THE ACHA COLLEGE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING DATA HUB (“DATA HUB”) GOVERNANCE POLICY

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The Data Hub Governance policy was written by a subgroup of the ACHA Data Governance Committee, including Mel Fenner (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign), Kat Lindsey (University of Florida), Amy McLaughlin (Oregon State University), Kevin Readdean (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute), and Data Governance Committee co-leads Brian Mistler (Humboldt State University) and Sharon McMullen (University of Notre Dame).

I. Purpose

Overview

The American College Health Association (ACHA) is committed to improving the health and well-being of college students. ACHA recognizes that the availability of information will enable the organization to achieve its goals in advocacy, education, and research. College health professionals also need information to advance the health of college students at their institutions and enable policy makers and other stakeholders to make informed decisions about the health and well-being of the college student population.

Effective, efficient, and strategic use of robust data for decision-making is an essential cornerstone of college health and of system improvement. Stakeholders at all levels of decision-making require timely, useful, and accurate data to support student achievement most effectively. To that end, ACHA has developed the ACHA College Health and Well-Being Data Hub (“Data Hub”), supported by a Data Governance Committee, in order to meet the information needs of its stakeholders.

Participating institutions of higher education will submit information regarding their infrastructure for supporting:

- health promoting practices
- mental health and well-being
- physical health

as well as campus characteristics, wellness programs and policies, etc. through the annual Institutional Profile Survey (IPS). Sources of data may include:

- Student demographics
- Administrative data
- Health and environmental factors
- Other relevant college health surveys (e.g. such as the National College Health Assessment (NCHA))
- Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)
- Other Government data sources.
Goals and objectives

The goal of the ACHA Data Hub is to provide meaningful, accurate insights that support data-driven
decision-making. With data made accessible by the Data Hub, stakeholders should be able to assess,
monitor, and promote student health and well-being. The ACHA Data Hub objectives include:

- **Integrating** existing ACHA data and other data sources into a robust data visualization and
reporting tool from institutional members nationwide
- **Empowering** institutions to monitor data trends in student health & well-being and glean
insights from connecting student behavior data with policy and administrative data
- **Providing** access to integrated data to improve college health and well-being centers’
quality and efficiency through enhanced benchmarking tools and the sharing of the results
of data-driven interventions
- **Enabling** data-driven decision-making by measuring health status and outcomes against
academic performance and retention

ACHA considers a broad range of interests in decision-making and values community consensus. As
such, a Data Governance Committee is appointed by the ACHA Board of Directors and supported by
the ACHA national office staff. The Data Governance Committee is drawn from ACHA membership and
is subject to ACHA bylaws and committee guidelines. The ACHA Data Hub leaders serve as Data
Sponsors/Trustees of the Data Hub and the Data Governance Committee acts in an advisory capacity to
the Data Hub leadership. Selected responsibilities of the committee include:

- Articulate the requirements for secure and effective input, access, retrieval, exchange,
reporting, management and storage of data
- Inform rules to control the usage, security, quality and integrity of data during its lifecycle
- Recommend compliance with applicable laws, regulations, exchanges and standards
- Articulate responsibilities for data stewardship by defining data owners, roles, responsibilities
and accountabilities
- Serve in the escalation path process (as defined below)
- Advise ACHA regarding the process by which changes to the Data Hub will be made, ensuring
changes are carried out in a logical manner that is mindful of potential impact on data quality
- Conduct operations with ethics, integrity, openness and transparency, supporting the shared
interests of the Data Hub and the ACHA membership

II. Scope

This policy applies to all data imported into the Data Hub including, but not limited to the Institutional
Profile Survey (IPS), National College Health Assessment (NCHA), and the Integrated Postsecondary
Education Data System (IPEDS), and covers data in any form, including print, electronic, audio-visual,
and backup and archived data, regardless of the system in which the data originated or are stored.

This policy applies to anyone approved to engage with data housed within the Data Hub on behalf of
ACHA.
III. Ownership

Data gathered by a member institution is owned by that institution. Upon submission to the Data Hub, ACHA will have a perpetual, irrevocable license to the data, including the authority to further license all data provided to institutions hereunder, and any other analyses, reports, or other intellectual property used, developed, created, or disclosed by ACHA under a data use agreement. In addition, ACHA may own the copyright in the organization, selection, and display of data within the Data Hub. Further, to the extent that data users develop any rights to data through their authorized use, users will assign all such rights to ACHA and agree to cooperate with ACHA in protecting and effectuating such rights. Data users shall give proper attribution to ACHA for any permissible use, dissemination, reproduction, or disclosure of the data or reports provided through the Data Hub.

IV. Usage

Data Privacy

Data submitted to the Data Hub is protected and will be released to data users only in de-identified, aggregate form.

The representative member of the institution (RMI) of active ACHA institutional members, will receive access to the Data Hub annually and will have access to their institution’s comparative data. In addition, the RMI may request up to one additional user at their institution (per activation year) to have Data Hub access (with or without institutional comparative data). Non-members will not be granted direct access to the Data Hub datasets or reporting tools. Access to data is permissions-based and can be requested by the ACHA representative member institution (RMI) by using the short survey form, [https://achasurveying.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cXZaDdfOimiZDIq](https://achasurveying.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cXZaDdfOimiZDIq). Data may also be accessed by Data Stewards and other employees of ACHA and it’s Data Hub vendor whose job responsibilities require it. These data recipients are subject to the data privacy policies of their organizations. Data access security will be managed by the vendor.

Conditions under which individuals or institutions may submit data

Data may only be submitted by designated representatives of ACHA member institutions. Each institution will identify staff members who are approved to contribute data on its behalf. The name and contact information of the person making the submission is required and will not be made available to data users.

It is essential that data submitted must not be able to identify a single individual student. The primary methods used by the U.S. Department of Education for disclosure avoidance for tabular data include defining a minimum cell size. Data contributors are expected to submit data in alignment with both its institution’s and the Data Hub’s security practices around cell size. In the event that those rules are not consistent, data contributors should follow the most restrictive rule.
**Protection of Data**

Participant Data will be contributed from ACHA surveys and third party surveys (IPEDS), without any personally identifiable information. It will be stored securely and shared only in aggregate. Identification of individuals is never possible. The association between information and institutions is protected consistent with the Data Hub security practices.

**Escalation path**

Access to, or use of, the Data Hub that is not contemplated by this and other relevant Data Hub guidance will be managed according to the following escalation path.

1. Member institutions will take steps to resolve the issue at the local level. For example, an institution that finds it has inadvertently submitted inaccurate data should contact ACHA staff for assistance in submitting corrected data.
2. If an issue cannot be resolved by an ACHA staff, or rises to a level that would benefit from input of the Data Governance Committee, such as novel or unanticipated use, either the Data Hub staff or the member institution can escalate the issue to the ACHA Chief Executive Officer, who will charge Data Governance Committee leadership with forming a 3-member Investigating Committee comprised of Data Governance Committee members to evaluate the issue and provide an opinion to the Data Hub Executive Committee, as follows.
   a. Details of the issue and supporting documentation will be sent to the Investigating Committee within 10 working days of the receipt of the request. The Investigating Committee will review the information provided, and consult with whoever it deems necessary, to determine if the request is in keeping with the tenets of data governance. It will render an opinion within 30 days to the ACHA Chief Executive Officer, who will then place the issue as an agenda item on a Data Hub Executive Committee meeting within the next 60 days. The Data Hub Executive Committee will consider the opinion of the Investigating Committee and make a determination, which is final. The ACHA Chief Executive Officer will notify the member institution of the outcome in writing.
3. In the event of a violation of this Policy or other improper conduct, the process set forth in ACHA’s [Sanctions Procedure](#) will be followed and the institution’s data submission and access will be suspended until the issue is resolved.

**V. Security**

The data in the Data Hub is de-identified and therefore not considered personal health information, although transmission and handling of data is consistent with both HIPAA and FERPA. ACHA contracts
with a Data Hub vendor to manage data within industry standard processes, tools, and security standards to ensure safety of data in all phases including storage, access, and transmission.

The Data Hub system and data are hosted using secure resources in Microsoft's Azure cloud platform. Access to these resources, including databases and file storage, is restricted to connections using private endpoints to other project resources, with no direct routes from the Internet. Report data is published to members through the Microsoft Power BI Service platform, which also utilizes a secure connection to Azure resources to access database information.

Administrative and management access to these resources by ACHA's technical solution provider can only be made through a VPN (Virtual Private Networking) connection to an Azure virtual network with private endpoint access to these resources. The technical solution provider has configured physical and logical controls (key management service, encryption, continuous (24/7/365) security monitoring, identity access management, user permissions and access level setup, etc.) within the Azure environment to ensure the security of the Data Hub’s data.

VI. Quality and Integrity

Both data quality (i.e., accuracy, validity, reliability, timeliness and completeness) and data integrity (i.e., consistency over the data’s life-cycle) are essential to meet the goals of the Data Hub. The Data Hub vendor is responsible for implementing appropriate procedures consistent with industry standards to ensure data quality (e.g., data quality assurance, standardization, monitoring, etc.) and data integrity (e.g., data validation, maintenance, retention, etc.). Data shall be retained and disposed of in an appropriate manner in accordance with the vendor’s policies noted in the Security section above.

VII. Definitions

**American College Health Association (ACHA):** Standing at the forefront of issues that impact the health and wellness of college students, ACHA represents over 1,100 institutions of higher education, and the collective health and wellness needs of 10 million college students through advocacy, research and education. ACHA national headquarters is located at 8455 Colesville Road, Suite 740, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**ACHA-National College Health Assessment (ACHA-NCHA):** a nationally recognized research survey administered to over 1.5 million college students that provides robust national information about college student health status, health risk behaviors and health attitudes.

**ACHA Data Hub:** The ACHA College Health and Well-Being Data Hub (“Data Hub”) program is a national college health and well-being data analysis platform to advance educational achievement and health equity among students by integrating with existing ACHA systems and other data sources, enabling data-driven decision-making, providing access to de-identified student health data to college health
leaders, and delivering a platform of informed healthcare for improved student health outcomes. ACHA is the coordinating center and central repository for data received by Data Hub Participants.

**Data**: facts and figures submitted by an institution including, but not limited to, profile information regarding institutional facilities and services as well as health and wellness issues that impact the student population and affect their academic performance.

**Data Admin User**: ACHA staff or Data Hub vendor staff who can create and view reports, execute all features, and create users and assign roles and rights to users (i.e., create/read/update/delete)

**Data contributors**: those individuals who are approved by their member institutions to contribute data to the Data Hub program.

**Data corruption**: unintentional changes to data; prevented by data maintenance processes.

**Data Governance Committee**: an advisory committee to the Data Hub that is comprised of ACHA members who are appointed by ACHA Board of Directors

**Data Hub FAQ**: This document provides answers to frequently asked questions about the ACHA College Health and Well-Being Data Hub program.

**Data Hub Participant**: The representative member (RMI) of an ACHA institutional member who has submitted the most recent Institutional Profile Survey (IPS). One additional member per institution may also get access to the Data Hub to view and create reports. Data Hub participant(s) has access to the Data Hub to view reports and execute certain features within the platform.

**Data Hub vendor**: a private company contracted by ACHA to provide technical support of the ACHA College Health and Well-Being Data Hub (“Data Hub”) program.

**Data integrity**: the consistent accuracy, or lack of unintentional changes to or deterioration of, data over its entire life-cycle.

**Data quality**: the state of accuracy, validity, reliability, timeliness, and completeness that makes data appropriate for a specific use.

**Data sponsors/trustees**: high-level ACHA executive leadership

**Data stewards**: ACHA staff or vendor responsible for daily management of data

**Data use agreement**: an agreement whereby users agree, upon submission of data in the Data Hub, that ACHA will have a perpetual, irrevocable license to the data.

**Data users**: those individuals who are approved by ACHA to access the data in the Data Hub.

**De-identified records and information**: shall be defined as set forth in 34 CFR §99.31(b)(1) and shall constitute education records or information from education records that may be released without the
consent required under FERPA after the removal of all personally identifiable information provided that Participant has made a reasonable determination that a student's identity is not personally identifiable, whether through single or multiple releases and taking into account other reasonably available information.

_Disclosure:_ shall be defined as set forth in 34 CFR §99.3 and shall mean to permit access to or the release, transfer or other communication of personally identifiable information contained in education records by any means, including oral, written, or electronic means, to any party except the party identified as the party that provided or created the record.


**FERPA**: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, affords postsecondary students the right to have access to their own education records, the right to seek to have the records amended, and the right to have some control over the disclosure of personally identifiable information from the education records.

**HIPAA**: The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), Public Law 104-191, is intended to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the health care system through national standards for electronic health care transactions and code sets, unique health identifiers, security, and protections for individually identifiable health information.

**Institutional Profile Survey (IPS)**: an annual survey that captures data from institutions of higher education regarding the nature of their health and wellness infrastructures and on their health promoting practices on campuses.

**Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)**: a system of interrelated surveys conducted annually by the U.S. Department of Education. IPEDS gathers information from every college, university, and technical and vocational institution that participates in federal student financial aid programs.

**Member institution**: an educational entity such as a college or university that is an ACHA institutional member.

**Outside entity**: an organization not related to an ACHA member institution.

**Participant data**: The de-identified data provided by Participant to ACHA for inclusion in the Data Hub.

**Personally Identifiable Information ("PII")**: as defined in 34 CFR §99.3, the term includes, but is not limited to--

(a) The student's or other individual's name;
(b) The name of the individual/student’s parent or other family members;
(c) The address of the individual/student or their family;
(d) A unique identifier, such as social security number, student number, or biometric record;
(e) Other indirect identifiers, such as the student's date of birth, place of birth, and mother's maiden name;
(f) Other information that, alone or in combination, is linked or linkable to a specific student that would allow a reasonable person in the school community, who does not have personal knowledge of the relevant circumstances, to identify the student with reasonable certainty; or
(g) Information requested by a person who the educational agency or institution reasonably believes knows the identity of the student to whom the education record relates.