



EPSS Improvements for the 2013-14 School Year

RIDE has planned a series of EPSS updates to improve user experience and significantly streamline the evaluation process in the system for the 2013-14 school year. These changes are based on direct user feedback from the RIDEmap help desk, as well as a series of user focus groups held throughout the Spring of 2013. Some of the key updates are highlighted below:

Student Learning Objectives –Drafting, Submission and Approval (All LEAs)

Drafting

- The SLO form has been streamlined by consolidating a number of previously separated fields
- Form loading speed has been drastically reduced
- When required fields on the SLO form are not complete, they will be clearly flagged to identify that they need to be completed before the form can be submitted

Submission

- SLO forms can be submitted and approved separately, resulting in a single status for each SLO, rather than statuses for each SLO and a separate status for the SLO set
- Teachers can share SLOs with their evaluators for informal comments and/or feedback before submitting (and locking) the SLO form

Approval

- Evaluators will approve each SLO on the form itself, eliminating the need for a separate approval form
- Evaluators will be able to unlock the SLO form(s) at any time for editing by simply clicking the “edit form” button, rather than having to set multiple statuses to “needs revision”

Mid-Year Conference Form (RI Model)

- Form layout has been addressed to streamline the form and improve readability
- Key feedback recorded on the mid-year form will now populate on Professional Foundations scoring form, addressing a previous usability issue with the flow of information between these forms

Organization and display of forms for Evaluators (RI Model)

- The grouping of forms in the My Caseload tab has been updated to help evaluators locate key forms and track progress more clearly

Classroom Observation Forms (RI Model)

- Feedback and Rationale fields have been consolidated to increase flexibility and ease of use for evaluators

Training support (All LEAs)

- RIDE will offer a series of in-person trainings throughout July and August. To register for a training, visit: http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Teachers-and-Administrators-Excellent-Educators/Educator-Performance-and-Support-System-EPSS/EPSS/EPSS_Summer_2013_Training_Flyer.pdf
- All LEAs who notify RIDE of their intent to use the system will have a dedicated space on the new EPSS training site to allow staff to train and practice using the system beginning in August 2013

Additional Information

- For more information about these or other EPSS updates or to request a demonstration, please contact Sandra Forand at Sandra.forand@ride.ri.gov