OVERVIEW

The **ED Data Inventory (EDI)**, hosted at datainventory.ed.gov, is a publicly accessible platform that enables users to access the metadata associated with the U.S. Department of Education studies and data collections. The EDI includes descriptive information about each data collection and information on the specific data elements in individual collections, or metadata.
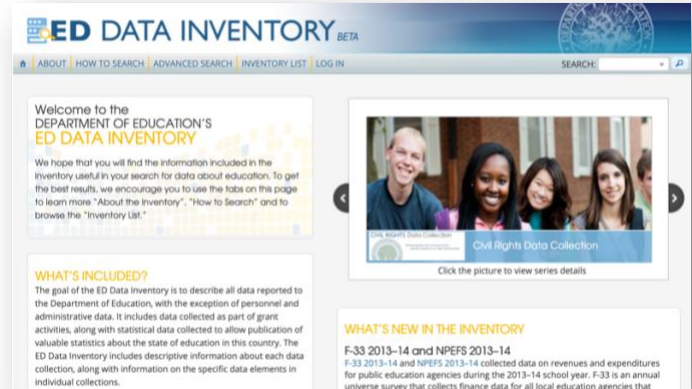
FOUNDATIONS FOR EVIDENCE-BASED POLICYMAKING ACT 2018

The creation of the Inventory is a component of the Department's larger effort to ensure responsible data management and decision making in response to the **Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018**.

The EDI promotes transparency by documenting all data reported to the Department, such as data collected as part of grant activities and other statistical data, with the exception of personnel and administrative data. This increased access helps improve the coordination of data collections across program offices, helping reduce the data collection burden on respondents, and increase data access for improved analysis.

ONLINE INTERFACE

Certain features of the EDI site are available to the public, while others are protected and accessible only to authorized users via a login page. Through the user interface, authorized users have the ability to create or modify EDI entries.

To ensure the integrity and accuracy of the information included in the EDI, three user types with varying levels of access and responsibility exist. Roles are assigned by system administrators at the discretion of the Department.

Edit Users	PO Approvers	Admin Users
Edit Users possess the ability to add new series and studies. *Edit Users* can update released studies through the user interface and request modifications to released series by contacting EDI@anlar.com.	*PO Approvers* possess all permissions as *Edit Users*, with the added ability to approve/reject record submissions from Edit Users within the approval workflow.	*Admin Users* possess all the permissions as *PO Approver*, with the added ability to modify released series, manage user accounts/assign series access, approve/reject submissions for release to the public EDI website, export EDI data to a JSON file, and manage the ICR Import Audit Log.

DATA STRUCTURE

The EDI includes descriptive information about each data collection, as well as the specific data elements collected. This includes a study or data collection's methodology, variables, respondent information, and code sets.

|	
Series*	
Study*	
Follow-Up*	Dataset
Study Details*	File
Collection	Element
Respondent	Element Value
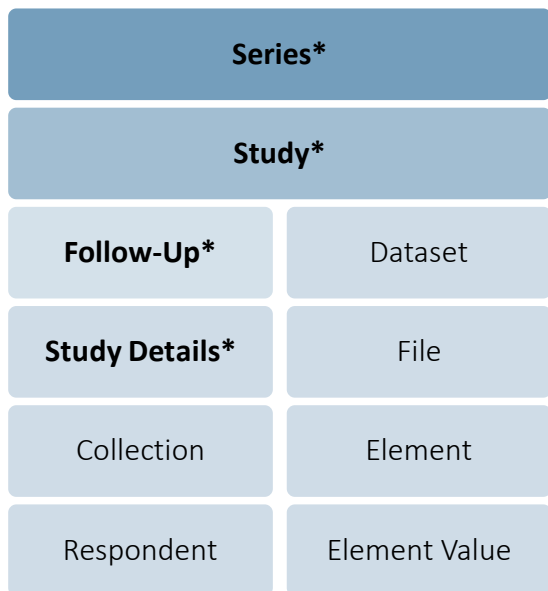
EDI records include information submitted as part of the OMB ICR Package: program office contact information, collection dates, respondent information, and other metadata associated with the collection. Users also have the opportunity to submit specific element descriptions and link(s) to public and restricted public datasets.

Data contained within the EDI is organized into series, which refers to a program data collection or a collection of IES studies repeated over time. Within each series are studies, which are defined as individual data collection occurrences. The EDI organizes series, studies, datasets, follow-ups, and their respective child records as a hierarchy *(see left)*.

APPROVAL WORKFLOW

Before a new record is officially included in the EDI database, it must complete the role-based approval workflow. In this process, records are created, edited, and reviewed, with each user type playing a unique role in the workflow. Updates to already released studies follow the same workflow. Updates to already released series can only be made by Admin Users as they are automatically released. Updates to already released series can be requested via email to EDI@anlar.com.

All records are reviewed for accuracy and completeness prior to being released.
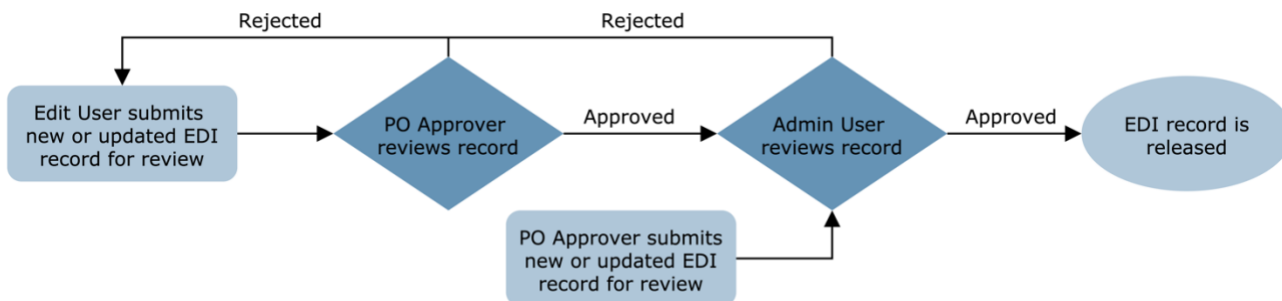
RESOURCES & ASSISTANCE

A variety of EDI user resources are available to Department staff and contractors on the EDI User Resources page. Resources include step-by-step instructions, a comprehensive user guide, and templates.

For additional questions or to obtain system access, please contact EDI@anlar.com