



**Adopted: August 3, 2002**

## **National Assessment Governing Board**

### **Plan for Study of State NAEP Sampling**

#### **Introduction**

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 specifies that states must close the performance gaps between subgroups of students identified by race/ethnicity, special needs student categories, and socioeconomic indicators. There is an expectation that NAEP will provide information related to accomplishment of the requirement. The current state NAEP sampling design results in many jurisdictions of state NAEP having too few students in important subgroups to accurately estimate changes in the performance gaps. Hence, there is a need for NAEP to report more precise estimates of such gaps. Larger samples produce more accurate estimates but increasing the overall sample sizes in all jurisdictions will not necessarily produce the desired results. Because information on how to sample such that the required accuracy is accomplished is not currently available, there is a need to conduct studies that will produce results in time for designing the sampling procedures for the 2005 assessments in reading and mathematics.

#### **Possible Topics for Study**

1. Study of jurisdictions' subgroup sample sizes and precision, with view toward determining those for which oversampling may yield more precision in estimation of gaps.
2. Study of specific subgroups that each jurisdiction is identifying as targets for decreasing gaps in their state assessments.
3. Modeling or simulation of effects of increasing sample sizes.
4. Study of the added burden on schools/districts as a result of increases in sample sizes.
5. Estimation of costs and benefits of increasing sample sizes in jurisdictions.

James Chromy is currently conducting one study on topic # 1 for the NAEP Validity Study Panel. He will have some results to report at the meeting. The last two topics cannot be studied conclusively until there are some results from the first three.

## Responsibilities

1. The Board will establish an ad hoc committee to deal with the issue of possible changes in NAEP state sampling procedures.
2. NAGB (Sharif Shakrani and James Carlson) and NCES (Peggy Carr and Andrew Kolstad) staff will oversee activities.
3. Advisory groups such as The Design and Analysis Committee (DAC) and The Education Information Advisory Committee (EIAC) will be requested to provide reviews.

## Proposed Timelines

These timelines are based on the necessity of the Board making any policy decisions in time for designing the sampling plan for the 2005 assessments.

2002	July/August	NAGB and NCES define studies COSDAM discussion of studies Board establishment of ad hoc committee
	September/October	Study plans presented to DAC and EIAC for review
	November Board Meeting	Final study plans presented to Board ad hoc committee Studies commissioned
2003	March Board Meeting	Initial study results presented to ad hoc committee
	May Board Meeting	Update on studies presented to ad hoc committee
	July/August Board Meeting	Final study results presented to ad hoc committee
	November Board Meeting	Ad hoc committee recommendations presented to the Board
2004	March Board Meeting	Board action