

## 2015-2016 CAL-SCHLS MODIFICATIONS: LOCAL CONTROL AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN SUBGROUP INDICATORS AND PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT QUESTIONS

WestEd and the California Department of Education announce modest revisions to the California School Climate, Health and Learning Survey (Cal-SCHLS) instruments designed to further enhance the system's value for supporting Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) efforts. Among the changes, questions have been added to the CHKS to: (a) identify LCAP-designated subgroups (racial/ethnic groups, socioeconomically disadvantaged students, English learners, and foster youth), so that their specific needs can be assessed; (b) assess school efforts to encourage parental involvement in school—one of the eight LCAP priority areas; and (c) assess the quality of school facilities and variations in results based on afterschool and Migrant Education Program participation. Redundant questions on the School Climate Module were removed to shorten the module. More than ever before, the Cal-SCHLS system is extremely well-suited for measuring need and progress in meeting the priorities of the LCAP.

---

### Summary of Instrument Changes, 2015-16

#### High School Core

##### ADDITIONS

- » School efforts to encourage parental involvement (3 questions)
- » Free/reduced-price meal eligibility
- » English learner status indicators (2 questions)
- » Migrant Education Program status
- » Afterschool program participation
- » Facilities question (clean and tidy)

##### MOVED

- » Substance use age of onset questions moved to AOD module.

#### Middle School Core

##### ADDITIONS

- » School efforts to encourage parental involvement (3 questions)
- » Living status question (to identify foster youth)
- » Free/reduced-price meal eligibility
- » English learner status indicator (2 questions)
- » Migrant Education Program status
- » Afterschool program participation
- » Facilities question (clean and tidy)
- » Lifetime - Any other drug, pill use (to compute total AOD use rate)

##### MOVED

- » Substance use age of onset questions moved to AOD module.

## School Climate Module

### ADDITIONS

- » Crowding question (My classroom is so crowded it is hard to concentrate and learn)
- » Lunch questions - 2 (I eat my lunch at the right time of day, I have plenty of time to eat my lunch)

### MOVED

- » My school is usually clean and tidy (to MS and HS Core)

### DELETIONS

- » This school promotes academic success for all students.
- » Students really enjoy their classes.
- » My classes are challenging.
- » Students at this school are well behaved.
- » Students know how they are expected to act.
- » Students know what the rules are.
- » Students enjoy working together on projects in class.
- » My class lessons include examples of my racial, ethnic, or cultural background.
- » Students try to get good grades.

## MS and HS AOD Module

### ADDITIONS

- » Substance use age of onset questions (5 questions)

## Elementary School Core

### ADDITIONS

- » After school program participation question
- » School connectedness question
- » Social emotional learning question (to increase reliability of the scale)
- » Violence perpetration question (to increase reliability of the scale)
- » Victimization question (to increase reliability of the scale)

### DELETIONS

- » Did you understand the questions on this survey
- » Did you answer the questions on this survey honestly and truthfully

## Staff

### ADDITIONS

- » Parent involvement questions (parallel to those on student and parent survey - 3 questions)

## Parent

### ADDITIONS

- » Parental involvement questions (parallel to those on student and staff survey - 3 questions)
- » Parent participation in school activities (to monitor progress in increasing parental involvement -7 questions)
- » Parent assessment of school communication with parents about school issues (5 questions)
- » Relationship to child question (to identify foster youth)
- » Afterschool program participation question
- » Ethnicity responses (to align with student survey)

### DELETIONS

- » Keeps me well-informed about my child's progress in school (became redundant with realigned questions above)

**If you have any questions, please email [cal-schls@wested.org](mailto:cal-schls@wested.org)  
or call toll-free **Cal-SCHLS Helpline** at (888) 841.7536**