

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND IMPROVEMENT

NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS

February, 1993

Dear Registrars and Officials:

The National Center for Education Statistics collects transcript and other information for persons who participate in its surveys. NCES has authorized the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) to obtain student transcript data for individuals who are participating in the 1992 High School and Beyond (HS&B) survey.

The grant of authority for collection of the transcript data is made pursuant to the provision in the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). FERPA allows the release of records to the Secretary of Education or to his agent without the prior consent of the survey participants. The privacy of the information you are asked to supply to NORC will be protected, as required by FERPA. A copy of the relevant section of the act is included in this folder.

Education researchers and policy analysts will relate the information about courses taken and credits earned to the characteristics gathered from questionnaires and other sources. HS&B will enable researchers to analyze the relationships between course-taking patterns, academic achievement, and subsequent occupational choices and success. Student names are used only to make sure that data on variables from different sources (tests, questionnaires, and transcripts) refer to the same individuals and not to find out anything about particular individuals.

We would appreciate your cooperation with NORC in the transcript study. If you have further concerns please do not hesitate to call me at (202) 219-1774.

Sincerely yours,

C. Dennis Carroll

Chief, Longitudinal Studies Branch

Postsecondary Education Statistics Division

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