

South Dakota Department of Education
Race/Ethnicity
Q&A

1. **Q – If the student/staff person identifies themselves as Hispanic/Latino on question #1, what should they select for race in #2?**

A – White (in most instances) In the guidance provided by the Federal Government, most individuals who identify themselves as Hispanic/Latino initially originated from countries in Southern Europe. If the student/staff more closely affiliates themselves with one or more of the other race categories listed, they should identify those race(s) instead.

2. **Q – How should a school district re-identify students/staff?**

A – To re-identify students/staff please have them complete the race/ethnicity questions just like you would have a brand new student/staff person complete the race/ethnicity information contained within your school's enrollment forms.

3. **Q – Do school districts HAVE to re-identify students/staff?**

A – The federal government and the Department of Education HIGHLY recommend the re-identification of all students/staff to make sure their race/ethnicity is identified correctly.

4. **Q – What if a student/staff fails or refuses to provide their race/ethnicity information?**

A – If a student/staff fails or refuses to provide race/ethnicity information, it is the school districts responsibility to identify the race/ethnicity of the student/staff by the use of observer identification.