

December 2024



Pennsylvania
Office of Child Development
and Early Learning

PA KEI Update

[Get info about the KEI](#)

Please note: The PA KEI data system will close for data entry Monday, December 16. No data can be entered after this date and time. Information will still be available in read only.



Finalizing Student Data

Once all student assessments are completed, the final step in the PA KEI data entry process is to finalize the classroom. The finalization process can only occur once the student assessments are marked with a “Complete” Data Entry Status on the Classroom Dashboard.

Since the finalization process is the last step in completing the PA KEI Data Entry process, all student data will be checked to ensure the completion of the required fields. Implementing teachers will be required to add/edit any missing or incorrect data before finalizing the classroom data. Follow these [Steps to Complete before Finalizing the Classroom](#).

After completing the steps listed above, classrooms can be finalized.

To Finalize your Classroom, follow these steps on [How to Finalize the Classroom](#).



Data Corner

Raw Data Extract from the PA KEI database

Tracking student assessment data at the classroom level offers numerous benefits that enhance the educational experience and outcomes for students.

Some key advantages include:

1. **Personalized Learning:** By analyzing assessment data, teachers can identify each student's strengths and weaknesses. This allows for tailored instruction and targeted interventions to meet individual needs, helping students progress at their own pace.
2. **Informed Instructional Decisions:** Teachers can use data to make evidence-based decisions about which teaching methods and materials are most effective. This helps in refining instructional strategies and adapting lessons to better align with student needs.
3. **Early Identification of Issues:** Tracking data helps in spotting trends and patterns that may indicate potential problems, such as learning difficulties or gaps in understanding with might require additional evaluation. Early identification allows for timely intervention, preventing small issues from becoming larger obstacles.
4. **Goal Setting and Monitoring:** Data provides a clear picture of students' progress over time, which is essential for setting realistic goals and measuring progress. It helps in creating benchmarks and tracking whether students are meeting academic milestones.
5. **Supporting Accountability:** Data tracking supports accountability for both students and teachers. It ensures that teaching strategies and student progress are aligned with educational standards and goals.
6. **Facilitating Communication:** Data can be used to communicate progress and concerns with parents and guardians more effectively. It provides concrete evidence of student performance and areas where additional support may be needed at home.

7. **Improving Curriculum:** Data insights can inform curriculum development and adjustments, ensuring that the content and assessments align with students' needs and current educational standards.

Overall, tracking student assessment data is a powerful tool that can drive improvements in teaching and learning, ultimately leading to better educational outcomes for students. School districts are able to download the PA KEI data extract and upload it into their own assessment systems.

Visit www.kei-pa.org. Click on the Resource tab at the top of the screen, then click on general administration. Under the administration section, click on "How to Download KEI Raw Data Export." Click [here](#) for more information on how to obtain a PA KEI data extra file.

2025 – 2026 Professional Development Options

All kindergarten teachers who have not previously participated in PA KEI implementation must complete the required professional development course to ensure fidelity of implementation, to obtain a certificate of completion, and to gain access into the web-based system. Teachers who obtained a proficient user certificate after November 1, 2020, do not need to repeat the professional development protocol as they are within the five-year window of completion and are considered proficient through School Year (SY) 2025 implementation. Teachers who obtained a proficient user certificate prior to November 1, 2020, will need to renew their certificate of completion by completing the revised online professional development course to be considered proficient for SY 2025 implementation. These teachers will be contacted via email by CSIU staff in the Spring of 2025. All teachers, regardless of proficiency status, should review the PA KEI materials (Inventory and User Manual at minimum) each year. All resources can be found at www.kei-pa.org.

The professional development protocol consists of self-paced, asynchronous, online learning lessons, and a final knowledge check. After viewing each lesson, participants will take a 10-question final knowledge check and must score at least 80% to receive their proficient user certificate, which is valid for five years from the date of completion. The professional development protocol can be accessed [here](#). Participants will need their PPID number and LEA AUN to receive log in credentials.



OCDEL Staff Available to Provide Free CLASS Assessment

The Classroom Assessment Scoring System[®] (CLASS[®]) is an observation instrument developed to assess classroom quality in Preschool through Third-Grade classrooms. CLASS not only defines teaching quality through the lens of interactions but also provides the ability to measure and improve the interactions that matter most for student outcomes. It's a journey of continuous improvement that is data-driven and focused on what matters most for student outcomes and interactions. The tool is broken down into three distinct domains covering focused dimensions. Emotional Support looks at positive climate, negative climate, teacher sensitivity, and regard for student perspective. Classroom Organization looks at behavior management, productivity, and instructional learning formats. Instructional Support covers concept development, quality feedback, and language modeling. Observations consist of four twenty-minute cycles lasting approximately two hours. Targeted feedback on areas of strength and areas of opportunity is provided to teachers and administrators within a week after the observation.

This opportunity can be part of a continuous quality improvement initiative. For more information or to schedule a visit, please contact Maryanne Olley at molley@pa.gov.



Bullying Prevention

One section of the KEI focuses on Social Emotional Development. Social-emotional development is vital in a young child's life, so it is important to consider factors that can affect this. Surprisingly, bullying can start early in a child's life. Bullying can drastically affect a child's self-esteem, confidence, and sense of worth. Research shows that children as young as preschool age can exhibit bullying behaviors. These early behaviors might not always be as overt or aggressive as you might see in older kids, but they can include things like exclusion, name-calling, or physical aggression.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education's Office for Safe Schools bullying prevention webpage contains resources for parents, educators, and professionals serving children and youth in school and out-of-school settings. The toll-free Bullying Prevention Consultation Line invites individuals experiencing chronic and unresolved bullying to discuss effective strategies and available resources to manage school-based bullying. This resource was developed in collaboration with the Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (CHPDP) and is available at no cost to students, parents/guardians, and school districts across Pennsylvania. The Bullying Prevention and Consultation Line is 1-866-716-0424. Messages left will be returned during regular business hours, Monday through Friday. Please note: this number is not monitored 24 hours a day/seven days a week, and should not be used for emergencies.

For more information on bullying prevention, please visit [PDE Bullying Prevention](#).

Want to get or stay involved in the Early Childhood Education Community and Networks?

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)

NAEYC is the premier membership association for early learning educators. NAEYC is available to help all ECE educators on the journey to improve educational opportunities for all young

children. NAEYC offers four membership categories—Entry (Digital) Level, Standard, Premium, and Family—each with unique benefits. Click [here](#) for more information on how to join.

PA Early Ed News

Stay current with the latest information from the PA Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL).

Sponsored by OCDEL, the PA Early Ed News is a monthly e-newsletter to inform early learning professionals, the early childhood community, school district staff, policymakers, community leaders, and the public on early childhood education and care developments in Pennsylvania. The newsletter is free and open to anyone.

When you subscribe to PA Early Ed News, you may also receive special monthly announcements from OCDEL, keeping you updated on current information. For more information and to subscribe, click [here](#).

Need a Password Reset?



Resetting your password for PA KEI data system:

1. Go to the website: <http://kei-pa.org>
2. Select the *Data System Login* tab.
3. Click on the *I forgot my password* link located below the login boxes.
4. You will be asked to enter your Username, which should be your school email address.
5. A password reset email will be sent to you.
6. Follow the instructions in the email.

Keeping the PA KEI Software Account Up to Date

If your email address has changed, contact the PA KEI Technical Support for assistance at KEI@csiu.org. It is important to keep email addresses updated to continue to receive important information about the PA KEI system.

Need Help With the KEI?



Each implementing school and/or district has designated a school or district point of contact (KEI-POC). Implementing teachers should request contact information for the designated KEI-POC in your school or district. In addition, the following supports are available:

GENERAL QUESTIONS about the KEI or any of the information in this newsletter should be directed to OCDEL staff at RA-PWOCDELKEI@pa.gov.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT is available by phone on weekdays from 8am-4pm.

- Jeff Kay: 570-523-1155, Ext. 2137
- Email your questions during off-hours to KEI@csiu.org

Subscribing to the eNewsletter

If you have a co-worker who is participating in KEI, but does not receive the newsletter, email Christy at cveitch@csiu.org to request to be added to the listserv.

[Access archived editions.](#)