

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR INCLUSIVE COMPUTING

Statement of Commitment to Privacy and Confidentiality

1. Overview of the Project and Purpose of this Statement

- Housed at Northeastern's Khoury College of Computer Sciences, the [Center for Inclusive Computing](#) (the "Center") awards funding to colleges and universities to scale best practices known to increase the representation of women in undergraduate computing. Collecting data for diagnostic and evaluation purposes is a critical aspect of our work and every grantee participates. The Center and Northeastern University recognize their obligation to use and safeguard the data collected in ways that respect confidentiality and privacy interests, as well as the integrity of the data. This Statement describes how we recognize these concerns and uphold our commitments to address them.
- This Privacy Statement is intended to inform you of our policies and practices regarding our collection, use, and disclosure of the information that you submit to us. If you have any questions regarding this Statement, you can contact us at khoury-cic@northeastern.edu.

2. What Information Do We Collect?

- Through our Data Program, we track
 - Student enrollment and persistence and faculty/TA support in introductory Computer Science courses
 - Term-to-term retention and graduation of computing majors
 - Gender and race/ethnicity of students and faculty/TA support
 - More detailed information on data collection can be found [here](#).
- Partner schools will be required to submit this data for every term they are receiving funding through the Center, as well as four prior academic terms.

3. How Do We Collect Your Data?

- Partner schools will self-report their data through our hosting site, Peerfocus. The Center recognizes that the data obtained from the Survey was self-reported by schools and has not been independently verified for accuracy.

4. How Do We Use the Data you Submit?

- School Profile and Self-Evaluation - By collecting and tracking this data, partner schools and their technical advisor will be able to:
 - Identify precisely where they are losing or gaining students
 - Evaluate the impact of interventions
 - Gain a deeper understanding of the experience of students who are typically underrepresented in computing
- The Center's Annual Report - The Center for Inclusive Computing will use the data collected by schools in aggregated form to learn more about the state of the field of computing and overall impact of interventions. Any publicizing of data will be in aggregated form and not identify individual institutions.

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5. How Do We Share the Data you report to us?

- Center Staff and Contracted Partners
 - Survey data and reports are intended to be used by authorized personnel at the Center for Inclusive Computing to help inform program analysis and decision-making.
- Technical Advisors
 - Each partner school is assigned a technical advisor, a senior level computing faculty with firsthand experience implementing changes that have led to significant increases in the representation of women in computing. Technical advisors will be given access to their assigned schools data to provide guidance on the planning and implementation of interventions and participate in data analysis.
- Momentum
 - Housed at UCLA's [School of Education & Information Studies, Momentum](#) conducts research on efforts to diversify computing and technology fields. Momentum researchers gather longitudinal data on students' experiences in computing departments as a way of understanding their trajectories in computing through college and beyond into careers and graduate school. They will establish a baseline survey of first- and second-year students enrolled in computing courses, and longitudinal follow up surveys, at a subset of Center partner schools - your school may be a partner in this effort. In addition to their longitudinal qualitative study, the Center will share data provided by the identified schools through the Survey to the Momentum team.

6. How Do We Protect the Student Data You Report?

- The Center takes the privacy of individuals seriously and care is taken to ensure that information reported does not reveal specific individuals or institutions. The Center protects the data in the following ways:
 - The online site is hosted on a secure server at Peerfocus
 - Each user has their own password protected user ID
 - Individual department data may be accessed from a secure site only by authorized Center staff, assigned technical advisor, and authorized Momentum researchers (if applicable, see above)
 - We will not share the data for any purpose other than the analysis and reporting for the data collection initiative outlined above.