



# MLDS CENTER

Maryland Longitudinal Data System

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** MLDS Governing Board  
**FROM:** Ross Goldstein, Executive Director  
**DATE:** December 6, 2024  
**SUBJECT:** Agreement with the Accountability and Implementation Board (AIB)

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### Background

The Accountability and Implementation Board (AIB) is an independent unit of State government, established by the *Blueprint for Maryland's Future* (Blueprint) to monitor progress on the implementation of the Blueprint, reporting annually on progress, and recommending any legislative changes that are needed to achieve the intended results. The AIB created a comprehensive implementation plan<sup>1</sup> that includes a series of outcome measures to evaluate the effectiveness of Blueprint programs. Now that those measures have been established, the AIB needs to analyze data on student performance and outcomes and assess whether goals established by the outcome measures are being met. To conduct these analyses, the AIB has requested access to the MLDS.

The Blueprint established a requirement that the MLDS Center provide access to the data in the MLDS at the direction of the AIB (see Ed. Art., § 24-703(f)(6), Annotated Code of Maryland).

### Proposed Interagency Agreement

The Center is working with the AIB on developing an interagency agreement to govern the use of the MLDS as a data resource to facilitate the AIB's outcome measures analyses. The agreement has not been finalized, but the following roles and responsibilities of each agency will be established, including:

1. The MLDS Center will:
  - a. Provide system access to the AIB staff;
  - b. Develop comprehensive reporting tables and update them annually; and
  - c. Provide subject matter expertise and input.
2. The AIB staff will:
  - a. Comply with the MLDS Center's requirements to gain system access;
  - b. Conduct the outcome measures analyses;
  - c. Support the Center in working to collect data not in the MLDS that are needed for outcome measures;
  - d. Communicate with and receive feedback from MLDS Center subject matter experts and the Research and Policy Advisory Board; and
  - e. Assume responsibility for dissemination of their analyses.

This agreement will take the place of the Center's *Project Approval and Management Procedures*;

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<sup>1</sup> [Blueprint for Maryland's Future Comprehensive Implementation Plan \(August 2023\)](#)

meaning that once the agreement is signed, the AIB staff can conduct their work and will not need to submit a project application, go through the review and approval process, or provide an MLDS product. The agreement will also indicate that the AIB may use the MLDS to conduct outcome measure analyses that are single sector (for example, an analysis of the percentage of students demonstrating grade-level proficiency in ELA and math at key points in a student's academic experience). Generally, the Center's policy is to require cross-sector analyses (for example, an analysis that requires data from two or more sectors, such as the workforce outcomes for Maryland high school graduates who complete a CTE program in high school). Permitting single sector analyses is important because one of the reasons the AIB wants to use the MLDS is to provide them with a single and consistent data resource to complete their work over multiple years. Finally, the agreement will specify that AIB staff will be subject to all of the Center's staff authorization and access requirements, security requirements, and data suppression policy.

### **Board Action**

No action is requested at this time. When the agreement is finalized and reviewed by counsel, I will request Secretary Wu to sign the agreement in her capacity as Chair of the Board.