



Circular Number 0019/2022

To: The Managerial Authorities of Recognised Primary, Secondary, Community and Comprehensive Schools and Chief Executives of Education and Training Boards (ETB)

DEIS identification 2022: Appeals process for schools

1. General

From September 2022, the DEIS programme will be extended to an additional 310 schools. 37 schools will also benefit from additional supports following reclassification.

Schools were identified for inclusion in the programme through the refined DEIS identification model which is an objective, statistics based model. This model uses student information provided to the Department of Education by schools and held on the Primary Online Database (POD) and the Post Primary Online Database (PPOD) together with Census 2016 data as represented by the Pobal HP Deprivation index. The DEIS identification model takes into consideration the significant educational disadvantage experienced by Traveller and Roma learners and by students residing in direct provision or emergency homeless accommodation. Schools were not required to apply for inclusion in the DEIS programme and the model has been applied fairly and equally to all schools.

The student information from the POD and PPOD used in the application of the refined DEIS identification model are:

- Enrolment figures (as at 30th September 2021)
- Ethnicity Indicator of Traveller or Roma ethnic background
- Address data of all pupils

This information relates to school enrolment returns for the 2021/22 school year.



The Department of Education are committed to ensuring that all schools are treated equally and fairly in the manner in which they have been identified for inclusion in the DEIS programme. Schools who were not satisfied with the outcome following the application of the DEIS identification model to their school enrolment data will now have the opportunity to have that outcome reviewed.

2. Appeals Process

Schools may appeal the outcome of the application of the DEIS identification model on the basis of the grounds set out below. Amended or additional information may only be provided through updates to the school enrolment data for the 2021/22 school year (as at 30th September 2021) on the POD and the PPOD. Amendments or additions should only be made where a school identifies that the information already provided is not accurate. In the case of Traveller / Roma ethnicity, this is based on self-identification

Where amended information is received the DEIS identification model will be applied to it and an updated outcome provided.

Schools who wish to appeal the outcome of the application of the DEIS identification model to their school enrolment data must inform Social Inclusion Unit, Department of Education at social_inclusion@education.gov.ie using the form at Appendix 1.

This form and the updated information on the POD and PPOD systems must be received by the Department by 5pm on Friday 29th April to be considered.

3. Grounds for Appeal

a. Changes between provisional 2021/22 enrolment and final 2021/22 enrolment

For the purposes of identifying schools for inclusion in the DEIS programme from September 2022, the refined 2022 DEIS identification model was applied to the enrolment returns provided by schools in the National School Annual Census for 2021/2022, which was returned via the POD and PPOD.

An appeal will be facilitated where a school has identified an error in the information they provided for the preliminary enrolments. The definition of error in this instance will relate to:



- students included or students omitted in error (*Note: This must only be where a clear error has been identified in the enrolment numbers for the school as published on the preliminary enrolment figures in December 2021¹⁾*)
- students who have voluntarily self-identified as Traveller or Roma but where this was not included in the POD and PPOD returns in error (*Note: This field is optional. Explicit written parental or guardian consent is required to use this indicator and to allow the transfer of the information to the Department.*)
- the address data of students is not sufficiently accurate. Schools are advised to provide Eircodes.

It is important to note that any amendments will relate to the school enrolments as at **30th September 2021 only**, as per the annual school enrolment return.

b. Application of the model to the school's enrolment data

Schools may also request, without amending any of their POD or PPOD data, that the Department verify that the steps of the model have been applied correctly to the school's enrolment data for the application of the refined 2022 DEIS identification model.

Schools may update their data and have the model reapplied to the updated data or have the application of the model to the existing data verified.

4. Appeals officer(s)

The appeals process is overseen by an officer(s), who is independent of the initial design and implementation of the refined DEIS identification model. This officer(s) will determine whether the appeal has been properly assessed and verify the outcome of the appeal.

5. Notification to schools

When all appeals have been processed, schools will be informed in writing by the Department outlining the outcome of the appeal. It is the Department's intention that schools will be provided with the outcome promptly to allow schools time to plan for the 2022/23 school year.

¹ <https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/63363b-data-on-individual-schools/>



6. Further information

For further information please contact social_inclusion@education.gov.ie

Mary Cregg
Principal Officer
Social Inclusion Unit

30 March 2022



Appendix 1 – DEIS identification 2022 Appeal Form

School Details

School name:

School roll number:

School address:

School phone number:

School email:

Reason for Appeal

Schools should select only one of the below options only. Where a school has amended their school enrolment data, the application of the refined DEIS identification model to the previous data will not be verified.

I have corrected/improved the accuracy of the student enrolment information provided on POD or PPOD and wish to have the refined DEIS identification model applied to the amended data.

I have not amended the student enrolment information on POD or PPOD and wish for the Department to verify the application of the refined DEIS identification model to my schools data.

Declaration by Principal:

I confirm:

- That this application is supported by the Chairperson of the school's Board of Management.
- That any amended information provided on POD or PPOD is accurate and where necessary consent has been provided.

Principal's Signature: _____

Principal Print Name: _____

Date: _____