

Ethnicity and Military Status Validation

The University has begun the process of collecting the data identifying and reporting the ethnicity and race of its students, faculty and staff members. The federal government's recent change in the ethnicity reporting categories for students and employees requires all institutions to allow individuals the option to validate this information. In the past, individuals were limited to choosing one category to describe their racial ethnic identity. According to the federal government, the option for specifying more than one race allows the institutions to "obtain more accurate information about the increasing number of student and employees who identify with more than one race." How we identify ourselves, in terms of race and ethnicity has changed since the categories were developed in 1977. With the new reporting categories, you may now identify yourself by ethnic group (either Hispanic/Latino or not Hispanic/Latino) and by one or more racial groups (American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black/African-American, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, White). In addition to updating ethnicity information, we are also providing individuals with an opportunity to update their military status.

Beginning with the 2010-2011 academic year, all institutions are required to report student and employee data to the federal government using the new categories. Indiana University does not report individual employee data to the federal government but we do report the total number of employees in various categories within each institution. The collection of the data began July 22, 2010 when logging into OneStart. We are asking each Indiana University faculty, staff member and student to update their race/ethnicity data and military status, so that the university's profile better reflects the diversity of our institution.

We appreciate your prompt attention in updating your race/ethnicity and military information. For more information about reasons for these changes, please go to:
<<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/pdf/E7-20613.pdf>>.