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In response to the estimate of burden accurate - there is no way this is accurate. There to date is yet no formal reporting documentation available thus schools are trying to throw resources at a moving target in hopes something they are doing is correct. This new reporting requirement needs to be delayed at this point. Once a formal reporting documentation is available, schools should have at the very minimum eight months, preferably one year to work on getting ACCURATE data returned to the DE. Right now, schools are very overwhelmed especially the Fin Aid Offices and they just are not able to take on this new burden and get accurate data returned to the DE.

In response to how the department might enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the info to be collected - this needs to be fully vetted and not just thrown at the schools - this reporting is going to be HUGE and we just can't have info flying at us - please take the appropriate time to produce very detailed instructions and data dictionaries so that schools have a chance to return solid data to the DE. Again, delay this reporting so that this very first step can be done correctly and not just thrown together quickly - if the information coming for the DE is garbage, you can only expect garbage to be returned.

In response to how might the department reduce the burden - do not require schools to provide previous years data - there is going to have to be substantial work done at schools to prep the previous years data so that it can be reported. Instead, get the finalized reporting requirements out to schools say by January 1, 2025 and then give schools a minimum of 8 months to return data for ONLY the previous year (2024-2025) and then start building you information using only this data - yes it will take longer to get information returned to schools, but at least everyone including the DE will have enough time and information to get all their ducks in a row.