

College and University IPEDS Reporting Services

Colleges and universities are entering a new era of federal reporting scrutiny. The recent introduction of the Admissions and Consumer Transparency Supplement (ACTS) marks one of the most consequential expansions of IPEDS reporting in decades. With a March 18, 2026 reporting deadline, institutions must submit detailed admissions, undergraduate and graduate data for the current year plus the prior five years—all within a compressed reporting window. This expanded scope places unprecedented pressure on institutional data systems, governance practices, and internal coordination.

As regulatory scrutiny and public visibility increase, institutions must ensure that their IPEDS submissions are accurate, defensible, and aligned with clearly documented decision-making frameworks. Proactive investment in data integrity, analytics, and governance is no longer optional—it is essential to managing compliance risk and maintaining institutional credibility.

Colleges and universities that proactively invest in data integrity, well-documented decision frameworks, strong analytics modeling and governance, and transparent communication will be best positioned to weather external audits, regulatory scrutiny, and public expectations.

We recommend that all higher education institutions carefully review this new data collection for accuracy and analyze it before submitting. Berkshire can help institutions reduce burden and mitigate risk while approaching reporting with confidence.

Our Services

- **Expanded Data Review and Clean-Up:** We work with university teams to map current data flows, identify gaps, and strengthen validation and reconciliation processes so their admissions data are accurate, defensible, and audit-ready.
- **Proactive ACTS Data Analysis:** We can help higher education institutions analyze the data to be submitted for potential issues along the entire lifecycle, from application to enrollment to financial aid allocation and consideration of merit-based explanatory variables (and more).
- **Standards Development:** Our team will develop a methodology for collecting and analyzing data for future submissions, documenting recommended protocols and guidance for repeatable and scalable coordination of data.

Facing a March 18, 2026 deadline and unprecedented transparency requirements, colleges and universities must ensure their ACTS/IPEDS data are accurate, defensible, and audit-ready. Berkshire can help higher education institutions reduce risk, meet compliance with confidence, and stand up to heightened scrutiny.