

Webinar Questions

Below are the questions asked by sponsors in regard to the Sept. 6, 2016, webinar and responses from the department.

- 1. Just to clarify: the nine items graded will represent our compliance with the entirety of the list of 319?**

During the site visit for 2015-2016, the reviewers will verify nine items, however, the compliance rating for each sponsor will be based upon all laws and rules that apply to the sponsor and the selected schools.

- 2. Is the sponsor interview just for the 2015-2016 school year? Is there a way to view in Epicenter all of the submissions for that year?**

The site visits will be completed for both the 2014-2015 and the 2015-2016 school years. If a sponsor has multiple schools, the schools visited for each year's reviews are randomly selected. The same school may or may not be selected to represent both years. If a sponsor has only one school, the site visit will cover both years. Each sponsor may view the items it uploaded into Epicenter at any time.

- 3. Can you explain again how the sponsor will be graded on all items if only 9 items are checked at each school?**

The sponsor rating for compliance will be based upon the sponsor and its selected schools' compliance with all applicable laws and rules based on the Epicenter submission of certification and/or documentation. The site visits will verify the identified items.

- 4. Who will notify ICF if a school is closed?**

The department will notify ICF, the vendor conducting the compliance reviews, of any closed schools.

- 5. Lakewood Academy was selected for an interview on Thursday, September 9 by ODE. Which document are we being interviewed on? Which Compliance document. This is a sponsor interview.**

The Sept. 9, 2016, interview via Skype is for the quality review. ICF will contact any selected schools prior to the compliance site visit.

- 6. What time frame do you expect we will have to get letters about the site visit?**

Every school will receive notice by phone and email at least 48 hours in advance of its site visit.

- 7. Is the ICF the same group that conducted the interview. Does this negate the site visits conducted by ODE for the 2014-15 evaluations? So sponsors are still rated on the 319 items is this correct?**

SchoolWorks is conducting the quality reviews and also is conducting interviews via Skype with sponsors. ICF is completing the compliance reviews and site visits with schools for both the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 reviews. The 2014-2015 compliance review is based on the published list of 23 items; the 2015-2016 compliance review is based on the list of all applicable laws and rules.

8. Will we have a chance to correct any mistakes if we accidentally uploaded the wrong doc?

The window for uploading documents has closed. However, schools will have the opportunity to provide documentation for the identified items selected by ICF for verification at the site visit.

9. May of the requirements asked for are not actually required by law. Will ODE address this now? The list of 319 items contained things not required by law.

The vendor, along with the department, will ensure that only those laws and rules that apply to each individual sponsor and the sponsor's schools are used for the compliance rating.

10. Is a sponsor graded on 9 items of 319 items? Can a sponsor miss 3 items of 319 or 3 items of the 9 randomly selected items? Please clarify. So a sponsor can only miss 3 of the 319 items. It thought there was a 95% law?

All sponsors are rated based upon compliance with all laws and rules that apply to the sponsor and its school or selected schools. The rating system is set forth in the current rule 3301-102-08 and is based upon the number of items missed. There is no 95 percent law.

11. Is the verification for 14-15 only of the 23 items we uploaded to Epicenter?

Yes, the verification for the 2014-2015 school year is based upon the 23 items uploaded in Epicenter.

12. Will sponsor be given the opportunity to review and or change documents previously uploaded to Epicenter for 15-16 due to the compressed timeline for uploading?

The time for uploading documentation has closed. However, schools will have the opportunity to provide documentation for the identified items selected by ICF for verification at the site visit.

13. When will the power point be available (the presentation is posted on you-tube, no access to actual power point)?

The presentation is available on the department's YouTube channel at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5nfiH3QATg>.

14. How will the compliance data for all sponsors and all schools be published?

The compliance data will be published as part of the sponsor rating and will be available on the department's website.

15. Which metric is ODE using to score sponsors on the compliance component? Either the scoring is based upon a 10% sampling of our schools and a 9 item site visit verification or scoring is based upon a 9 item site visit verification and verifying 319 items already uploaded.

The ratings are based upon compliance with all laws and rules applicable to the sponsor and all laws and rules applicable to schools for a 10 percent random sample, or at least one school. The items verified during the site visit will be included in the rating, however, every item is equally weighted.

16. Please provide clarification regarding the "Supplemental Compliance Data" slide from the presentation. What is meant by "compliance data from all sponsors and all schools will be published..."

The supplemental compliance data slide advises sponsors that while 10 percent of the sponsor's schools, or at least one school, will be included in the sponsor rating, all sponsored schools are being

reviewed. Results for the schools that are not selected to be included in the rating will be available as a supplement to the sponsor ratings.

17. What should we tell our schools to expect if they are selected for an on-site review regarding the process, things to have prepared, time to allot for the on-site review? Will there be anything more than a review of the selected items (interview, tour, etc.)?

Each school will receive a call and email notification at least 48 hours prior to the site visit. During the site visit, ICF will review the items identified on the list of verification items provided to the school.

18. Is there a chance to remediate any short comings, for instance if a school doesn't have a document from 2 years ago, is there an opportunity for them to see if the sponsor, management company, board attorney has a copy of a missing document/policy?

The sponsors and schools have received the list of items being verified during the site visits and will receive notice at least 48 hours prior to the site visit to ensure that the school has documentation of the items to be verified.

19. Please clarify the purpose of the site visits. Do those items have more weight than others?

The purpose of the site visits is to verify the information that has been provided by the sponsors. All items are equally weighted.

20. Is the score based on items from the site visit or items from the compliance list. In other words, if a school misses 4 out of the 319 items, will they be ineffective, or is it based on 4 out of the 9 items reviewed on the site visit?

For the compliance review, the score is based upon the compliance with all laws and rules as well as the items verified during the site visit. When calculating the missed items, it will be based upon the applicable items for each sponsor and its selected schools.

21. Have there been any changes to the list of 319 items? I found some laws that were in fact not required, and I hope they have been removed from the list. Also there was some confusion on sponsors' part as to mark things "not applicable" or "compliant" if the item did not arise in that year for a school. For example, if no one served on a jury, is that school compliant because they did not punish a person for jury service (which is how CMSD answered the question) or is it not applicable? It seems like sponsors responded differently to these questions.

The vendor is reviewing the certification document provided by the sponsors as well as the not applicable statements to ensure that items are being properly applied to schools.

22. Are sponsors invited to participate in the site visit?

Sponsors are welcome to attend the site visit and observe. During the visit, ICF will be verifying selected items identified on the list provided to the school in advance of the site visit. Please be aware that this is the same list of items that the department shared with all sponsors and schools and is available on the department's website.

23. When will sponsors see their evaluation, and will there be a rebuttal period?

The evaluations will be provided to the sponsors as part of the overall ratings released by the department in October 2016. Ohio Revised Code 3314.016(B)(7) sets forth the evaluation appeal process.