



National Reporting System

2008–2009 Online Courses

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Online Courses for Adult Education Program Administrators



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FAQs About Online Courses

Why Take a NRS Online Course?

Because it is not always possible to attend a training in person, the NRS project has developed online courses to take at your convenience to learn about NRS requirements and strategies on how to improve NRS data quality and use. These courses are designed to offer you flexibility and convenience.

Who Is Eligible To Take an NRS Online Course?

These online training courses are designed for adult education program administrators and state adult education staff.

What Can I Expect To Learn From NRS Online Courses?

From these online courses you will learn NRS requirements and how to improve the quality of NRS data collection and data usage. You also will become familiar with the development of the NRS and its purpose.



How Do I Know Which Online Course Is Right for Me?

To determine where you should begin, fill out a self-evaluation form when you log in to help you evaluate your knowledge of the NRS at http://www.nrsonline.org/training/recommend_courses.html. Answering the questions provided will determine how comfortable you are with the different aspects of the NRS and will highlight a recommended course of study, review, or training, based on your responses.



How Much Time Will Each Online Course Take?

The amount of time it will take for you to complete each self-guided course ranges from 15 minutes to 1.5 hours. From the main Web page that describes all of the current online course offerings, you can click on the title of each course to view:

- ◆ Course objectives
- ◆ Time required
- ◆ Course overview and/or requirements

How Do I Register for an Online Course?

Log on to <http://www.nrsweb.org/trainings/online.aspx> and enter your user ID and password. If you have not yet created an account, you will be prompted to do so. Additionally, by logging in you can:

- ◆ Track your progress within the training courses
- ◆ Pick up where you left off if you needed to exit the course
- ◆ See proof of completion of a course - upon logging in, it will display “completed” next to the name of each finished course.



Whom Can I Contact for Technical Support?

E-mail nrs@air.org for technical support.

Descriptions of Self-Guided Courses

Background Course

What Is the NRS?

Gain a basic understanding of the NRS, focusing on measures and methods. Upon completion of this course, you should be able to answer questions revolving around “what,” “why,” and “how” of the federal accountability system.

Data Quality Courses

Data Quality Guide Training Course

Learn who does what with the NRS data, where data come from, where they go, and how data get there in this online course based on the *Guide for Improving NRS Data Quality*. Upon completion of this eight-part course, you should be able to give a detailed account of what goes on at each level of the NRS. The course is designed to follow a sequence in which each new section builds upon the previous; however, users may choose to take any lessons within the course at any time.



NRS Data Flow

Learn how data are transferred throughout the NRS and understand how NRS data flow through the local, state, and federal systems. Upon completion of this course, you should be able to give a detailed account of what goes on at each level of the accountability system.



Data Use Courses

Using NRS Data

Gain an understanding of how to use NRS data and learn basic techniques on using NRS data to assist in the analysis of educational program data.



Scenarios (extended courses for local administrators)

Picking up where [*Using NRS Data*](#) left off, these scenarios share in-depth techniques on using NRS data to assist in the analysis of educational programs in this five-part online course.

Data Use Guide Training Course

Learn how to use your NRS data for program improvement through this online course based on the [*Guide to Using NRS Data for Program Management and Improvement*](#). This eight-part online course will walk you through the information provided in the data use guide. The course is designed to follow a sequence in which each new section builds upon the previous; however, users may choose to take any lessons within the course at any time.

Learning to be a NRS Data Detective

Learn art of being a data detective and using data to monitor performance, understand programs, and plan and evaluate program improvements efforts.

Available Online Courses At A Glance

Course	Short Description	Time Commitment
What Is the NRS?	A basic understanding of the NRS, focusing on the measures and methods.	Approximately 20–35 minutes
Data Quality Guide Training Courses	Learn who does what with the NRS data, where data come from, where they go, and how data get there in this 8- part online course.	Approximately 1 hour 15 minutes to 1 hour 45 minutes
NRS Data Flow	Upon completion of this course, you should be able to give a detailed account of what the goes on at each level of the NRS.	Approximately 10–15 minutes
Using NRS Data	From this online course, you will gain an understanding of how to use NRS data and learn basic techniques for using NRS data to assist in the analysis of educational program(s) data.	Approximately 10–15 minutes
Scenarios (extended courses for local administrators)	Picking up where Using NRS Data left off, the scenarios share in-depth techniques for using NRS data to assist in the analysis of educational programs in this 5-part course.	Approximately 1 hour 15 minutes to 2 hours.
Data Use Guide Training Courses	The course is designed to follow a sequence in which each new section builds upon the previous; however, users may choose to take any of the 8 lessons within the course at any time.	Approximately 1 hour 15 minutes to 1 hour 45 minutes
<i>Coming Soon! Learning to be a NRS Data Detective</i>	<i>This 6-part course will include a variety of readings and tools that illustrate the art of being a data detective and using data to monitor performance, understand programs, and plan and evaluate program improvements efforts.</i>	<i>To be determined</i>



SOMETHING NEW!

NRS Basics: An Introduction to the NRS, Facilitated Online Course

The NRS project is preparing a new distance education course focused on basics of the NRS.

Unlike the other courses, this unique 5-week online course is facilitated by instructors who will guide participants with weekly lessons. State directors must nominate staff to participate.

Topics discussed include:

- A brief history of the NRS
- NRS measures and methods
- New NRS assessment approval processes
- NRS and the federal role
- Data systems

Syllabus

- Orientation - Introductions
- Week 1
 - Accountability
 - Accountability defined and types of accountability systems
 - Essential elements of good accountability systems
 - Rewards-sanctions-standards-dynamic
 - Uses of accountability data
 - Accountability in Adult Education
 - General calls for accountability across government
 - Calls for Accountability in adult education
 - NRS as a national accountability system with standard measures that aims at program improvement
 - Relation of accountability to program improvement
 - History of NRS
 - Evolution of implementation
 - 1st phase- developing standard definitions for measures, standard collection methods, and standards for software to perform these tasks
 - 2nd phase- pilot phase to test out the definitions, collection methodologies and software
 - 3rd phase- training and technical assistance to assist states and, through them, local programs to implement NRS

Stay Tuned for More Information!

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Online Courses

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These online training courses are designed for adult education program administrators. They explain NRS requirements and are designed to improve the quality of NRS data collection.



About NRS

[What is the NRS?](#)

Gain a basic understanding of the NRS, focusing on the measures and methods. Upon completion of this course you should be able to answer questions revolving around "what", "why", and "how". (Users will be required to log in to access this course. Course completion may take approximately 20-35 minutes.)

Data Quality Courses

[Data Quality Guide Training Courses](#)

Learn who does what with the NRS Data, where it comes from, where it goes, and how it gets there in this online course based on the [Guide for Improving NRS Data Quality](#). Upon completion of this 8-part course, you should be able to give a detailed account of what the goes on at each level of the NRS. The course is designed to follow a sequence in which each new section builds upon the previous; however, users may choose to take any lessons within the course at any time. (Users will be required to log in to access this course. Course completion time not available.)

[NRS Data Flow](#)

Learn who does what with the NRS Data, where it comes from, where it goes, and how it gets there. Upon completion of this course, you should be able to give a detailed account of what the goes on at each level of the NRS. (Users will be required to log in to access this course. Course may take approximately 10-15 minutes.)

For Updates and Additional Information

Visit our Web site to learn more about online options for professional development:

<http://www.nrsweb.org/trainings/online.aspx>