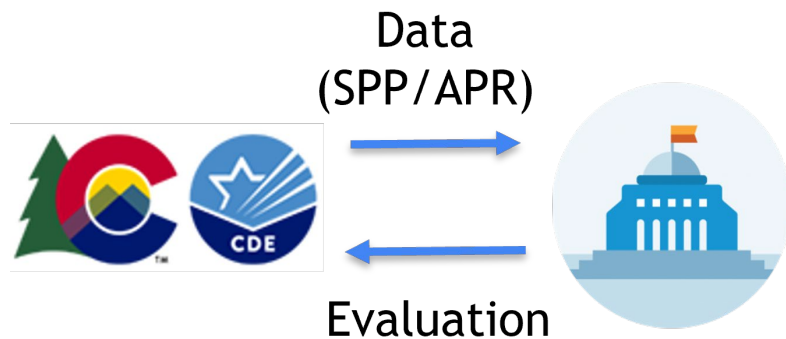
- Understand Indicator 14, its requirements, and how Post-School Outcomes (PSO) data are used for federal reporting and program improvement
- Identify the definitions and criteria for PSO outcome measures
- Review Colorado's 2025 Summer collection results
- Learn how to accurately enter, track, and submit PSO data in the Exceptional Student Services Unit (ESSU) Data Management System (DMS)
- Discuss guidance, tips and tools for accurately completing the PSO collection including valid contact attempts and following interview protocols



## Indicator 14 and the Measures for Post School Outcomes

# Data Reported in the State Performance Plan (SPP) Annual Performance Report (APR)

- States submit various data/reports to the U.S. Dept of Education
- Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) at U.S. Dept of Education evaluates States' special education programs
- (SPP/APR) = State's report to OSEP on special education programming
- Indicator 14 is included in the SPP/APR



# Indicator 14 Standardized Interview Process

---

Colorado collects I-14 data through our official Post-school Outcomes Interview process (PSO) using local education teams.

- **Purpose:** To use standardized survey questions and response codes to calculate Indicator 14 (A, B, C) consistently and reliably across districts and states:
  - Ensures data accuracy and consistency across districts, AUs, and BOCES
  - Supports compliance with federal reporting requirements

# Importance of PSOs

---

One purpose of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) 2004 is:

“To ensure that all children with disabilities have available to them a free appropriate public education that emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet their unique needs and prepare them for further education, employment, and independent living.”

Youth post-school outcomes are a key measure of how well states meet the purpose of IDEA.

# Importance of PSOs (Cont.)

---

Provides the opportunity to evaluate whether students with disabilities who exit special education from high schools in your district developed the **knowledge, skills, and connections to adult services** needed to achieve their individualized postsecondary goals in **education/training, career/employment, and independent living/community participation** which may include:

- Enrollment and persistence in postsecondary education or training
- Credential attainment
- Competitive integrated employment
- Community engagement and independent living

# Indicator 14 Post School Outcomes

---

Percent of former students who are no longer in secondary school, had IEPs in effect at the time they left school, and were:

(14A) Enrolled in higher education...

(14B) Enrolled in higher education or competitively employed...

(14C) Total students engaged: Enrolled in higher education or in some other postsecondary education or training program, or competitively employed or in some other employment...

...within one year of leaving high school.

# Indicator 14 Measures for 25-26

---

Measures for Administrative Unit (AU) Determination and SPP/APR Colorado Targets:

(14A) Higher Education: Target is 24.70%

(14B) Higher Education + Competitive Employment: Target is 73.76%

(14C) Higher Education + Competitive Employment + Other Education + Other Employment = (Total Students Engaged): Target is 84.81%

Contact Attempts: Goal is 100%

AUs are expected to meet State targets and goals for full points on annual determination.

# Post-School Outcome Measures Defined

---

## Higher Education:

- Enrolled full or part-time
- Community college (2-year program)
- College/university (4 or more-year program)
- 1 complete term

## Competitive Employment:

- Worked for pay at or above the minimum wage
- Setting with others who are nondisabled
- 20 hours a week
- 90 days at any time in the year since leaving high school
- Includes military employment

# Post-School Outcome Measures Defined (Cont.)

---

## Other Postsecondary Education or Training

- Enrolled full or part-time
- Education or training program (e.g., adult education, vocational technical school that is less than a 2-year program)
- 1 complete term

## Other Employment

- Worked for pay or self-employed
- 90 days at any time since leaving high school
- Includes working in a family business (e.g., farm, store, fishing, ranching, catering services, etc.)

# Summer 2025 Post School Outcomes Results

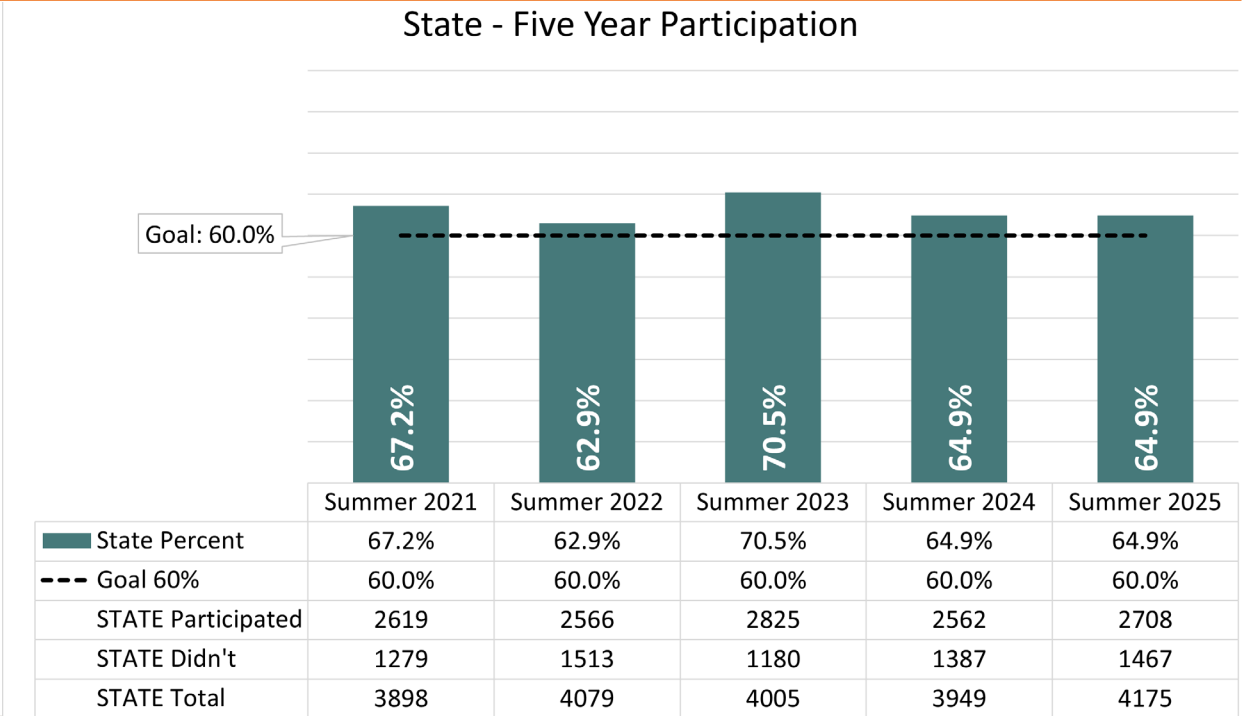


# CO Student Statistics from PSO Summer 2025

---

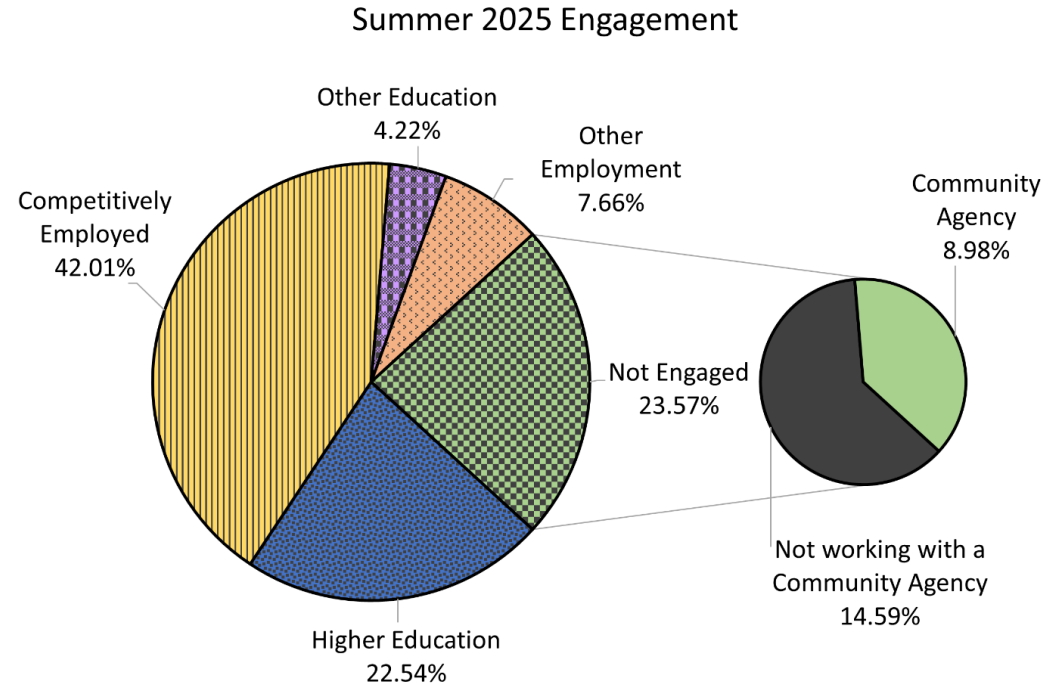
- 6399 exited special education in 2023-24 SY with an IEP
- 4226 selected for the interview sample
- 51 removed from sample: returned to high school, were incarcerated, or passed away
- 4175 adjusted final sample size
- 2708 students participated in the interview
  - About 65% of the students sampled participated in the interview
  - This is above CDE's 60% goal

# PSO Participation – Five Year Trend



# PSO Engagement from Summer 2025

- Engagement Categories, Student Counts, and Percentages
- Students who qualify for “working with a community agency” are considered “not engaged” according to OSEP’s definition
- Out of the 623 students reported as “Not Engaged”, 245 are “Working with a Community Agency”





## Post School Outcome Interviews in the DMS

# AU Sample Size

---

AU sample size is based on the number of students who were reported in the Special Education End of Year (SPED EOY) collection as exiting special education in each AU.

- Small AUs: 1 - 100 exiters (interview all exiters (census))
- Medium AUs: 101 - 200 exiters (interview 100 exiters)
- Large AUs: 200 or more exiters (interview 200 exiters)

# AU Sample Population

---

Your DMS sample includes students with IEPs who exited high school during SY 24-25 (2025 SPED EOY report) for the following reasons:

- Reached maximum age
- Graduating with a regular diploma
- Discontinued School/Dropped Out
- Completed non-diploma certificate
- High School Equivalency Diploma

# Data Collection Process

- PSO data is collected in the ESSU Data Management System (DMS)
- The AU director/designee will determine who has access to the DMS for conducting interviews
- Interviews must be conducted after the student has been out of school/services (school year 2024-2025) for at least 12 months



Ascend Colorado DMS

# Data Collection Timeline

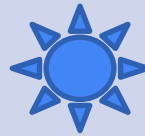
- May 1, 2026: Student lists available in the DMS
- June 1, 2026: Data window opens
- September 30, 2026: Data Window Closes



Survey via individual outreach



Interviews during the data window



Data is entered into the DMS



Submit Collection in DMS

# How to Access the DMS – Assigning Roles

There are 4 roles that grant access to PSO Interviews in the DMS:

- **MPSI**: PSO Interview access only
- **MRR**: PSO Interview access, also includes Standard Record Review access
- **MD**: For Monitoring Directors all Special Education access
- **GDnMD**: For Gifted and Monitoring Directors, all DMS access

Contact your AU Local Access Manager (LAM) to assign you a role in IDM. LAMs can assign roles for the **ASCDMS** application in Access Management.

Only one role can be assigned per user. If more than one role is assigned, you will not be able to login.

# Logging in to the DMS

Sign in to DMS from the [ESSU DMS webpage](#) using your Identity Management (IDM) single sign-on. **Bookmark this page for future logins.**

## DMS Single Sign-On (ESSU)

The Data Management System (DMS) is a single sign-on system that assists Administrative Units (AUs) in meeting accountability requirements for Special Education and Gifted Education.

Log in to ESSU Ascend DMS

Data Management System  
(DMS)

Getting Started:  
Overview of the Ascend  
DMS

# How to Access the DMS – Forgot Password

---

- If you forget your password, click the **Reset Password** link on the log in page

## Forgot/Reset Password

Username: Full Email Address

Forgot Password: [Reset Password](#)

- If you get a security error message when logging in, have your IT person mark the page as safe

Note: Updates to Firewall security may block the page



# The Indicator 14 Collection Dashboard

# Locating the Collection Dashboard

- Select School Year 2025-26
- Click on “AU Tasks” on the left-hand menu to reveal the AU Tasks Dashboard
- Click on “Data Entry” button in Indicator 14 tile

ASCEND COLORADO

My Dashboard

AU Tasks

Corrections

Fiscal

Facilitated Assessment

Gifted

Documents

Reports

Select School Year  
2025-26

AU Tasks Dashboard 2025-26

Needs Attention

Indicator 14 - Survey Data Collection

Not Started

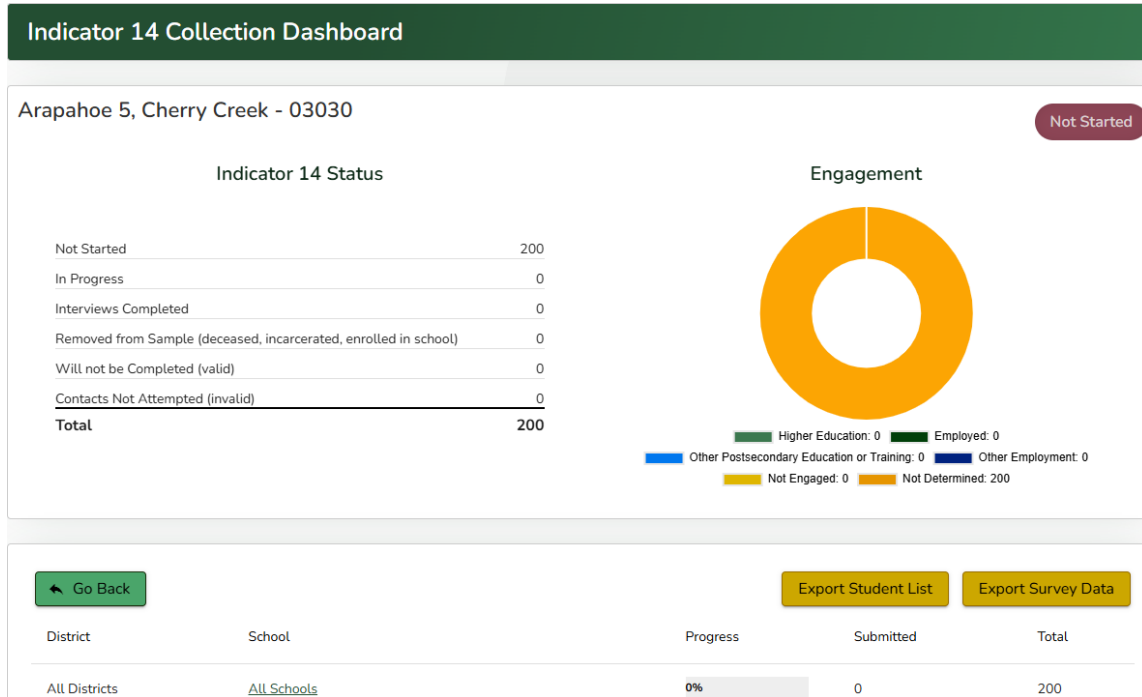
Completed Surveys: 0  
Total Number Of Surveys: 100

→ Data Entry

# Collection Dashboard Landing Page

The dashboard includes:

- Status tracking for interview completion
- Live Engagement results
- PSO List and Raw Survey Data
- Interview links



# AU Status Tracking

Status section on the I-14 Collection Dashboard updates in real time:

- **“Not Started”** - No contacts have been made for those students
- **“In Progress”** - Student contacted and may have started the interview

The other four statuses are the results of finalized interviews and are covered in the following slides

## Indicator 14 Collection Dashboard

### Indicator 14 Status

Not Started	0
In Progress	3
Interviews Completed	4
Removed from Sample (deceased, incarcerated, enrolled in school)	0
Will not be Completed (valid)	0
Contacts Not Attempted (invalid)	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>

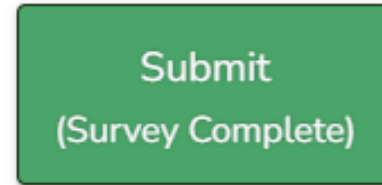
# Interview Status – Submitted

---

## Survey Complete

*“Completed”*

- If the student participates and completes the interview, you will select the “Submit” button



# Interview Status – Will Complete Later

---

## Reasons for “Will Complete Later”

### *“In Progress”*

- Person not available to talk (work, busy)
- Wrong Contact information, obtaining new information
- Left a Message
- No Answer

Will Complete Later  
(Still In Progress)

# Interview Status – Will Not Complete

---

## Reasons for “Will not Complete”

### *“Removed From Sample”*

- Student still enrolled in school (including 18-21 services)
- Incarcerated
- Deceased

### *“Will Not Complete (Valid)”*

- Declined to be interviewed/hung up
- Called multiple times but no answer/no response
- Phone Disconnected – used multiple sources

### *“Contacts Not Attempted (Invalid)”*

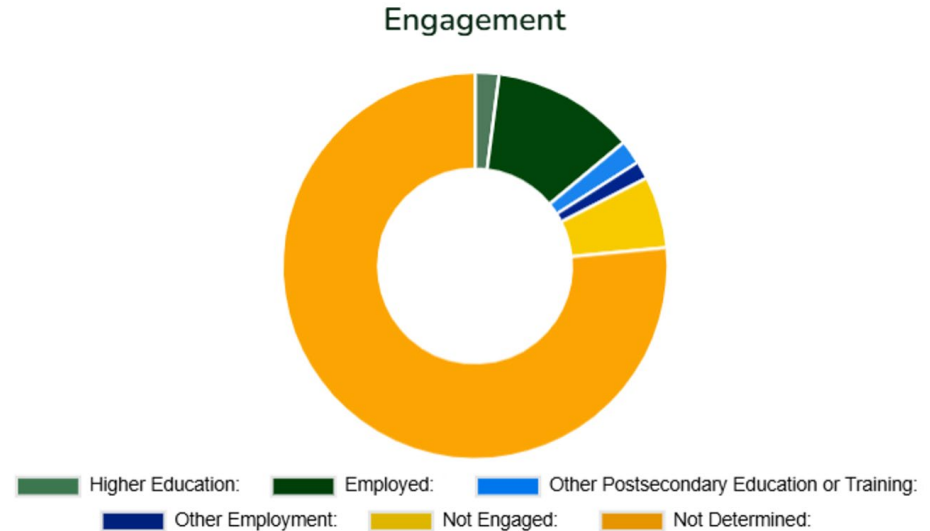
- No contact information available
- Contact not attempted

Will Not Complete  
(No Further Action)

# AU Engagement Live Results

As interviews are completed the engagement wheel updates the Indicator 14 measures in real time

Provides a visual of current Indicator 14 results based individual interviews completed

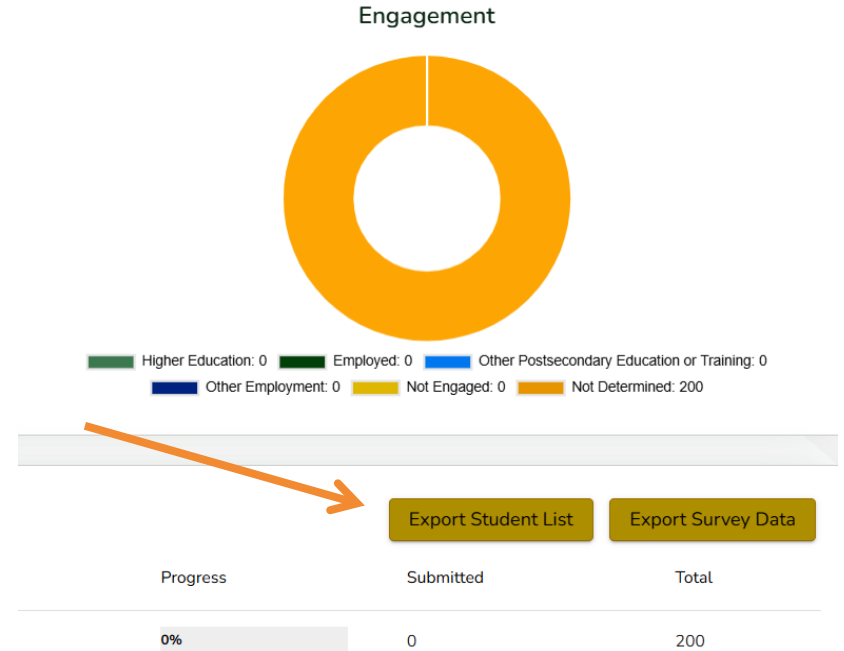


# Getting the PSO Interview List

Click on “Export Student List” to download an Excel file containing your sample.

Each row contains:

- State ID
- Name
- Method of exit
- School name
- Other information





## Completing the Post School Outcomes Interviews Collection in DMS

# Starting your PSO Interview

- Select “All Schools,” or an individual school

← Go Back

District ↑

School

All Districts

[All Schools](#)

Cherry Creek 5

[Cherokee Trail High School](#)

Cherry Creek 5

[Cherry Creek Elevation](#)

- Select the student from the school list

## School Survey List - Indicator 14 Building View

← Go Back

Name / State ID / Status Search



State ID

Name

School

Cherokee Trail High School

Cherokee Trail High School

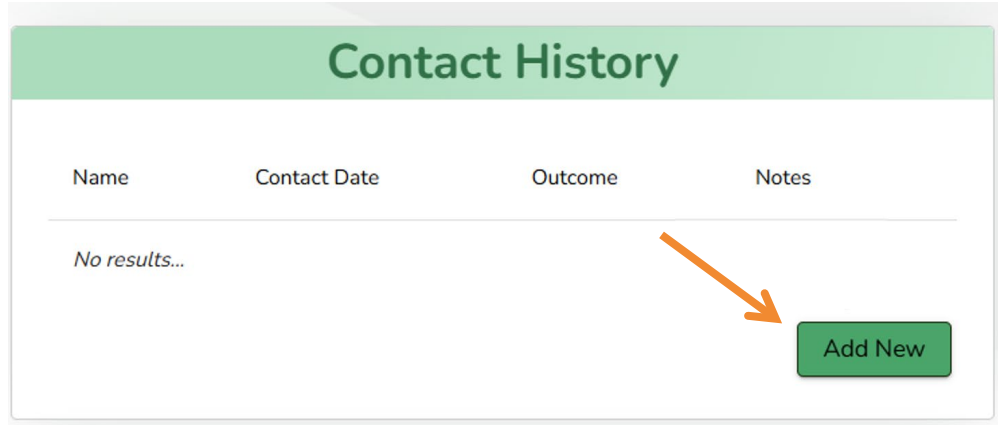
Cherokee Trail High School

# Logging Contact History

To manually record a contact, select the green “Add New” button in the Contact History section

The system will log the contact when the type of attempt is selected:

- “Will Not Complete”
- “Will Complete Later”
- “Submit”



Name	Contact Date	Outcome	Notes
<i>No results...</i>			

[Add New](#)

Will Not Complete  
(No Further Action)

Will Complete Later  
(Still In Progress)

Submit  
(Survey Complete)

# Conducting the Interview

- Select “Yes” for the “Willing to complete survey?” question to populate the interview
- To expand a section and show interview questions, click the caret (down arrow) on the right side of the section, or click the “Expand All Sections” button
- Selecting certain answers will trigger additional questions when required

PRE-1: Willing to complete survey?

Hi Student Name. My name is Interviewer Name doing since leaving high school. Would it be possible for you to complete the survey?

Yes

No

Education

Employment

# Closing of Interview Questions

- There are three post interview questions that require a written response
- For CDE to better understand individual adaptations during the process, interviewer notes are available at the end of the interview

### Closing of Interview

POST-1: Thank you very much for taking my call today – is there anything that I can do to assist you to connect to resources in your community?

Enter text below\*

Interviewer notes:

Include information about how a question was re-worded (if at all), why

Interviewer notes:

# Interviewer Information Questions

- To conclude, respond to the final two questions
  - Interviewer position
  - Method(s) used to contact the student

## Interviewer Information

INT-1: Interviewer Position

Teacher

Administrator

Related service provider (licensed staff)

Other (non-licensed staff)

# Submitting an Interview as Complete

---

- When all the interview questions have been completed, the green Submit button will become available at the bottom
- Click to complete and close the survey

Will Not Complete  
(No Further Action)

Will Complete Later  
(Still In Progress)

Submit  
(Survey Complete)



# Interview Refusal

- Select “No” for the first 2 Pre-Interview questions
- Click the red “Will Not Complete” button

Pre-Interview

PRE-1: Willing to complete survey?

Hi Student Name. My name is Interviewer Name and I am from [School or District Name]. I'm calling to ask if you would be willing to complete a short survey over the phone about what you've been doing since leaving high school. Would it be possible for you to complete the survey over the phone? The survey will take about 10 minutes to complete.

Yes  
 No

PRE-1A: Would you like to make an appointment to complete Survey at another time?

Yes  
 No

PRE-2: Survey Refused

If the student refuses to take part in the survey thank them for their time. Select the Red "Will Not Complete" button and select "Interview refused" to end interview

Will Not Complete  
(No Further Action)

Will Complete Later  
(Still In Progress)

Submit  
(Survey Complete)

# Interview Refusal (Cont.)

- On the pop-up window, indicate which reason for not completing the interview
- Click continue to save your choice and return to the school list
- This student's status will now show as "Will Not Complete"

Please indicate the reason that you WILL NOT EVER BE COMPLETING the interview for Gippe, John

- Student still enrolled in school (including receiving 18-21 services)
- Incarcerated (Removed from Sample)
- Deceased (Removed from Sample)
- Declined to be Interviewed / Hung up (Valid)
- Called multiple times but no answer / no response (Valid)
- Phone disconnected – used multiple sources (Valid)
- No contact information available (Invalid)

Cancel

# Prior to Collection Submission

---

- You must resolve each interview in “Not Started” or “In Progress” status. Once your “Not Started” and “In Progress” counts are 0, you will be able to submit
- If you try to submit the collection with incomplete interviews, a warning box with the following will appear:

*“Unable to submit collection. There are Surveys that have not been marked as Completed. Please submit all Surveys then try submitting the collection again.”*

# Submitting a Completed Collection

## Indicator 14 Collection Dashboard

### Indicator 14 Status

Not Started	0
In Progress	0
Interviews Completed	47
Removed from Sample (deceased, incarcerated, enrolled in school)	0
Will not be Completed (valid)	153
Contacts Not Attempted (invalid)	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>

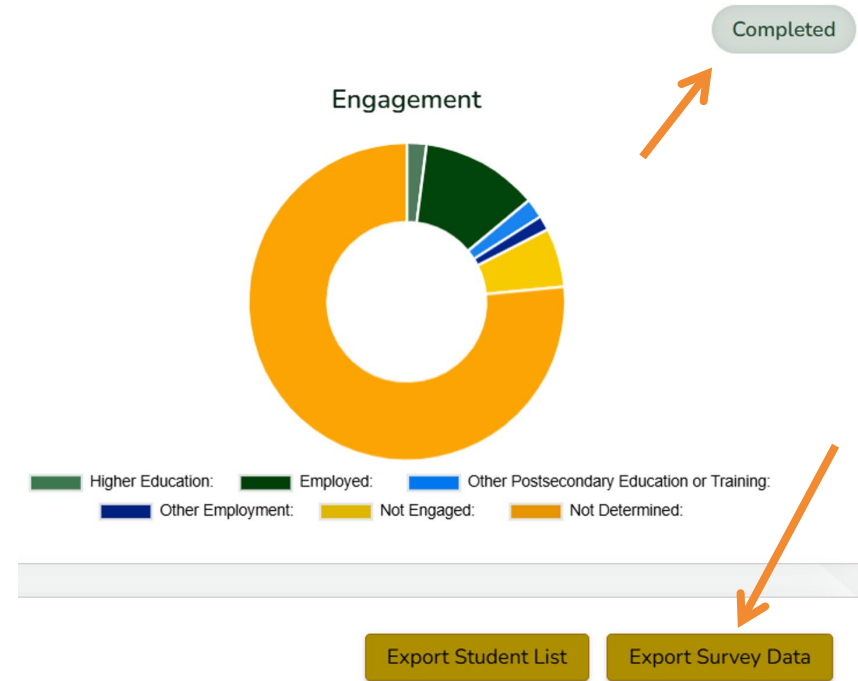
Click the green “Submit Collection” button on the Indicator 14 Collection Dashboard page.



Submit Collection

# PSO Collection Completed

- AU status of "Completed" will show on your dashboard
- To export your complete survey results data, click yellow "Export Survey Data" button on the right side of your I-14 dashboard
- The CDE will provide I-14 results and disaggregated data for each AU in October 2026





## PSO Guidance, Tips, & Tools

# Contact Attempts

---

A contact attempt entered into the DMS = individualized outreach effort in which the student or family has a direct opportunity to complete the interview in an interview format:

- Phone call
- Live virtual conversation
- In-person discussion

## **Key Requirement:**

The contact method must allow for two-way communication and the immediate possibility of conducting the interview.



# Contact Attempt Examples

---

## Contact attempts that qualify:

- Phone call where the interviewer attempts to speak directly with the student/family
- Live text exchange that invites immediate participation
- Scheduled or attempted virtual meeting
- In-person outreach attempt

## Contact attempts that do NOT qualify:

- Mass emails or newsletters
- Automated messages
- Social media posts
- General announcements



# Who Can Assist With Conducting Interviews

---

- Staff with strong relationships and familiarity with the student
- Individuals who value and are committed to understanding PSOs and supporting long-term student success

## **Examples may include:**

- Transition Specialists or coordinators
- SWAP Coordinators/Case Managers
- Special Education Case Managers/Teachers
- Related Service Providers
- Any school or program staff connected to transition services

### **Important Note:**

Anyone conducting the interview must be trained and adhere to the established interview process

# 2025-26 Paper-Based Survey Protocol

---

All AUs have the option to use Colorado's Current (2026) PSO Survey Protocol on the [Secondary Transition webpage](#) to complete interviews and enter information into the DMS before the collection closes.

If you are using the paper-based protocol, follow all directions and skip logic cues to align with the DMS.

## POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION/TRAINING

- 1. In the last 12 months since leaving high school, have you ever been enrolled in any school, job training, or education program?**
  - Yes (If yes, answer questions 1a-1b.)
  - No (If no, go to question 2.)



# Using the Indicator 14 Postcard

- **Introduce early** by having students and families complete the postcard before exit so they expect it
- **Verify contact information** is accurate and up to date
- **Build trust** by clearly explaining the purpose of the postcard and interview
- **Keep it personal and simple** to encourage participation

## YOU HAVE BEEN SELECTED!

You have been selected to participate in the Indicator 14 Post-School Outcomes Interview through the Colorado Department of Education.

### **What is Indicator 14?**

It's a short interview about what you are doing one year after leaving high school, such as working, going to school, training, or other opportunities. Your voice matters!

### **What you need to Know**

- A school staff member will contact you for a quick interview.
- It is friendly, confidential, and only takes a few minutes.
- Your participation helps improve support for students with IEPs after high school.

**Thank you! Your story makes a difference!**

District/school  
logo



[Indicator 14 Postcard Use and Guidance \(PDF\)](#)

# Post-School Outcomes Data Collection Resources

---

- [CDE Secondary Transition Page: Indicator 14](#)
  - Timeline for PSO interview process
  - A link to the I-14 Postcard Use and Guidance document
  - PSO sample letter in English and Spanish
  - PSO sample contact form
  - Current PSO survey protocol
  - Glossary of terms
  - National Post-School Outcomes Center resources
- [Indicator 14 – CO Post-School Outcomes Data](#)
- [DMS Professional Learning System \(PLS\) Indicator 14 Help Page](#)

# Questions?

---



# Thank you for all you do for your students!

---

Thank you in advance for your time and effort in collecting accurate information during the Post-School Outcome interview process.



Your hard work is greatly appreciated!

# Contact Information

---

For questions on Indicator 14 -  
Post School Outcomes interview  
process, contact:

Kacy Little Owl  
[little\\_owl\\_k@cde.state.co.us](mailto:little_owl_k@cde.state.co.us)  
720-827-8283

For questions on the DMS  
access, navigation, and  
analyzing results, contact:

Josh Fails  
[fails\\_j@cde.state.co.us](mailto:fails_j@cde.state.co.us)  
720-618-0538