The NAEP High School Transcript Study (HSTS), sponsored by NCES, is a periodic survey of transcripts of high school graduates and the relationship between coursetaking patterns and student achievement.

What Is the Schedule of Activities for HSTS 2019?

**Preliminary Activities (September 2018–March 2019)**
- Schools will be notified of their selection for HSTS and asked to identify an HSTS school coordinator.
- Course catalogs or course lists will be requested for the current school year (2018–2019) and for the preceding three years (2017–2018, 2016–2017, and 2015–2016).
- Schools will be asked to complete a School Information Form that asks about credits awarded for courses, grading policies, and graduation requirements, as well as transcript content information and transcript submission.
- A sample student transcript, with the student name redacted, will be requested at the school, district, or state level.
- Schools will be instructed to place the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) disclosure notices with the files of students selected to take the NAEP 2019 mathematics and science assessments. These notices will include the FERPA provisions, which explain the disclosure safeguards that grant NCES the authority to obtain transcript information.

**Transcript Collection (June–October 2019)**
- NAEP will collect copies of transcripts for the sampled students. The state or district will provide transcripts directly to NAEP, or a study representative will contact the HSTS coordinator about collecting the transcripts. If the transcripts can be transmitted electronically, information will be given to the HSTS school coordinator about the information the transcripts must include and directions on how to transmit the transcripts. If the transcripts cannot be transmitted electronically, a NAEP representative will return to the school to collect copies of the requested student transcripts.

For more information about NAEP, visit [nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard](http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard)
What Else Should You Know?

- **No student or teacher time is involved.** NAEP staff will work with school personnel to minimize burden as much as possible.
- **Confidentiality is a top priority.** Students’ names and identifying information will be removed or masked before copies of transcripts are processed.
- **There is no cost to schools.** NCES will pay the school’s usual charge for providing transcripts.
- **Parental notification is not required.** Participating schools may choose whether or not to notify parents about this study.

What Have We Learned From the HSTS?

The HSTS was first conducted in 1987 and then in 1990, 1994, 1998, 2000, 2005, and 2009. The graph below highlights the course curriculum levels graduates have completed since 1990, based on the three HSTS curriculum levels: standard, midlevel, and rigorous. Over time, students have taken more challenging courses.

The granting of authority to the U.S. Department of Education for collection of the transcript data has been made pursuant to the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. 1232g), as implemented by 34 CFR 99.31 (l) (a)(3)(ii) and 99.35. A copy of the relevant FERPA regulations will be provided to you prior to the collection of any transcripts.

Where Can I Find More Information?


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