

Data submitted to the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) Postsecondary Data Partnership (PDP) is stored and utilized according to the NSC's [Privacy Policy & Notice](#). For more information about the NSC's data security procedures, FirstGen Forward can facilitate further discussion, or the NSC can be contacted directly at privacy@studentclearinghouse.org.

Levels of Access

Dashboard Reports

FirstGen Forward can view the institution's dashboards hosted by the PDP, including Enrollment, Credit Accumulation Rate, Credit Completion Rate, Gateway Course Completion, Outcomes, Retention/Persistence, Retention/Persistence Term-to-Term, Time to Credential/Credentials Conferred, and Transfer. The data in these dashboards are aggregated, meaning that no student identifiers are included in the dashboards. The PDP employs data redaction when student counts are low to prevent the display of dashboards.

Providing access at this level allows FirstGen Forward to help institutions learn to utilize their PDP data to better support their first-generation students. The aforementioned dashboards will inform progress in and through the Network. With these insights, FirstGen Forward's programs and services can be better tailored to support first-generation students at institutions within the Network.

De-identified Analysis Ready Files (De-ID AR Files)

FirstGen Forward can download de-identified student-level data in the form of analysis-ready files. These de-identified files do not include private, personal information—such as student identification number, social security number, and birthdate—to provide additional security. Downloaded files are stored on a secure drive with two-factor authentication, to which only authorized FirstGen Forward staff from the Insights and Impact team have access.

Data at this level will allow FirstGen Forward to assess first-generation student outcomes across the Network and allow for more intricate statistical analysis. The purpose of accessing these files is to gain a deeper understanding of first-generation student outcomes, enabling FirstGen Forward to better support institutions through targeted initiatives.

Contact Us

FirstGen Forward recognizes that each institution has different internal data-sharing policies and procedures. FirstGen Forward and National Student Clearinghouse staff are available to further discuss any questions or concerns. If you have any questions about data security, please contact network@firstgenforward.org.