CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE OF INTERNAL AUDIT

Agreed Upon Procedures (AUP) Package for 2023-2024 Education Financial System Data and October 2023 PSIS Data Elements

LOCAL CHARTER SCHOOLS REVISED AUGUST 2024

2023-2024 October 2023 PSIS Data

CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE OF INTERNAL AUDIT

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LOCAL CHARTER SCHOOLS

REVISED AUGUST 2024

Contents	<u>Page</u>
Definitions	2
General Instructions	3
Preparation	4-5
AUP for Education Financial System Data	6-8
AUP for PSIS Data Elements	9-10
Follow-Up, Report Preparation and Submission	11-13
Pro Forma Accountant's Report	14-15
Example - Schedule 1	15
Notes	16
BFS Submittal Instructions	17

DEFINITIONS

Many terms, forms, numbers, and initials that are used by education department administrators are also used in this AUP Package. This section is intended to familiarize accountants with this terminology by providing brief definitions.

Charter Calcert	where a multiply proportion approximation in		
Charter School	means a public, nonsectarian school which is: (a) established under a charter granted pursuant to Section		
	10-66bb Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S);		
	(b) organized as a nonprofit entity under state law;		
	(c) a public agency for the purposes of the Freedom of		
	Information Act, as defined in Section 1-200 C.G.S., and;		
	(d) operated independently of any local or regional board of		
	education in accordance with the terms of its charter and		
	the provisions of Sections 10-66aa to 10-66uu of the		
	C.G.S. inclusive.		
Local Charter School	means a public school or part of a public school that is converted into a		
	charter school and is approved by the local or regional board of		
	education of the school district in which it is located and by the State		
	Board of Education pursuant to subsection (e) of Section 10-66bb		
State Charter School	means a new public school approved by the State Board of Education		
	pursuant to subsection (f) of Section 10-66bb		
Turnaround Office	The "Turnaround Office" provides information/guidance on Charter		
	School Programs. The Charter School Program Manager is		
Performance Office	Robert Kelly, (860) 713-6574.		
Performance Office	The "Performance Office" has the responsibility of implementing the results of the AUP for Charter School Public School Information System		
	data.		
LEA	"Local Educational Agency," is either a city's or town's board		
	of education, or a regional school district.		
CSDE	"Connecticut State Department of Education."		
BFS	The "Bureau of Fiscal Services" distributes state and federal grants to		
	charter schools. The Bureau collects a variety of data from the charter		
	schools and also has the responsibility of implementing the results of the		
	AUP for Charter School Education Financial System data.		
EFS	The "Education Financial System" is used to report the charter school's		
	financial operations for the year.		
PSIS	The "Public School Information System" is a data system that reflects		
	enrollments on October 1 or the full school day immediately preceding		
	such date, in accordance with Sections 10-10a and 10-66ee of the		
	Connecticut General Statutes. Data from this system is used to		
	determine the charter school's share of any state and federal grants.		

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

NAME OF CHARTER SCHOOL_

2023-2024

The primary objective of this program is to perform certain agreed upon procedures for the financial data *(Education Financial System and October 2023 PSIS Data Elements)* prepared by local charter schools.

Work performed under this program with respect to information submitted by the charter school consists of:

- Agreeing of financial information to records audited by the charter school's independent accountants;
- Obtaining the charter school's methods of allocating revenues and expenses among various categories;
- Obtaining documentation supporting nonfinancial information, and;
- Reviewing the forms for compliance with instructions and applicable laws.

In completing these agreed upon procedures, it may be necessary to add additional steps for any additional or alternative procedures considered appropriate. In this event, the additional or alternative procedures must be discussed with and agreed to by CSDE's Office of Internal Audit (see below) prior to the work being done. These procedures must also be explained in the workpapers and Independent Accountant's Report. All exceptions noted in performing any procedures should be investigated and resolved by appropriate means. In the absence of appropriate notations to the contrary, the signature or initials of the independent accountant who performed the procedure will indicate that there were no unresolved exceptions.

The data elements subject to these procedures under this program are also reviewed by the CSDE for clerical accuracy and for certain other aspects. The CSDE's review will continue beyond the date independent accountants are to render their reports and will often involve issues that are not communicated to the independent accountants who performed the examination. It is therefore expected that in many cases the CSDE will request charter schools to make adjustments after independent accountants have completed their procedures and rendered their reports. For this reason, it is imperative that independent accountants include in their report a reference to the document dates (print date/time) which appear on the final internet application printouts. (See Pro Forma Accountant's Report).

A number of quality assurance reviews may be performed. The independent accountant must retain all workpapers and the AUP Package for a **minimum of five years** from the date of the report. These workpapers must be made available to the CSDE, their independent accountants, or other parties performing a review under the State Single Audit Act. <u>The workpapers must be sufficient</u> to support all work performed in this AUP Package.

<u>NOTE</u>: Statute requires that this report must be submitted to CSDE on or before January 31, 2025.

THERE IS NO EXTENSION FOR THIS DEADLINE

Failure to meet this deadline can result in a fine from \$1,000 to \$10,000 for the Charter School.

If the report is sent via email, the address is <u>grants.sde@ct.gov</u> (See Note 3 on Page 16). If it is sent by mail, it must be sent by certified, return receipt requested mail by January 31, 2025 to 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT 06103 (See Step 17 on Page 12).

For questions concerning this AUP Package, please contact Tom Markoski, Office of Internal Audit, via email at <u>Tom.Markoski@ct.gov</u> or phone (860) 713-6538.

PREPARATION

			Procedure Performed By	Comments, References to Analyses, Etc.
1.	Ob	tain and read the following materials to assist with the AUP:		
	a)	Instructions for the 2023-2024 Education Financial System can be accessed on the internet at:		
		https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Fiscal- Services/EFS/EducationFinancialSystem/Documents		
	b)	The 2023-2024 PSIS Reference Guide prepared by the Performance Office. This can also be accessed on the internet at:		
		https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Performance/Data-Collection-Help- Sites/PSIS-Help-Site/Documentation#refguide		
	c)	Financial Accounting for Local and State School Systems: 2014 Edition. This document is located on the internet at:		
		https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2015/2015347.pdf		
	d)	All relevant audit reports for the year subject to audit. These may include:		
		General Purpose Financial Statements of the applicable entity to which the local charter school is associated.		
		Federal and State Single Audit Reports.		
	e)	A listing of the Charter's FY2023-2024 federal and state grants payments provided through the CSDE. The listing is available at:		
<u>htt</u>	<u>ps://</u>	www.csde.state.ct.us/public/dgm/grantreports1/paydetlMain.aspx		
		Sections 10-66aa through 10-66uu inclusive, of the Connecticut General Statutes.		
	g)	A copy of the section of the approved charter school application which describes the school's activities.		

PREPARATION (cont'd)

	Procedure Performed By	Comments, References to Analyses, Etc.
 h) A copy of the completed "Worksheet for Determining Approved Charter School Application Expenditures" (Appendix F of the EFS User Guide). 		
2. Obtain the following data reports, forms and information:		
a) 2023-2024 EFS Data as last revised.		
In order to ensure complete audit coverage of all prior adjustments, the independent accountant MUST request that the Charter School run the following reports on the day fieldwork is started:		
 2023-2024 EFS DR1 – Schedule Report 2023-2024 EFS DR1 – District - Level Function/Object Report 2023-2024 EFS SR1 – School - Level Function/Object Report 		
The print date/time of this printout will appear in paragraph #1 of the Independent Accountant's Report to CSDE.		
 b) For PSIS data, the Charter School Racial Survey by Town of Residence Report for the October 2023 filing period as last revised. 		
In order to ensure complete audit coverage of all prior adjustments, the independent accountant MUST request that the Charter School run the reports on the day fieldwork is started. The print date/time of these reports will appear in paragraph #1 of the Independent Accountant's Report to CSDE.		

Note that the filing date of the PSIS Data is September 29, 2023.

		Procedure Performed By	Comments, References to Analyses, Etc.
c)	The Desk Audit Findings/Variances issued by BFS to the Charter School.		
	These findings are a result of desk reviews performed by BFS on 2023- 2024 EFS data, SEECG Student Data Filing Form and PSIS Summer School FTE Credit Report. <u>The independent accountant will obtain and</u> <u>read these items to confirm that all findings have been addressed by</u> the LEA.		

AGREED UPON PROCEDURES FOR 2023-2024 EFS DATA

		Procedure Performed By	Comments, References to Analyses, Etc.
3.	Perform the following procedures for the amounts reported on the "Worksheet for Determining Approved Charter School Application Expenditures" (Appendix F of the EFS User Guide) as follows:		
	a) Trace and verify the amount on Line A to the expenditures shown in the audited basic financial statements.		

Note: In some cases, the local board of education of the town in which the charter school is located may receive grant funds on behalf of the charter school. The local board has the option of passing on the grant funds to the charter school or providing the services from the grant revenue. If the services have been provided, the values of the services are reportable in EFS, but will not be found in the general purpose financial statements. For purposes of the reconciliation, it is only necessary to identify that amount as a reconciling item. Supporting documents for that amount will be reviewed in a step to be performed later.

	b)	Read and become familiar with the approved activities listed in the charter school application obtained in Step 1g .	
-	c)	By inquiry and verifying supporting documentation, review the completed worksheet obtained in Step 1h for conformance with instructions in Appendix F of the EFS User Guide.	
DF	R 3 -	- Schedule Report	
4.	Pr	ocedures for testing expenditures reported in EFS:	
	a)	Determine that each grant included on the listing of 2023-2024 Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance obtained in Step 1e is included on the Federal Funding Schedule and the State Funding Schedule as applicable.	
	b)	To become familiar with CSDE reporting requirements for in-kind expenditures, read the instructions for EFS Funding Source Code "12" in Section 4.2 of the EFS User Guide.	
	c)	Obtain the supporting documentation for the in-kind expenditures which the CSDE has instructed the charter school to have available for the agreed upon procedures.	
	_		<u> </u>

AGREED UPON PROCEDURES FOR 2023-2024 EFS DATA (cont'd)

		Procedure Performed By	Comments, References to Analyses, Etc.
d)	Agree amounts appearing on:		
	Line LC101 - LC104 Local Funding Schedule Line FC101 - FC301 Federal Funding Schedule Line SC101 - SC301 State Funding Schedule Line PC101 - PC108 Private/Miscellaneous Schedule		
	to the supporting documentation.		
e)	Determine that Lines BC401 and BC402:		
4	Do not include retirement of debt incurred for equipment subject to reimbursement under a school construction grant as provided under Chapter 173 of the Connecticut General Statutes.		
f)	Determine that Line BC202:		
4	Does not include expenditures, which were supported by bond funds or other debt service.		
4	Is in accordance with Appendix C of the EFS User Guide regarding CSDE definition of School Construction.		
4	Includes current expenditures supported by School Construction Progress Payments received, if applicable, from the state plus any local non-debt funding source for the applicable construction activity (Appendix C of the EFS User Guide).		
M	rocedures for the Charter School Related Party and anagement Organization Information Schedule are as llows:		
i i	Based on inquiries with responsible Management and/or Board Members, confirm the responses to Lines RC101, RC102, RC104 and RC201 . Ensure that all related party disclosure nformation and payments to charter school management organizations are disclosed in accordance with procedures in Section 3.19 of the EFS User Guide.		
	Verify information contained on Lines RC103 and Lines RC202 to supporting documentation.		

AGREED UPON PROCEDURES FOR 2023-2024 EFS DATA (cont'd)

	Procedure Performed By	Comments, References to Analyses, Etc.
c) <u>Any related party or management company information not</u> properly disclosed on this schedule must be included in the comments section of the Independent Accountant's Report.		
DR1 – District-Level Function/Object Report		
 Obtain the supporting documentation for the amounts reported on the EFS DR1 – District-Level Function/Object Summary Report. 		
a) From supporting documentation, select 40 Transactions, at a minimum 10 must be from the salaries object. Verify that the amounts have been properly classified by education type, function and object categories in accordance with Sections 4.3 – 4.5 of the EFS User Guide.		
SR1 – School-Level Function/Object Report		
 For the Charter school, obtain the supporting documentation for the amounts reported on the EFS SR1 – School-Level Function/Object Summary Report. 		
a) From supporting documentation, select 20 Transactions, at a minimum 5 must be from the salaries object. Verify that the amounts have been properly assigned/allocated to that school. Salaries can be verified via Teachers contracts, School Teacher/Grade Lists. Non-personnel costs can be verified via purchase orders and invoice documentation.		
8. If the audit of the financial statements of the applicable entity to which the local charter school is associated has not been completed prior to submission of the Independent Accountant's Report for this AUP Package (due January 31, 2025), all adjustments resulting from the completion of the audit must be read to determine if there is any impact on the EFS or PSIS data. If there is impact, the necessary final printout (print date/time) including such adjustments must be referenced in the revised Independent Accountant's Report.		
9. Obtain the desk audit correspondence referred to in Step 2c and confirm that all findings have been addressed by the Charter School.		

AGREED UPON PROCEDURES FOR PSIS DATA ELEMENTS

The CSDE uses the PSIS to collect data regarding student enrollment throughout the state of Connecticut. The PSIS data is used for federal and state grants; PSIS data also connects to other CSDE data collection systems and is used for public reporting and analysis as well. The following steps were developed to test and confirm certain data elements within this PSIS system.

The independent accountant is required to obtain and agree the documentation which supports the September 29, 2023 enrollment data which was reported and certified to the CSDE through the PSIS system. For purposes of consistency and clarification, the following guidance as to adequacy of documentation is provided:

- School offices should provide adequate documentation to support student enrollment data contained in the PSIS system including but not limited to pupil personnel records, registration cards, report cards, class lists, invoices, etc.
- Proper coding of students such as Special Education, Pre-K, etc. should have adequate supporting documentation such as the items listed above.

If the independent accountant encounters a situation involving the unavailability of adequate documentation, Tom Markoski of the Office of Internal Audit must be contacted at (860) 713-6538 for consultation.

	Procedure Performed By	Comments, References to Analyses, Etc.
 Obtain the Charter School Racial Survey by Town of Residence Report for the October 2023 filing period as last revised. (See Step 2b) 		
In order to ensure complete and current coverage of all prior adjustments, the independent accountant MUST request that the Charter School run the reports ON THE DAY fieldwork is started. The print date/time of these reports will appear in paragraph #1 of the Independent Accountant's Report to the CSDE.		
11. a) Select a sample, for testing, of students from the October Audit File Download for the October 2023 filing period which is reported on the Charter School Racial Survey by Town of Residence Report.		
b) For each student selected for testing, verify information shown on the Audit File Download to enrollment records or comparable documentation. Include confirmation of the following data elements:		
 First Name Last Name Town of Residency Special Program Status Code 		

AGREED UPON PROCEDURES FOR PSIS DATA ELEMENTS (cont'd)

		Procedure Performed By	Comments, References to Analyses, Etc.
C)	Trace student sample to class attendance records for the September 29, 2023 snapshot date to confirm that students are enrolled and attending.		
d)	Any identified variances should be discussed with the Charter School administrator, referenced in the report and corrected by the Charter School, if necessary.		

E FOLLOW-UP, REPORT PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION

		Procedure Performed By	Comments, References to Analyses, Etc.
Perform th	e following:		
12.	Present all AUP findings to the preparer and/or the charter school's administrator. All parties should understand the reasons for these findings and agree that corrections should be made. In the event that an agreement cannot be reached, the independent accountant must report the issue in the Independent Accountant's Report. The CSDE will resolve.		
13.	For data corrections, direct the preparer (or other appropriate charter school personnel) to enter the required revisions into the CSDE's database via the internet application and print a copy of the revised reports which reflect AUP adjustments.		
14.	Review the revised internet application reports to ascertain that proposed corrections were entered correctly and that the impact of such corrections as they relate to EFS data has been properly reflected.		
15.	Prepare the "Independent Accountant's Report" to the CSDE (See Page 14-15 for a Pro Forma Report). Appropriate modifications and/or notifications should be made if errors were noted or other unusual circumstances were encountered.		
16.	If there are no adjustments, it is sufficient for the Independent Accountant's Report [first paragraph] to reference only the <u>print date and time</u> of the printouts that were reviewed. It is not necessary to attach printouts to the report, although copies of the applicable printouts must be retained with the AUP workpapers.		
	If there are adjustments, printouts which incorporate all AUP adjustments must be referenced by <u>print date</u> <u>and time</u> in the Independent Accountant's Report [second paragraph]. It is not necessary to attach printouts to the report, although copies of the applicable printouts must be retained with the AUP workpapers.		

FOLLOW-UP, REPORT PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION

		Procedure Performed By	Comments, References to Analyses, Etc
17.	Submit a signed copy of the Independent Accountant's Report to:		
Bur Con 450 Har Ema	er Persson, Chief of Fiscal & Administrative Services eau of Fiscal Services inecticut State Department of Education Columbus Boulevard, Suite 404 tford, Connecticut 06103 ail Address: <u>grants.sde@ct.gov</u> e Note 3 on Page 16)		

FOLLOW-UP, REPORT PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION (cont'd)

	✓ <u>REPORT CHECKLIST</u>	YES	If No, Please Explain
18.	Have all errors been corrected by using the internet application revision process?		
19.	Has a copy of each final internet application printout which was prepared previously in Step 13 been referenced (print date and time) in the Independent Accountant's Report and retained with the AUP workpapers? It is not necessary to attach copies of internet application printouts to the report, although copies of the printouts must be retained with the AUP workpapers.		
20.	Have all corrections which resulted from AUP findings been reviewed with the charter school's administrator?		
21.	Have all of the CSDE's desk audit findings obtained in Step 2c and internet application edit messages described in Step 14 been addressed?		

PRO FORMA ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED UPON PROCEDURES (AUP)

Date:

Charter School Administrator and Board of Trustees Education Building Town of XX, CT 06000

We have performed the procedures included in the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE's) AUP Package, which were agreed to by the CSDE and the XX Charter School, solely to assist the CSDE in evaluating certain school year grant data as printed on CSDE's internet application in connection with education reimbursement claims submitted by the Charter School for the year ended June 30, 2024. The school year grant data is reported on the following CSDE forms and data systems:

- 2023-2024 EFS DR3 Schedule Report [specify print date and time of day of the internet application report]
- 2023-2024 EFS DR1 District-Level Function/Object Report [specify print date and time of day of the internet application report]
- 2023-2024 EFS SR1 School-Level Function/Object Report [specify print date and time of day of the internet application report]
- 10/2023 PSIS (Charter School Racial Survey By Town of Residence Report) [specify print date and time of the internet application report]

The Charter School has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of assisting the CSDE in evaluating certain school year grant data. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The Charter School's management is responsible for the school year grant data as printed on CSDE's internet application in connection with education reimbursement claims submitted by the Charter School for the year ended June 30, 2024. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of CSDE. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described in the CSDE's AUP package either for the purpose of this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

(Option 1) Refer to Appendix A for a listing of procedures in the CSDE AUP Package. As a result of performing the procedures included in the CSDE's AUP Package, no exceptions were noted.

(Option 2) Refer to Appendix A for a listing of procedures in the CSDE AUP Package. As a result of performing the procedures included in the CSDE's AUP Package, certain matters came to our attention that caused us to believe that adjustments contained in Schedule 1 should be recorded to the October 2023 PSIS Report(s) (Step(s) XX) (See Note 1). Additionally certain matters came to our attention that caused us to believe that adjustments should be recorded to the school year grant data reported in the EFS printout(s) (Step(s) XX). The adjustments are incorporated in the following internet application printouts: (Specify print date and time of day for the EFS printout(s) and the PSIS printout (See Note 2) as appropriate). [We were unable to (describe scope limitation, if applicable.)] (See Note 4).

The listing of procedures as described in Appendix A, with the exception of the steps mentioned above, were performed with no exception.

This agreed upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion on compliance. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. Had we been able to (refer to scope limitation) or had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the Charter School and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the CSDE and the Charter School and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

IL EXAMPLE - SCHEDULE 1 (SCHEDULE OF AUP FINDINGS)

Education Financial System Revisions

Note: Data adjustments incorporated into the Education Financial System referenced in the Independent Accountant's Report (third paragraph) do not need to be listed separately in the Schedule of AUP Findings.

PSIS Adjustments

(Name of Charter School)

The following findings pertain to our performance of procedures specified in the CSDE's AUP Package for PSIS Data Elements.

October 2023 PSIS Data

Finding #1: The resident town was misreported for 3 students.

Recommended Revisions:

Student	Resident Town Per	Proposed	Adjusted PSIS
SASID	PSIS Data System	<u>Adjustment</u>	Data System
XXXXX	XXXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXXXX

Appendix A

<u>CSDE Agreed Upon Procedures (Rev. 8-2024)</u>

The CSDE Agreed Upon Procedures (Rev. 8-2024) must be attached to the Independent Accountant's Report.

NOTES

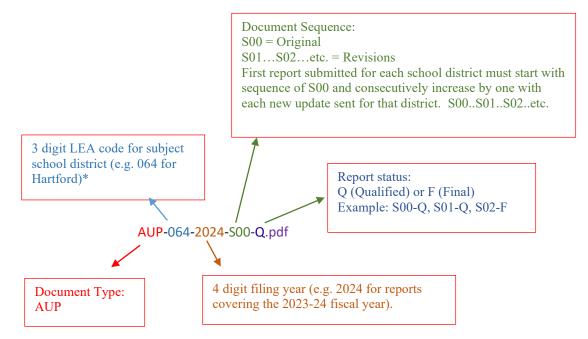
NOTE (1)	October 2023 PSIS Data Revisions must be listed separately in the Schedule of Findings.
NOTE (2)	Only the forms being revised should be referenced in this sentence.
NOTE (3)	If the Independent Accountant intends to submit an electronic version of the Independent Accountant's Report, please email the report by Friday, January 31, 2025 to the BFS at <u>grants.sde@ct.gov</u> . Submittal instructions are included on page 17 of the package. When an email is received, the account will send an automated response, which will serve as your confirmation of receipt.
NOTE (4)	<u>For EFS procedures only</u> ; upon completion of the Charter School audit, a revised (unqualified) Independent Accountant's Report along with any additional adjustments should be forwarded to the BFS at <u>grants.sde@ct.gov</u> following the instructions included on page 17 of this package. Procedures outlined in this AUP Package associated with the testing of PSIS, PSIS Summer School FTE Credit and SEECG data must be completed by January 31, 2025. Any scope limitation reported related to these procedures could result in a fine to the LEA. For example, a scope limitation contained in the AUP report that states these procedures (PSIS, PSIS Summer School FTE Credit or SEECG) could not be completed because the Charter School's financial statement audit is not complete, maybe deemed a late filing and subject the LEA to penalty.

Instructions for Email Submission of the Independent Accountant's Report on Agreed-Upon-Procedures to the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE)

Email address: grants.sde@ct.gov

Subject line of the email **must** contain "AUP 20XX" where XX is the end year of the fiscal year being reported. This wording is necessary for the report to be routed properly for record of receipt and filing. You may also include the school district name(s) or other information for reference. Example: AUP 2024: Andover.

Reports **must** be attached as .pdf files; multiple reports, in separate attachments, may be sent in one email. Each attachment **must** be named as follows:



*The 3-digit LEA code for the subject school district can be found in Table H at <u>https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Performance/Data-Collection-Help-Sites/PSIS-Help-Site/Documentation</u>, be sure to add leading zeroes if necessary for the 3-digit format.

We will send an automated message confirming receipt in response to acceptable submissions per above guidelines. Please note that emails with subject lines or attachment file names not formatted as specified above will not be considered received by the CSDE.