

# WYOMING COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMMISSION

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## SLDS/SLEDS Summary Information 2009-2023 November 14, 2023

### Background

This document is to provide an overview of the statewide longitudinal education data system (SLDS/SLEDS) history and expenditures prior to the federal 2019/2020 SLEDS and 2023/2024 SLEDS grants acquired by Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) in collaboration with the SLEDS partners, including: WDE, Wyoming Community College Commission (WCCC), community colleges, University of Wyoming (UW), Department of Workforce Services (DWS), and recently Department of Family Services (DFS). This memo is to ensure consistent accurate information is available to all partners to share and for memorializing the information.

The Wyoming SLDS, which is known as the SLEDS, effort began in 2009 under the Wyoming P-16 Council (P-16 means Pre-K through higher education). The P-16 Council transitioned into a P-20 Council (P-20 means Pre-K, K-12, and postsecondary education and workforce systems) to better align education and the workforce. From 2010, as a result of federal American Rescue and Recovery Act (ARRA) funds until 2019, the primary legislation related to SLDS/SLEDS authorization and funding occurred in State budget bills via appropriations. In 2016, the effort was conducted under the leadership of the Department of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS). At this time, ETS withdrew leadership of the effort and stalled the endeavor. However, under ETS' leadership, a Needs Assessment was completed and a proposed governance model was outlined. Additionally, ETS transferred funding to the WCCC to complete its college data consistency effort and built the data management and research system (DMARS). DMARS is a foundational piece for including community college data in the SLEDS.

The Needs Assessment and proposed governance model served as the starting point for the 2019 restart of the SLEDS effort when the Legislature fully placed the SLEDS administration at the WCCC with required participation of UW and DWS. The 2019 federal SLDS grant, a partnership between the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) and the WCCC, provided the funding to proceed with early stage implementation/governance work steps and infrastructure building for an initial SLEDS proof of concept and successful demonstration. The completion of the 2019 SLDS grant and its outcomes exceeds

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- Casper College ● Central Wyoming College ● Eastern Wyoming College ● Gillette College
  - Laramie County Community College ● Sheridan College
  - Northwest College ● Western Wyoming Community College

the States 2010 obligation to create a SLDS upon receipt of the original ARRA funds. As the State has met this initial obligation to the federal government, the WCCC and WDE, under the approval of the SLEDS Executive Board (E-Board), have again successfully partner to secure a second federal SLEDS grant to mature the proof of concept into a system with quicker and more expansive capabilities. This second grant is effective into 2027.

## SLDS/SLEDS Funding Summary

Total State Funds for SLDS/SLEDS 2010-2023: \$7.89 million (\$3.56 million was E-Rate; actual state generated funds of \$4.33 million)

Pending State Funds for SLDS/SLEDS technology maintenance in WCCC 2025-2026 Biennial Budget Request (2024 legislative session): \$152K

Total Grant Funds for SLDS/SLEDS 2010-2027: \$7.35 million

## SLDS/SLEDS History and Funding, 2008-2027

Year	Activity	State Funding for SLDS/SLEDS
2008-2009	P-16 Council identifies the merits of a SLDS. This is reinforced by the 2008-2009 legislative Community College Taskforce report. The outcome was the formation of the P-20 Council with WDE (the State Education Agency; SEA) as the lead entity. Co-chairs of the P-16 Council included UW Provost Rollin Abernathy and UW staff Daniel Ewarts.	None
2010	The state received ~ \$51M* in ARRA funds in 2010 tied to creation of a SLDS. The money was not for a SLDS, but there was a requirement, or trigger, for the state to establish a K-12 SLDS as a condition of receiving these ARRA funds. The ARRA funds were used primarily for capital construction and major maintenance projects at the community colleges and UW per the focus of ARRA funds. See 2010 HB0001 Page 108 Section 319 (b) items (i) & (ii). The Governor was also provided flex authority for the balance of the ARRA funds. ( <i>Note:</i> Potential misunderstanding: The \$51 million was accepted by Wyoming, which created the obligation for developing the SLDS/SLEDS. This funding was not used for SLDS/SLEDS.) *These federal funds were not the only ARRA funds the state received. See the following for more information regarding ARRA funds to Wyoming. <a href="https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/progressreports/Wyoming">https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/progressreports/Wyoming</a>	None
2010	P-20 Council officially begins under WDE and appoints the SLDS Taskforce to bring forward a proposal with UW Provost Rollin Abernathy and UW Daniel Ewarts as the Co-chairs.	None
2011	SLDS Taskforce Report and whitepaper was created and made available. Presented to the Joint Education Interim Committee (JEIC) October 18, 2011 and listed as Appendix 17 & 18. Report available upon request.	None

2012	Budget bill appropriates \$3.56 million to ETS, WCCC, and DWS for SLDS effort, Hathaway tracking, and other educational accountability efforts (E-Rate funding source).	\$2.6 million ETS SLDS (report required) \$280K WCCC for researcher position (still active position) \$188K WCCC data consistency effort (completed) \$500K DWS R&P Hathaway tracking
2012	ETS SLDS Needs Assessment Report to Legislature completed by P-20 Council and ETS. Report available upon request.	N/A
2012	ETS applies for federal SLDS federal grant in which the grant was not awarded.	None
2013	ETS Supplemental budget request per the Needs Assessment.	\$1.35 million
2014	SLDS formally moved from WDE to ETS. Budget bill permits ETS to keep remaining 2012 appropriation to continue the effort.	Continuation of the 2012 funds
2015	Budget bill appropriates \$5.8 million to ETS for SLDS.	\$5.8 million
2015	ETS SLDS Update Report. Report available upon request. WCCC Needs Assessment completed for development of DMARS across the community colleges. Report available upon request.	N/A
2016	ETS withdraws from SLDS project. WCCC proceeds with development and implementation of the DMARS.	ETS reverted \$2.4 million over the course of several years with the final reversion of \$1.9 million in 2016 ETS B-11 \$3.45 million to WCCC for the creation of DMARS
2016/2017	WCCC completes the DMARS and launches interactive dashboards on metrics and analytics. (See WCCC website <a href="https://communitycolleges.wy.edu/data-hub/dashboards/">https://communitycolleges.wy.edu/data-hub/dashboards/</a> ).	N/A
2018	2018 House Bill 175 (HEA 47; Session Laws, Chapter 78) requires a study on how to proceed with a common transcript and transfer process and to provide recommendations of resource and policy needs. The implementation of a SLEDS was an outcome of the required report. WCCC includes the SLEDS one-time funding request in its 2019 Supplemental Budget Request. Report available upon request.	N/A
2018	Stakeholder meeting held with all partners to determine when and how to proceed using the prior P-20 ETS Needs Assessment. ETS memo to JAC explained that the SLDS effort was stalled in 2016 and outlined ETS' SLDS funding history. Included that they can accommodate the Security Expert needs and recommended the WCCC security funding not be funded. Memo available upon request.	N/A

2019	SLEDS formally administratively placed via 2019 House Bill 204 (HEA 96; Session Laws, Chapter 150) in the WCCC with required participation of colleges, UW, WDE, and DWS. Tied to the common transcript and transfer process and to meet the 2010 federal obligation. SLEDS one-time funding of \$600,000 for professional/contracted services is provided in the Supplemental Budget with a required report. Report available upon request.	\$230K SLEDS Project Manager \$260K SLEDS Data Scientist \$110K SLEDS Database Administrator
2019/2020	SLDS grant awarded to WDE (via the WCCC) for SLEDS to establish the technology infrastructure, implement the governance structure, and test the process through completion of specific research questions along with execution of data MOU (Outcome will meet the 2010 federal SLDS obligation).	\$3.2 million
2020	WCCC proceeded with federated data MOU using research question approach.	N/A
2020	SLDS grant provided additional federal funding to include research questions regarding the impact of COVID-19 on education completion.	\$400K
2021	SLEDS E-Board approves the high availability data system (HADS) model over the original federated model to allow for greater use of metrics and interactive dashboards. MOUs completed with the exception of DWS (pending federal Department of Labor (DOL) approval).	N/A
2022	DOL approves Wyoming HADS MOU and DWS completes the HADS MOU.	N/A
2022	SLDS Remediation Report completed, which results in accelerated elimination of traditional remediation courses at the community colleges. <a href="https://wy-sleds.org/research-reports">https://wy-sleds.org/research-reports</a>	N/A
2022	DFS formally joined SLEDS. DFS Director becomes voting member of E-Board.	N/A
2023	The Wyoming SLEDS is built, which meets Wyoming's 2010 SLDS obligation. E-Board demonstration of SLEDS production and capability. Discussion of need to develop a research agenda that includes regular metrics, incorporates the State's Wyoming Innovation Partnership (WIP) initiative, and allows for interactive dashboards in addition to research questions. Subcommittee of E-Board appointed to begin process. E-Board approves proceeding with second SLDS federal grant to help the process of developing a research agenda including standing metrics, dashboards, and quicker production of information as well as long-term management plan. E-Board also approves potentially incorporating DFS's early childhood integrated data system (ECIDS) into the SLEDS environment at the request of the Governor's Office. Approves proceeding with secondary federal grant to support ECIDS integration. Additional grant award notification for ECIDS not expected until 2024.	N/A
2023	Postsecondary education workforce outcomes dashboard is completed, demonstrations are conducted, and E-Board approves release of the dashboard. <a href="https://wy-sleds.org/workforce-outcomes">https://wy-sleds.org/workforce-outcomes</a>	N/A

2023	<p>Second federal SLDS grant awarded to WDE with administration through WCCC for SLEDS development of research agenda, demonstrations, dashboards, and production (as well as long-term management plan). Second federal grant funding available from 2024 into 2027. SLEDS E-Board completes a side-by-side comparison of the two grants. Report available upon request.</p> <p>Verification from ED that Wyoming has met its 2010 SLDS obligation with the 2011 K-12 data warehouse and with the implementation of 2022/2023 Remediation Report and P-20W workforce outcomes dashboard.</p>	\$3.75 million
2023	<p>WCCC budget request for on-going SLEDS technology costs in the FY2025-2026 Biennial Budget (consider in 2024 Session). There is an additional \$18K request for server costs. Request also includes one-time integration of ECIDS into SLEDS, should the Governor opt proceed. Provides snapshot of on-going biennial technology costs of \$134K.</p>	<p>\$134K SLEDS technology maintenance  \$18K SLEDS server  \$800K ECIDS integration into SLEDS</p>