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Bureau of Special Education FY'11 Memo #11

Date: October 1, 2010  
To: Superintendents of Schools  
Special Education Directors  
From: Office of the Commissioner of Education  
Division of Instruction  
Bureau of Special Education  
RE: Race/Ethnicity Categories

The Bureau of Special Education would like to provide guidance regarding race/ethnicity, as the categories have been expanded from five to seven race/ethnicity categories for purposes of State and Federal reporting.

The New Hampshire Special Education Information System (NHSEIS) has been updated with Hispanic/Latino, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and White. The category of two or more is not an option in NHSEIS; however, when a student has two or more races, please select all races that apply. NHSEIS will automatically calculate this student as two or more races.

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|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Hispanic/Latino                  | A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race. Refers to Hispanic and/or Latino.                                                                                                                                                            |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America) and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment. ( <i>Does not include persons of Hispanic/Latino ethnicity.</i> )                                                                             |
| Asian                            | A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent. This includes, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand and Vietnam. ( <i>Does not include persons of Hispanic/Latino ethnicity.</i> ) |
| Black or African American        | A person having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa. ( <i>Does not include persons of Hispanic/Latino ethnicity.</i> )                                                                                                                                                                                    |

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|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Native Hawaiian or the Other Pacific Islander | A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or Pacific Islands. ( <i>Does not include persons of Hispanic/Latino ethnicity.</i> )  |
| White                                         | A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa. ( <i>Does not include persons of Hispanic/Latino ethnicity.</i> ) |
| Two or more races                             | A person having origins in two or more of the five <u>race</u> categories listed immediately above. ( <i>Does not include persons of Hispanic/Latino ethnicity.</i> ) |

For further information, please contact Santina Thibedeau, 603-271-6693 / [sthibedeau@ed.state.nh.us](mailto:sthibedeau@ed.state.nh.us).