Colorado's FAFSA Completion Project

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Today's Goal

Share what Colorado has learned in the past four years of FAFSA Completion Project implementation to boost and accelerate your state's efforts.

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Outline for Today's Discussion

- Colorado Landscape
- What is FAFSA Completion Project?
- Why implement?
- Colorado's Goals for Project
- Best/Promising Practices
- Data & Agreements
- State FAFSA Portal
- Report Options
- Timeline
- How can Colorado help your state?

Postsecondary Workforce Readiness Definition

"The knowledge, skills, and behaviors essential to high school graduates to be prepared to enter college and the workforce and compete in the global economy including content knowledge, learning and behavior skills"

Source: State Board of Education and the Commission on Higher Education's joint adoption on June 30, 2009 of the description of Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness.

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Landscape

- **By 2020 74% of all jobs in Colorado (3 million jobs) will require education beyond high school**
  - 26% will require a high school diploma or less
  - 32% will require some college, an associate's degree or certificate
  - 29% will require a bachelor's degree
  - 12% will require a master's degree or better

  Between 2010 and 2020, new jobs in Colorado requiring a postsecondary education and training will grow by 716,000, while jobs for high school graduates will grow by 268,000.
    - Source: Georgetown University, *Job Growth and Education Requirements*, 2013

WHY FAFSA Project?

H&R BLOCK

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

90%

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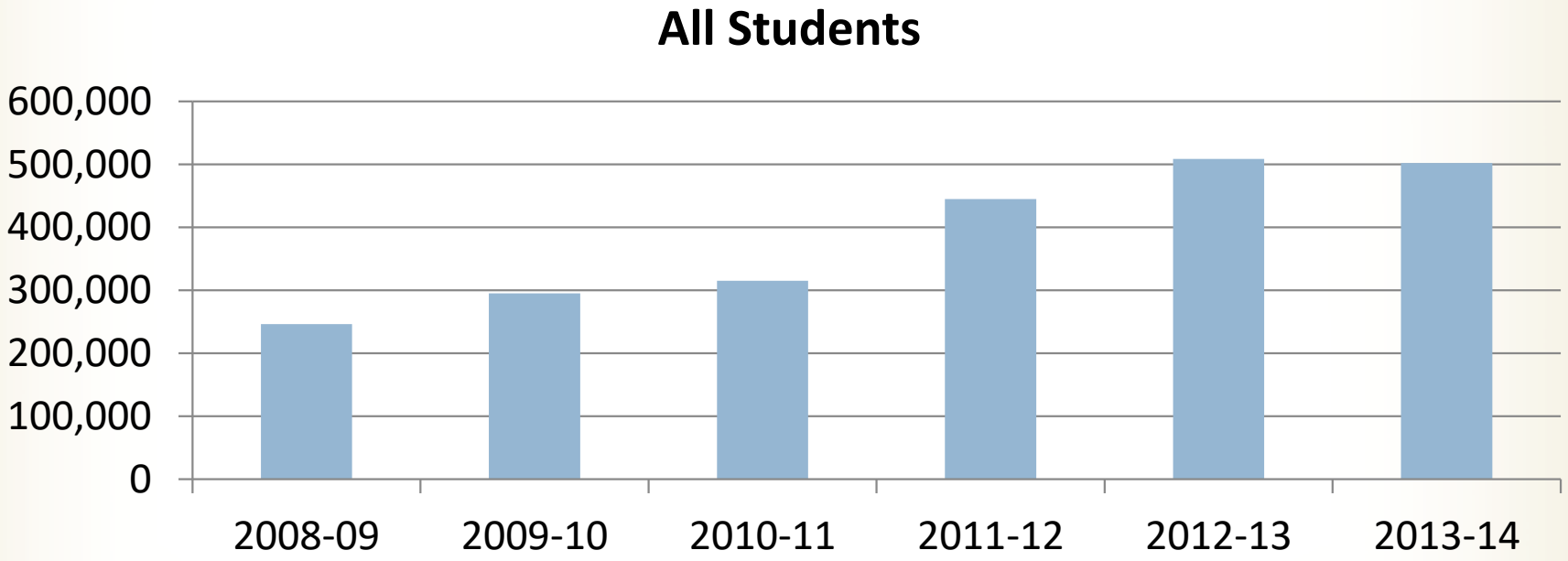
FAFSA Completion for Colorado



2011 FAFSA Completion Project Began

Source: IFAP Application Volume

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Promising Practices

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FAFSA Project Purpose

- Provide districts and schools with FAFSA completion information to assist in guiding intentional, individualized conversations with student and their families.
  - Leverage as primary indicator of enrollment in education beyond high school
  - Increase the number of students who enter and complete a degree or credential
  - Maximize resources by connecting school counselors, students, and families through FAFSA
  - Provide state leadership for FAFSA completion to assist local-level efforts

Project Outcomes/Practices

- Increase enrollment in postsecondary education and degree/credential completion
- Ensure students maximize Federal financial aid resources, such as Pell
- Connect “summer melt” resources
- Replicate studies with Colorado data
- Resources for high-need populations and wrap-around services for homeless, foster, and other independent student populations
- Systemic change lever to utilize data to maximize resources for students

FAFSA Completion Project Goals

- **Create simple tool for Colorado district and schools to identify students who needs assistance in accessing higher education**
  - Plug-and-play tool
  - No need for additional software or technology
  - Maximized time for current personnel
  - Minimal training of users
  - Accurately match students with schools/districts (4% error rate)
  - Help FAFSA be fun and simple – remove the fear
  - Emphasize importance of FAFSA as indicator to higher education
  - Align FAFSA and higher ed matriculation data points
  - Unique identifier (mountain goat)
  - History of progress year-over-year

Complex Data Simplified

- Data agreements for student-level info
- Access levels with authentication
- Attorney General “thumbs-up”
- Copy of Agreement
- Push system to districts

Funding the portal

- **Building the portal (6-month project)**
  - State general funds
  - CACG

- **Sustained through general funds**
  - Data (4 hours per week)
  - District support (4 hours per week)
  - Partnership to coordinate with districts (DHE & CDE)
  - Connecting state & federal resources

FAFSA Completion Portal

Elegant, Efficient Simplicity

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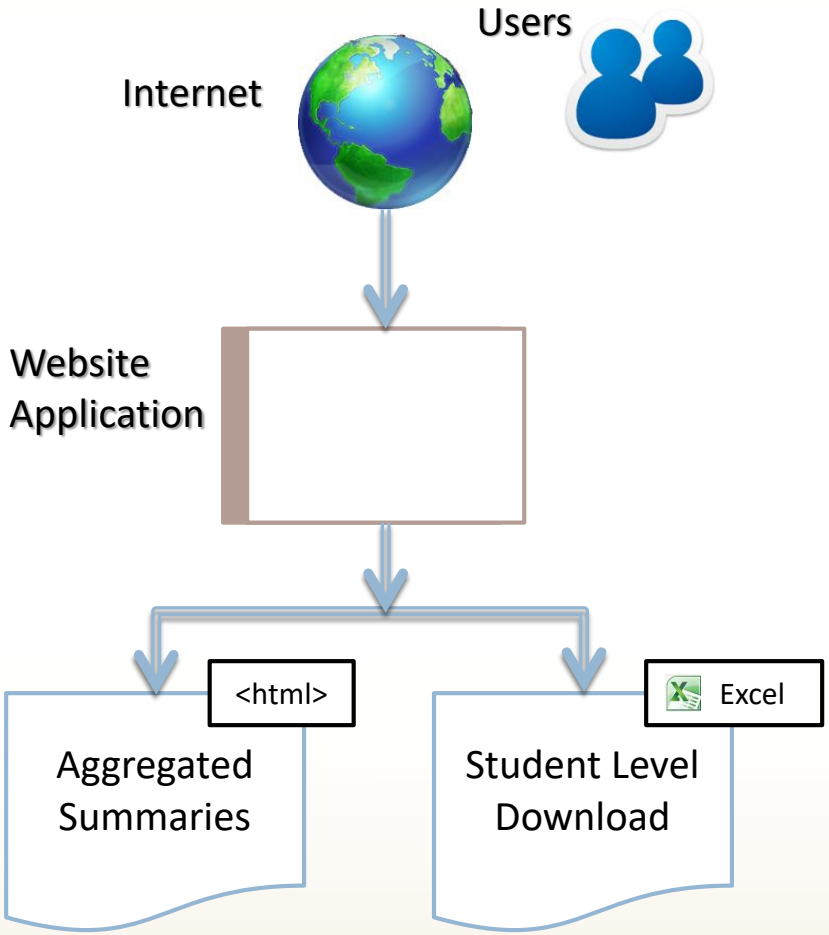
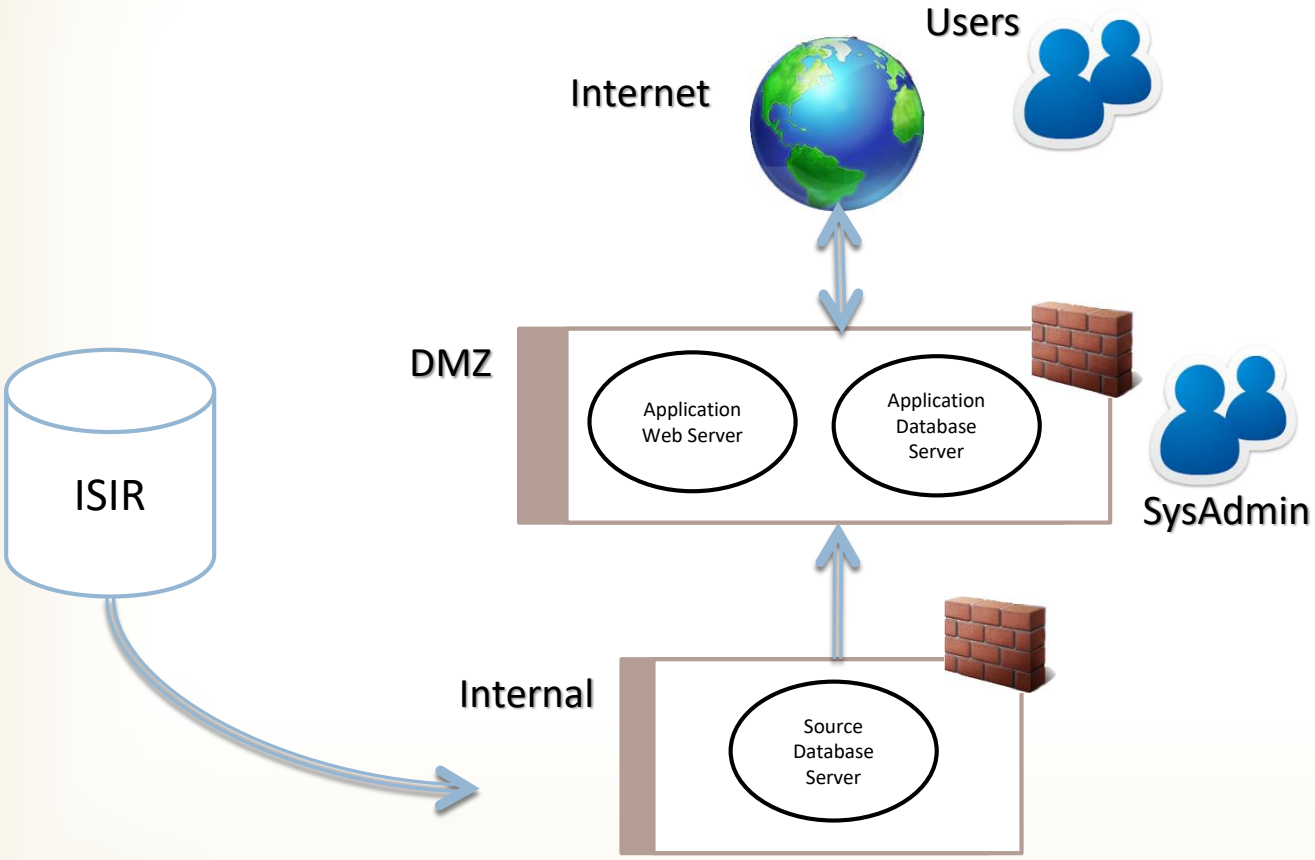
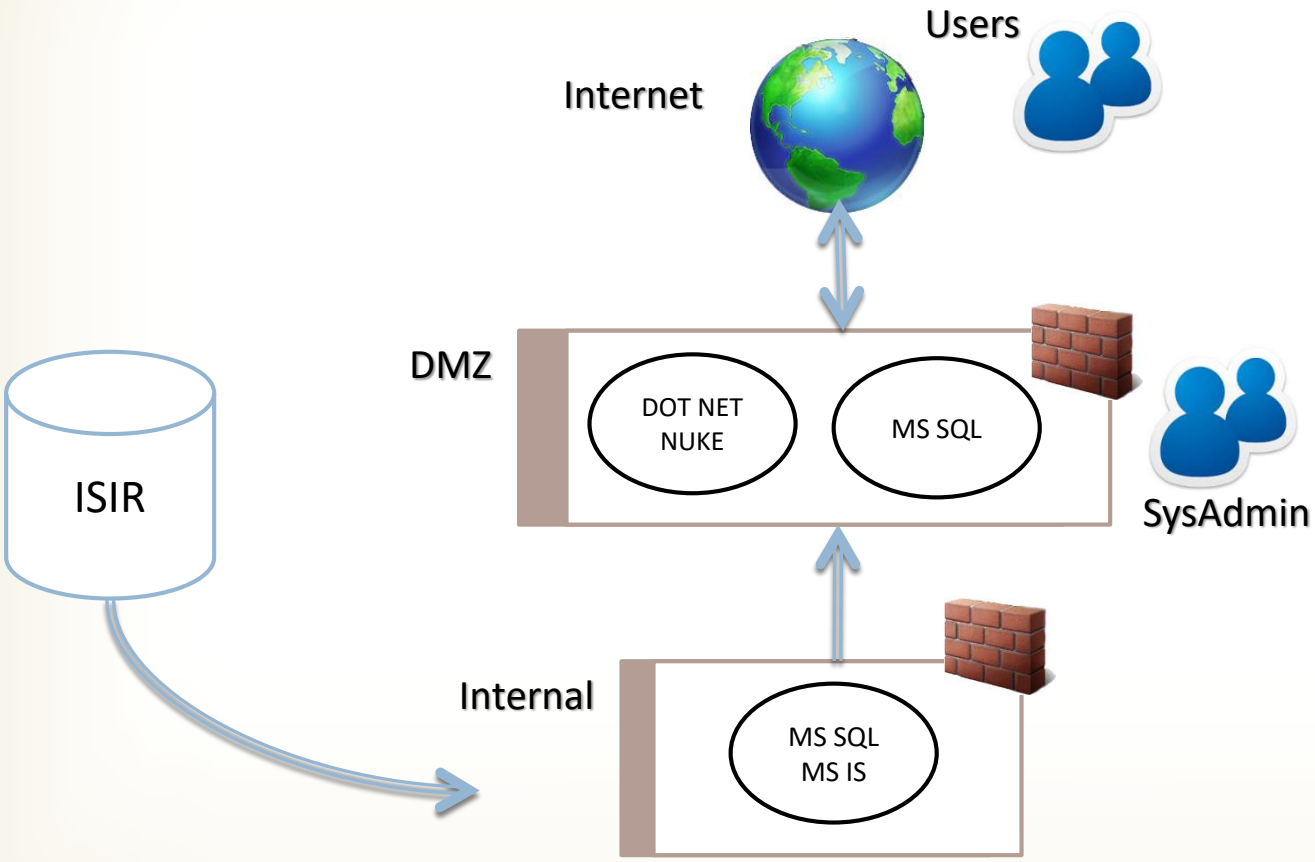
Current Colorado Process Flow



Current Colorado System Architecture



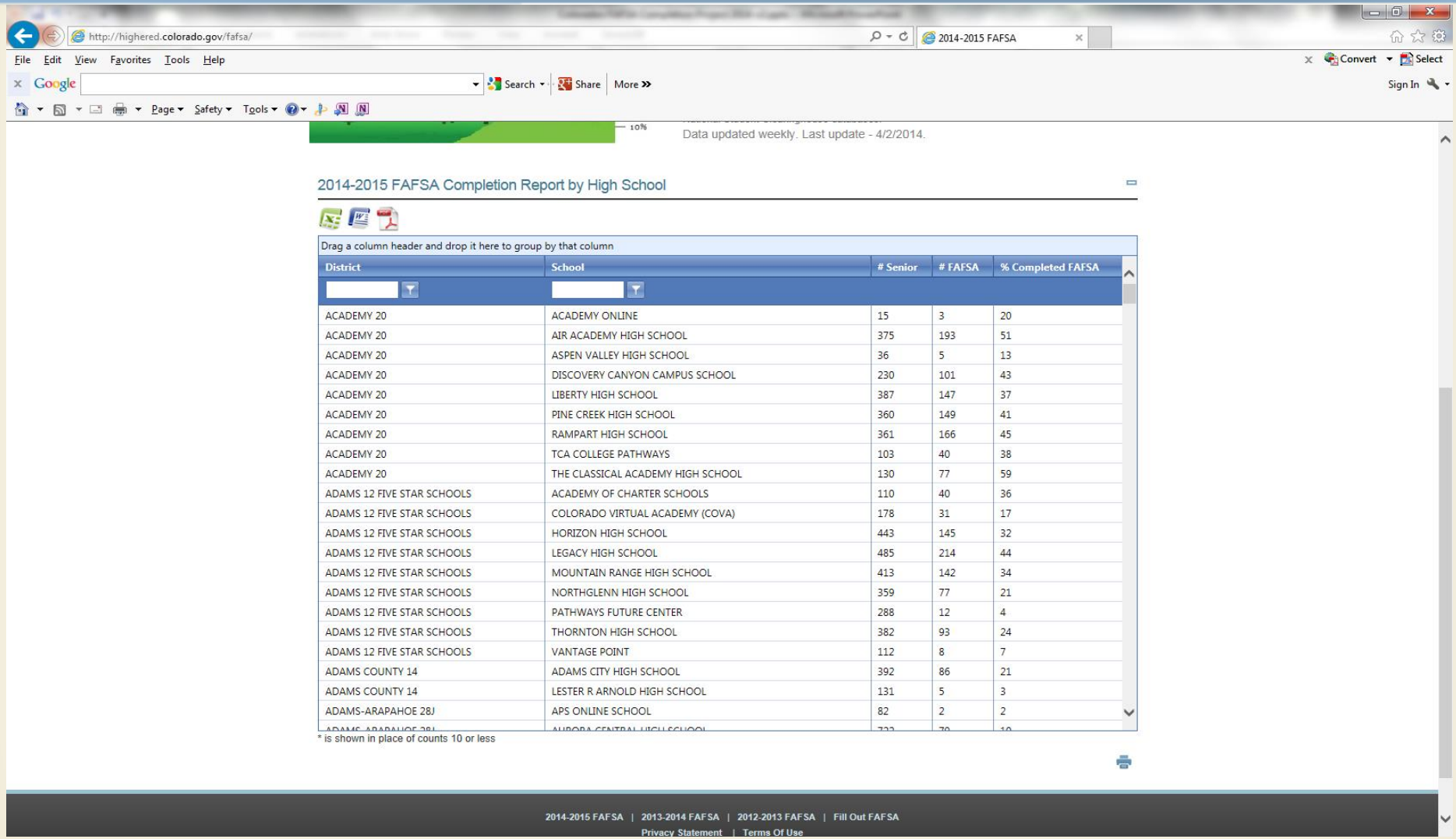
Current Colorado Application Architecture



Home Page

http://highered.colorado.gov/fafsa/

Aggregate Data by High Schools



http://highered.colorado.gov/fafsa/

2014-2015 FAFSA

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Data updated weekly. Last update - 4/2/2014.

2014-2015 FAFSA Completion Report by High School

Drag a column header and drop it here to group by that column

District	School	# Senior	# FAFSA	% Completed FAFSA
ACADEMY 20	ACADEMY ONLINE	15	3	20
ACADEMY 20	AIR ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL	375	193	51
ACADEMY 20	ASPEN VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL	36	5	13
ACADEMY 20	DISCOVERY CANYON CAMPUS SCHOOL	230	101	43
ACADEMY 20	LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL	387	147	37
ACADEMY 20	PINE CREEK HIGH SCHOOL	360	149	41
ACADEMY 20	RAMPART HIGH SCHOOL	361	166	45
ACADEMY 20	TCA COLLEGE PATHWAYS	103	40	38
ACADEMY 20	THE CLASSICAL ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL	130	77	59
ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS	ACADEMY OF CHARTER SCHOOLS	110	40	36
ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS	COLORADO VIRTUAL ACADEMY (COVA)	178	31	17
ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS	HORIZON HIGH SCHOOL	443	145	32
ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS	LEGACY HIGH SCHOOL	485	214	44
ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS	MOUNTAIN RANGE HIGH SCHOOL	413	142	34
ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS	NORTHGLENN HIGH SCHOOL	359	77	21
ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS	PATHWAYS FUTURE CENTER	288	12	4
ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS	THORNTON HIGH SCHOOL	382	93	24
ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS	VANTAGE POINT	112	8	7
ADAMS COUNTY 14	ADAMS CITY HIGH SCHOOL	392	86	21
ADAMS COUNTY 14	LESTER R ARNOLD HIGH SCHOOL	131	5	3
ADAMS-ARAPAHOE 28J	APS ONLINE SCHOOL	82	2	2

* is shown in place of counts 10 or less

2014-2015 FAFSA | 2013-2014 FAFSA | 2012-2013 FAFSA | Fill Out FAFSA

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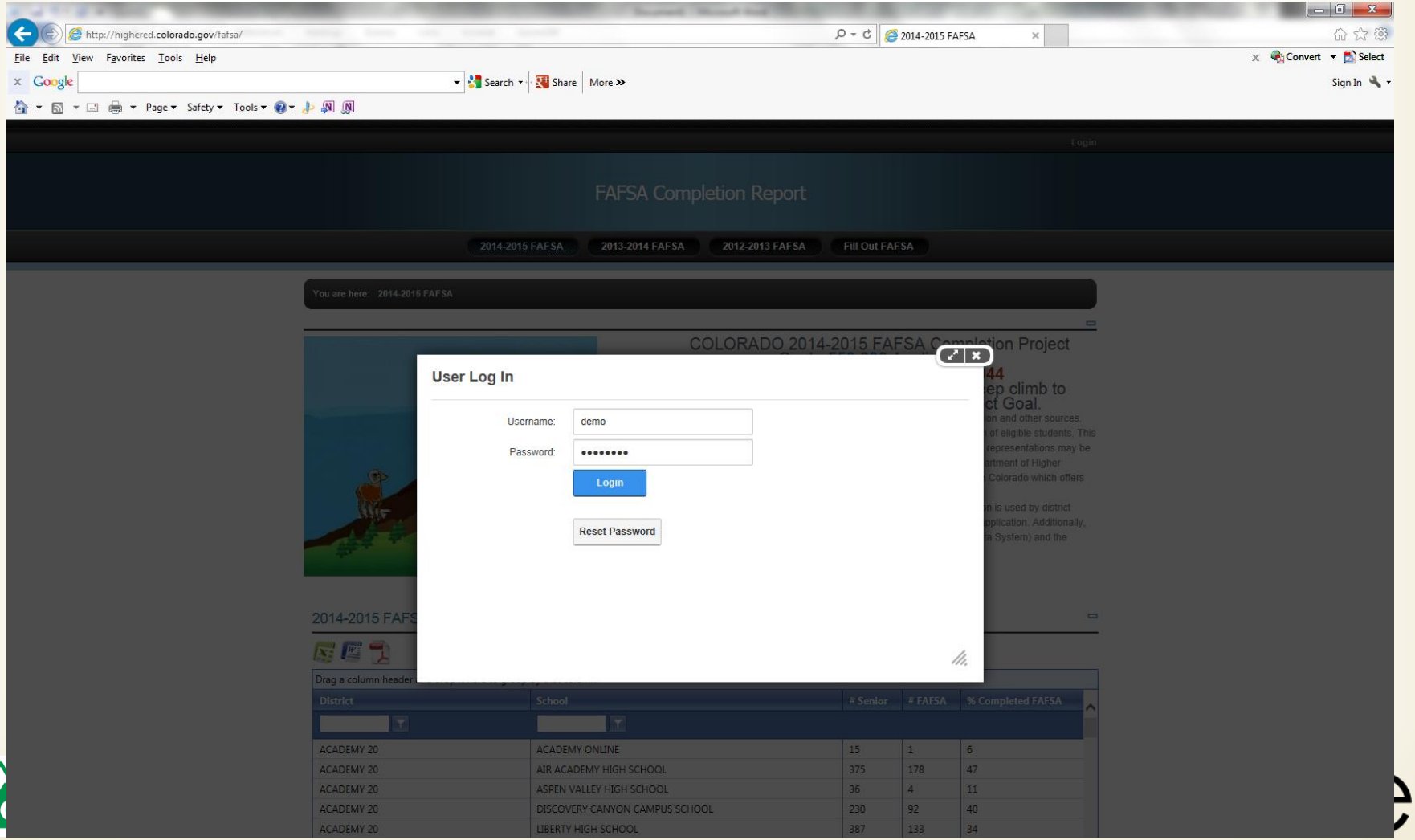
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2014-2015 FAFSA
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Tools
Sign In
Login
FAFSA Completion Report
2014-2015 FAFSA
2013-2014 FAFSA
2012-2013 FAFSA
Fill Out FAFSA
You are here: 2014-2015 FAFSA
COLORADO 2014-2015 FAFSA Completion Project
User Log In
Username:
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Password:
Login
Reset Password
Drag a column header
District
School
Senior
FAFSA
% Completed FAFSA
ACADEMY 20
ACADEMY ONLINE
15
1
6
ACADEMY 20
AIR ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL
375
178
47
ACADEMY 20
ASPEN VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
36
4
11
ACADEMY 20
DISCOVERY CANYON CAMPUS SCHOOL
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92
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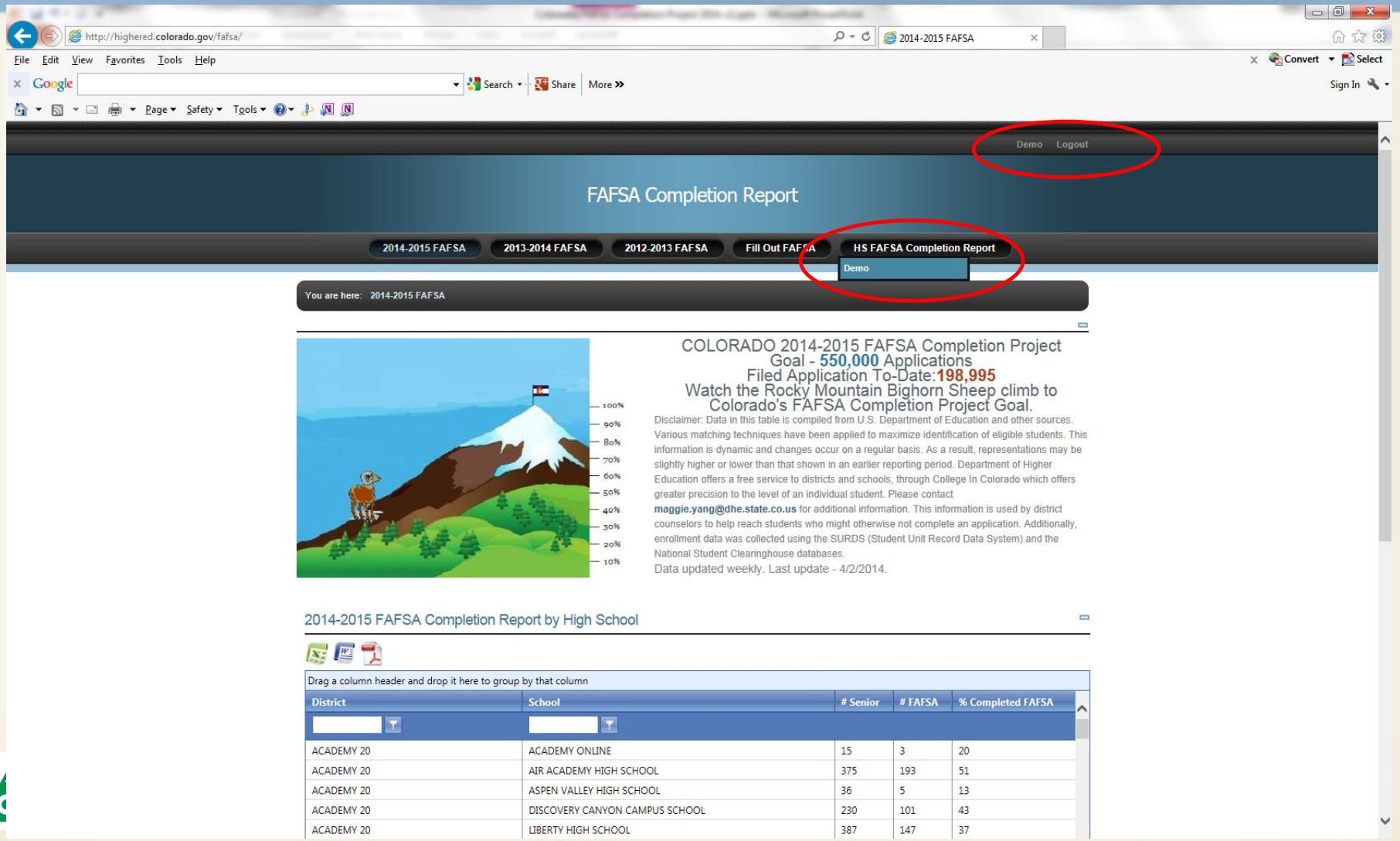
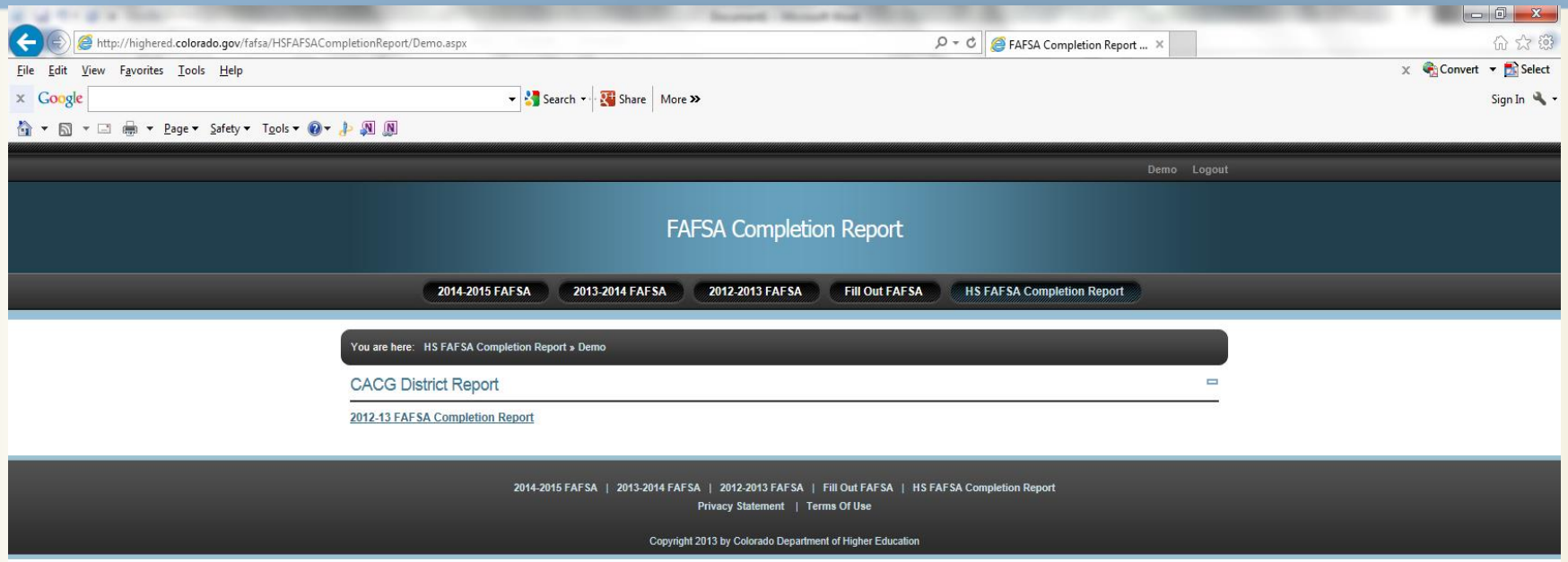
ACADEMY 20
LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL
387
133
34

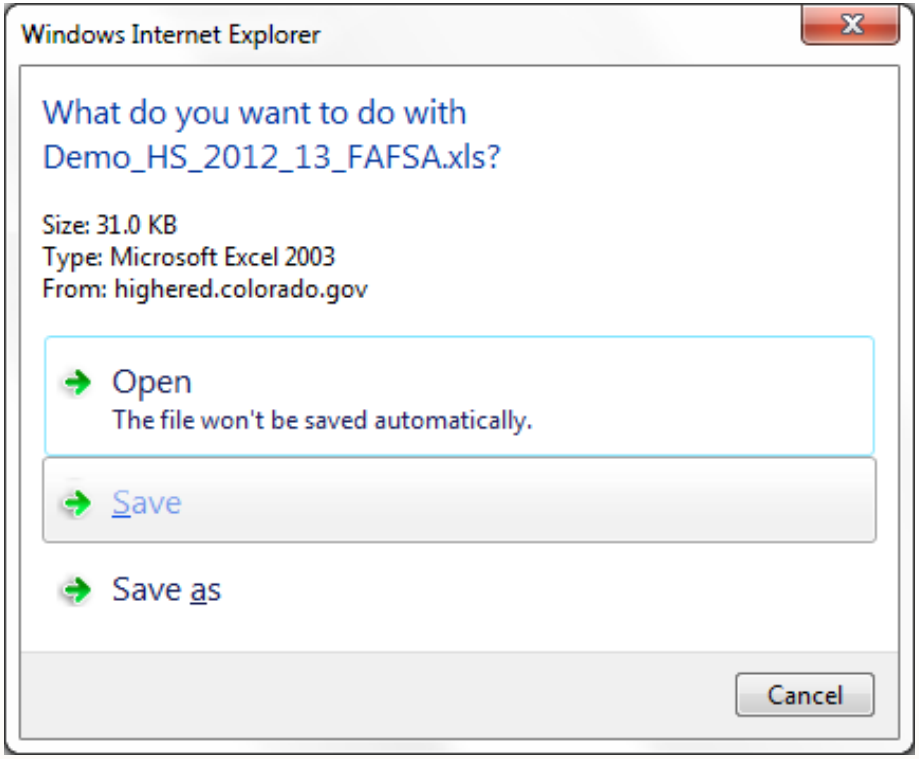
District-level Student Data



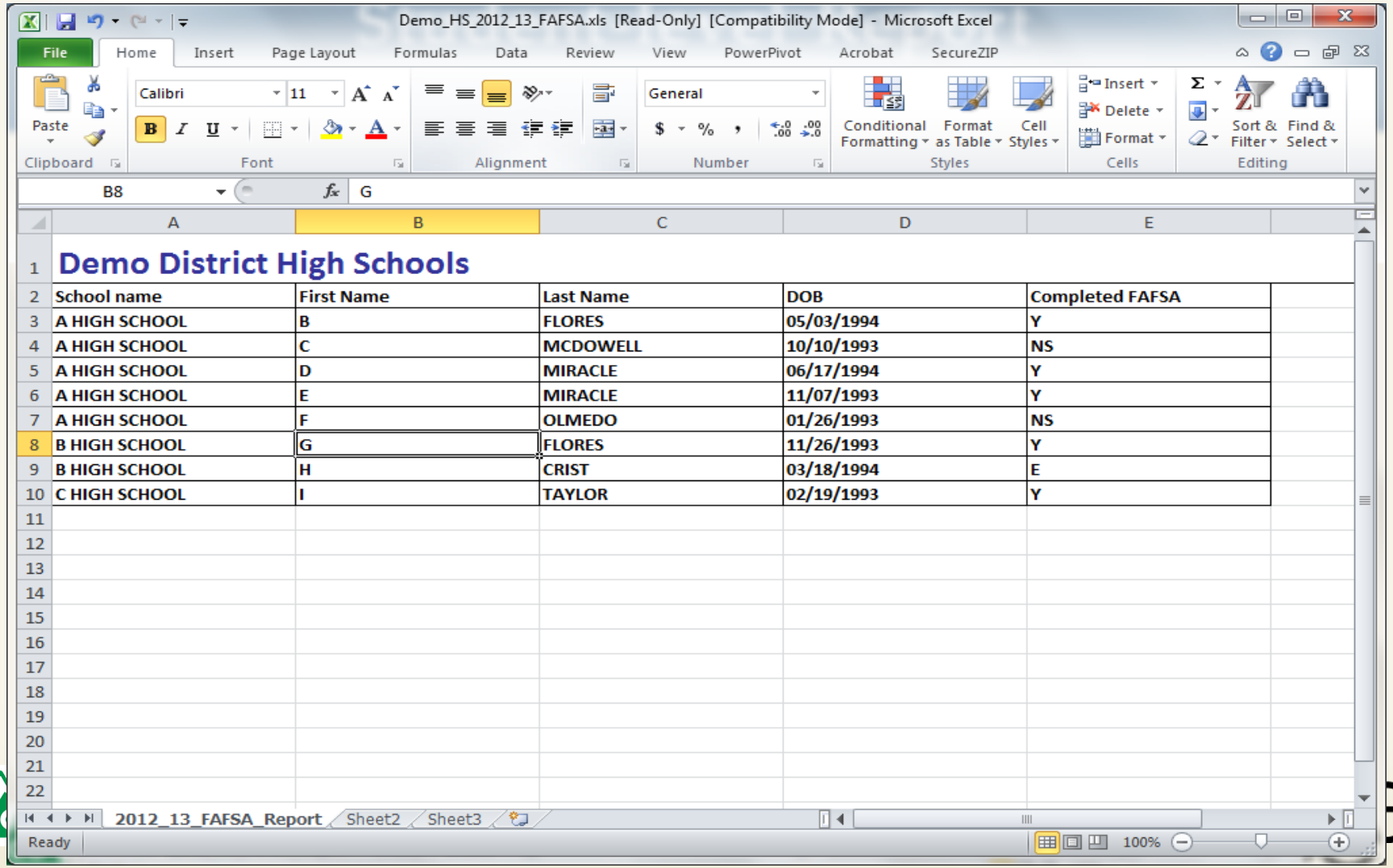
Student-level Data Report



Download Option



Student-level Report



Demo_HS_2012_13_FAFSA.xls [Read-Only] [Compatibility Mode] - Microsoft Excel

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Demo District High Schools

School name	First Name	Last Name	DOB	Completed FAFSA
A HIGH SCHOOL	B	FLORES	05/03/1994	Y
A HIGH SCHOOL	C	MCDOWELL	10/10/1993	NS
A HIGH SCHOOL	D	MIRACLE	06/17/1994	Y
A HIGH SCHOOL	E	MIRACLE	11/07/1993	Y
A HIGH SCHOOL	F	OLMEDO	01/26/1993	NS
B HIGH SCHOOL	G	FLORES	11/26/1993	Y
B HIGH SCHOOL	H	CRIST	03/18/1994	E
C HIGH SCHOOL	I	TAYLOR	02/19/1993	Y

2012_13_FAFSA_Report Sheet2 Sheet3

Ready 100%

FAFSA Report Legend

- **Status Options for student level FAFSA completion report**
  - **NS** – no signature (student or parent)
  - **E** – Error (Incorrect completion of FAFSA as determined by U.S. Dept. of Ed)
  - **Y** – Complete

How can Colorado help your state implement a FAFSA portal?

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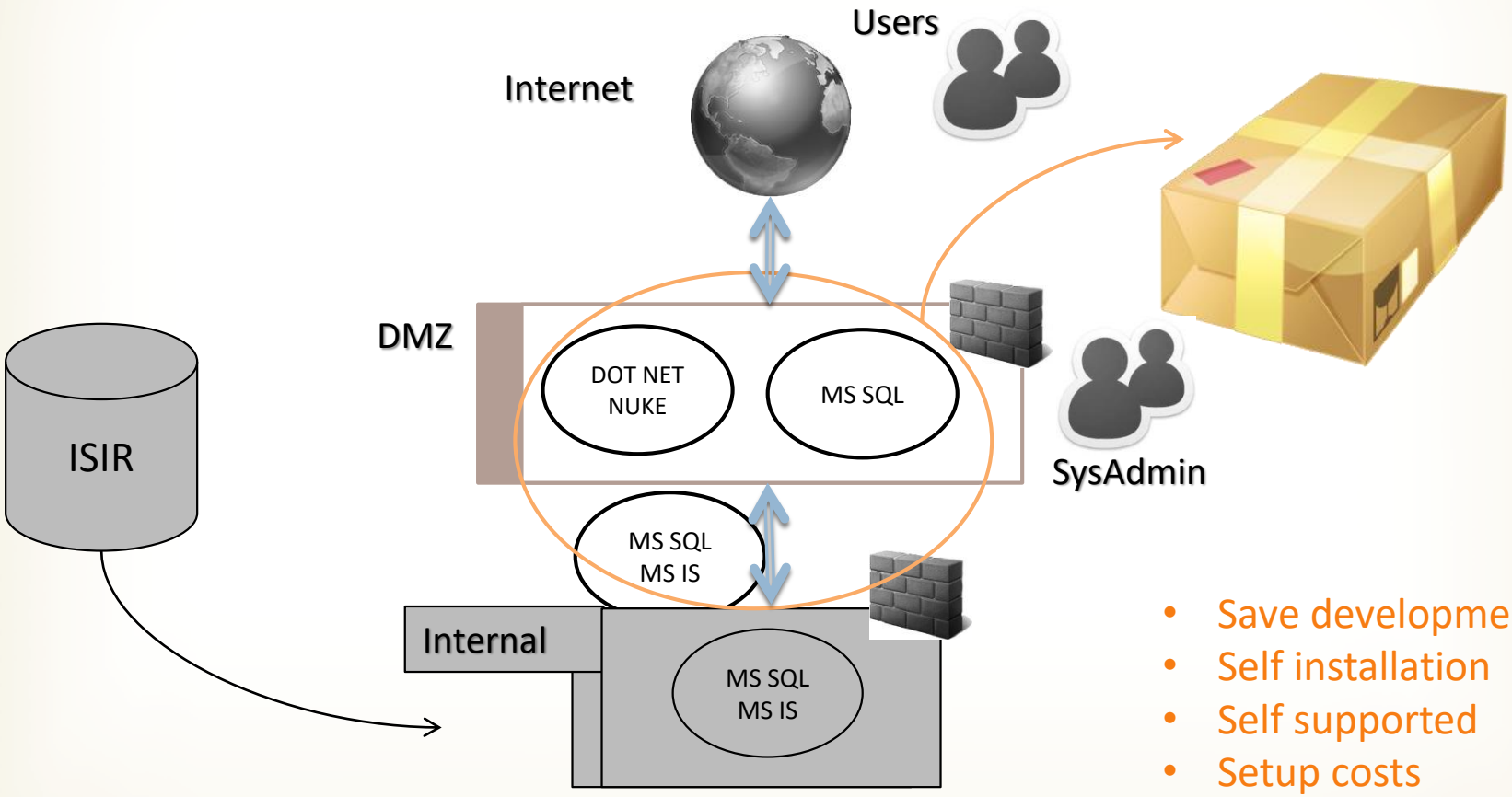
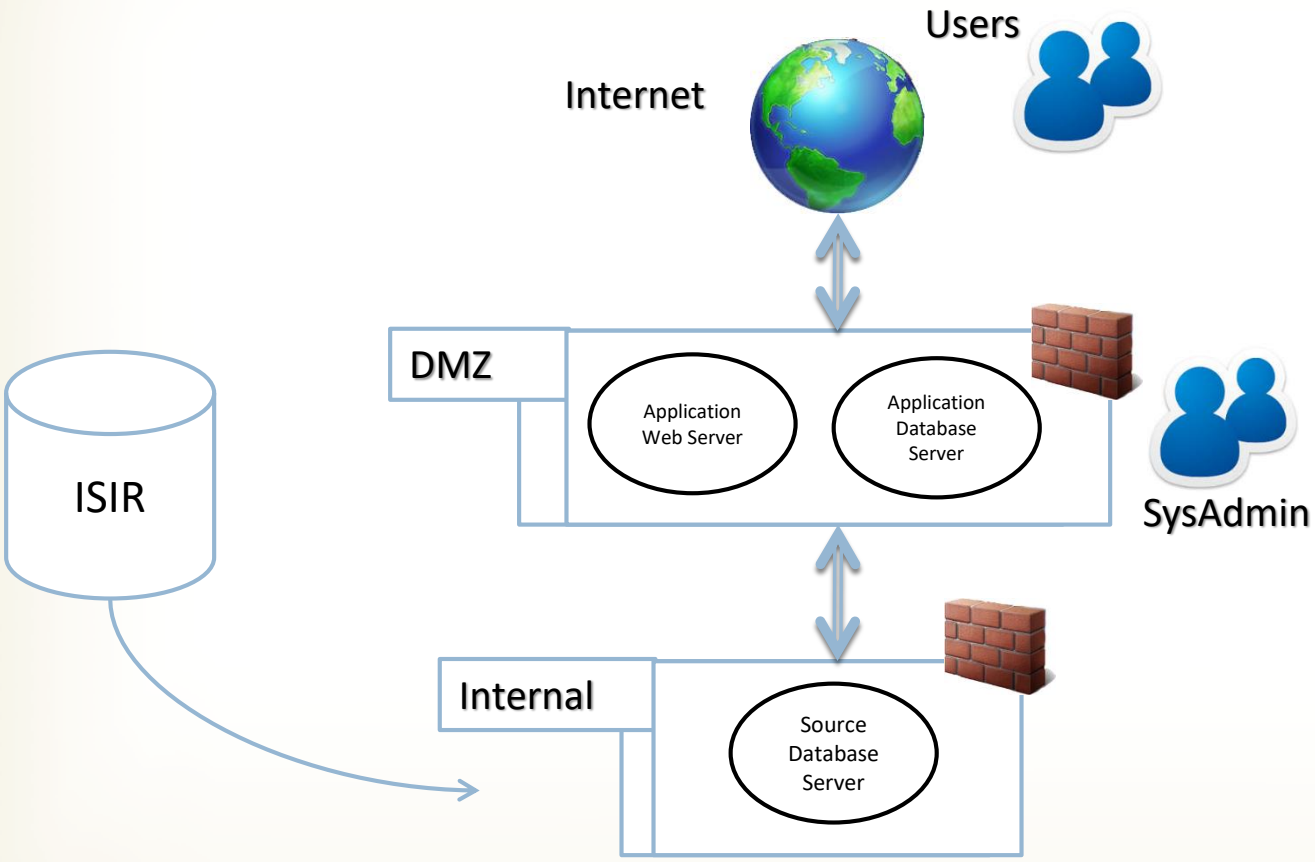
One-time



- Save development time
- Self installation
- Self supported
- Setup costs

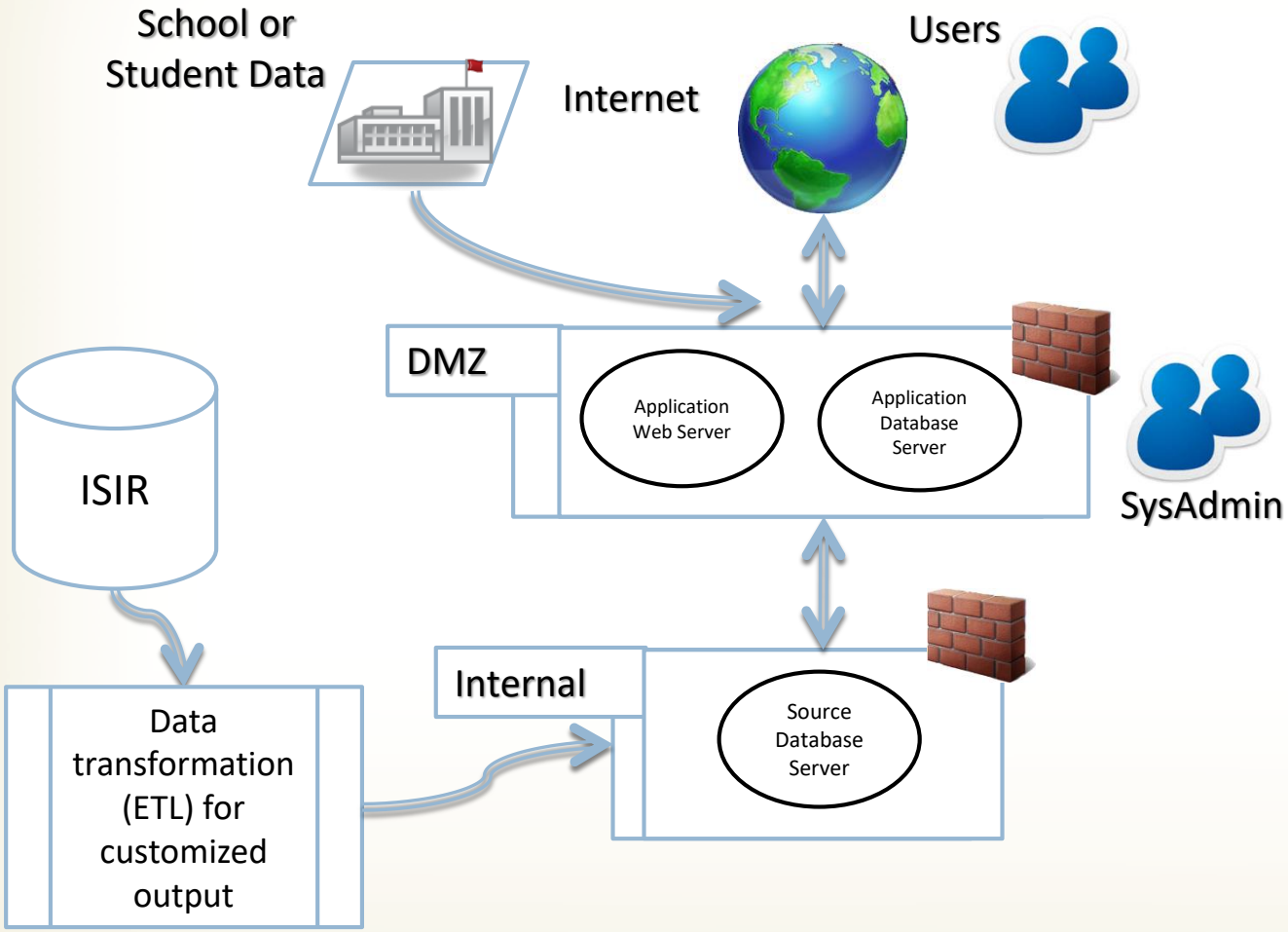
On-going
Option 1 – ISIR Data Delivery



- SaaS Model
- No Development
- Annual Subscription
- Hosted by CDHE
- Supported by CDHE

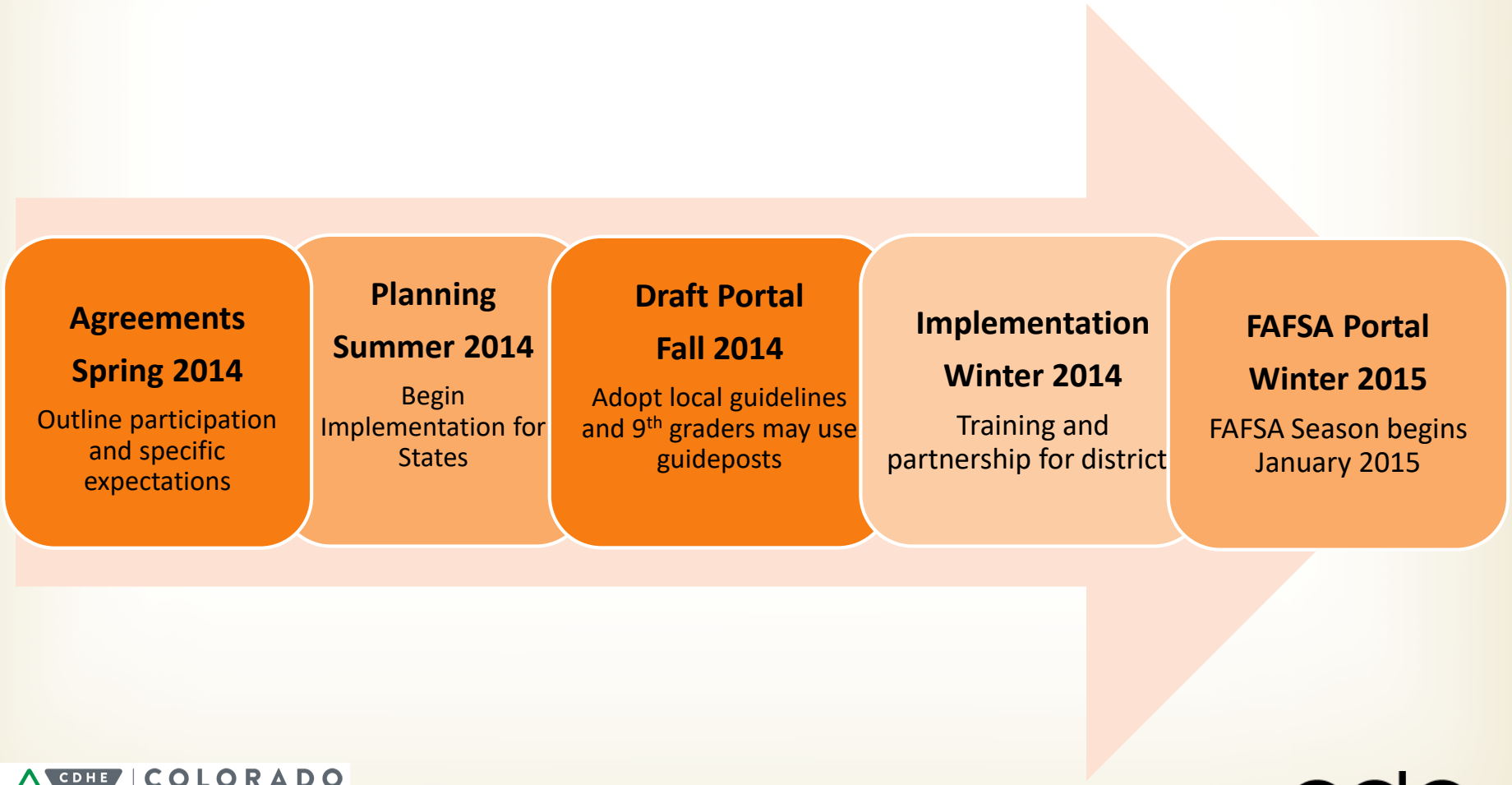
- User Access Control controlled by States
- Data delivery via website (.xlsx)

On-going
Option 2 – ISIR Data Delivery + State



- State customizations may include student lists or school demographics

Implementation Timeline



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Next Steps

1. **Complete Survey**
   https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PQ93HC2

2. **Follow-up webinar or call for discussion with interested states**

3. **Complete agreement with Colorado**

Thank You

Questions

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