

2025 VSL Data Collection Specs for Public, 2-Year Institutions

| Data Variable Name | Variable Type-Length | Required Y/N | Description | Example |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|---|-------------------|
| Institution Code | CHAR (2) | Y | School's Institution Code. | 99 |
| Inst Name | CHAR (140) | Y | Institution Name. | LA Public College |
| Inst Stud Com ID | CHAR (12) | N | Institution's unique ID for Student. | LPC09324 |
| Stud ID SSN | NUM (9) | Y | Student Social Security Number (SSN). | 987654321 |
| Stud Last Name | CHAR (60) | Y | Student's Last Name | Doe |
| Stud First Name | CHAR (60) | Y | Student's First Name | Jane |
| Race | CHAR (1) | Y | Code to indicate student's reported race. See full File Specifications for code chart, including for UNKNOWN. | 8 |
| Gender | CHAR (1) | Y | Code to indicate student's reported gender. F=Female; M=Male; N=Not Reported; Other; or Unknown | F |
| US Citizen | CHAR (1) | Y | Is the Student a US Citizen. Y=Yes, N=No, U=Unknown. | Y |
| Parish or State or Country | CHAR (2) | Y | Code to indicate the location of residence for a student. See full File Specifications for codes. | 25 |
| Birth Date | CHAR (8) | Y | Student's Birthdate. Required Format: MM/DD/YYYY, including leading zeros. | 04/09/2001 |
| CIP Code 6 digits | NUM (6) | Y | A six-character code from the NCES that corresponds to the field of study. Numbers only. MUST MATCH CIP CODE IN PROGRAM INVENTORY. | 510404 |
| Prog Name | CHAR (140) | Y | Program name. MUST MATCH PROGRAM INVENTORY. | Phlebotomy |
| Degree Level | NUM (2) | Y | Code that demonstrates program type and length. See full File Specifications. MUST MATCH PROGRAM INVENTORY. | CV |
| Increment Key | CHAR (2) | Y | Code that distinguishes between programs with the same CIP Code. Use leading zeroes if necessary. MUST MATCH PROGRAM INVENTORY. | 07 |
| Prog Modality | CHAR (1) | Y | Delineates if the program is in-person, online, or hybrid. MUST MATCH PROGRAM INVENTORY. | H |
| Enrl Start Date | NUM (8) | Y | Date student enrolled in program. Can be months prior to data collection period, but must be prior to completion date. Required format: MM/DD/YYYY. Use leading zeroes if necessary. | 06/07/2022 |
| Stud Prog Status | CHAR (1) | Y | Student's current status on the last day of the reporting period. Could be still enrolled, completed, withdrawn, etc. See Full File Specifications for codes. | C |
| Actual Comp Date | NUM (8) | N | Student's actual completion date. ONLY USE if the previous field is "C". Must be within the reporting period. | 12/03/2024 |
| Stud Prog Cert Status | CHAR (2) | Y | This is about the PROGRAM. Does the program the student is enrolled in lead to an EXTERNAL certification or credential of some sort? CE – the program is able to qualify the student for an external credential. NE – the program does not lead to any external credential. | CE |
| Recv Cert | CHAR (1) | Y | This is about the STUDENT. If known, did the student receive the EXTERNAL credential. This is NOT to indicate if the student completed the program. It is ONLY about EXTERNAL credentials earned by the student. If you do not know if the student earned their external credentials, indicate "N". | Y |
| WBT Comp | CHAR (1) | Y | As part of the institution's program's requirements, did or will the student complete work-based learning at an outside business such as hospital, firm, etc. Y=YES or N=NO | Y |
| Program Clock Hours | NUM (4) | N | The number of clock hours of the program the student has completed in. ONLY USE if the Stud Prog Status field is "C". | 86 |