# SIF (Virginia)

Last Modified on 12/14/2025 8:45 pm CST

This article explains how the Virginia SIF model has been set up, which objects and elements are being messaged, and the Campus configuration required to successfully use SIF version 3.6 only.

# Business Requirements

Report state-mandated student data in a timely and automated manner. The Schools Interoperability Framework (SIF) is the chosen medium by which to accomplish these goals.

Virginia uses the SIF-based Student Locator object to assign a stateID to newly enrolled students. The state Student Locator Frameworks (SLF) uses the StudentPersonal and StudentSchoolEnrollment objects.

# Version

The SchoolInfo, Student Personal, and StudentSchoolEnrollment objects use SIF version 3.6.

# Architecture

Virginia uses the SIF North American data model 4.3 (aka "Unity") and the SIF Infrastructure model 3.6 to automatically retrieve state student unique identifiers (SSIDs).

# State SIF v3.6 Model

## Continuous Publishing and Subscribing

In each SIF Unity zone, the Campus is the one provider for that zone and context. Campus publishes Add and Change Events on the StudentPersonal and StudentSchoolEnrollment objects whenever the data in the database is changed. After the student is enrolled, the process consists of the following steps:
1. User enrolls student.
2. Campus sends Add Events for StudentPersonal and StudentSchoolEnrollment.
**Note:** Each Event is sent as a collection with a single object in it.
3. Student Locator Frameworks (SLF) retrieves SSIDs from the ID system and issues Update Requests.
4. Campus processes the update requests and updates the database.

## Synchronization Process

The synchronization or "Sync" process is usually conducted once per year, in the summer after the New Year Rollover. It may, however, be conducted at any time to correct errors. The Sync process consists of the following steps:

1. User initiates process in Student Locator Frameworks (SLF) console.

2. SLF requests SchoolInfo objects.
3. Campus responds with SchoolInfo objects.
4. User selects schools to be synchronized.
5. SLF requests the StudentSchoolEnrollment and StudentPersonal objects for selected schools.
6. SLF retrieves SSIDs from the ID system and issues Update Requests.

# SIF Message History

The SIF Message History tool can be used to generate a report which includes detailed information about messages sent for a specific SIF object within a specific time frame, agent, and zone. This report allows you to review recent SIF activity and is especially useful for troubleshooting errors to and from a SIF reporting entity. For more information, please see the SIF Message History article.

# Objects and Elements

See the sections below for details on Virginia-specific elements for the SchoolInfo, Student Personal, and StudentSchoolEnrollment objects using SIF version 3.6.

| Version 3.6 |
| --- |
| • SchoolInfo<br>• StudentPersonal<br>• StudentSchoolEnrollment |

## SchoolInfo

This object contains information about the school. In addition to the mandatory elements from the SIF specification, the SchoolInfo/StateProvinceId element is mandatory and has a specific format.

▶ Click here to expand...

| Element | Usage Notes | Description |
| --- | --- | --- |
| SchoolName | **Mandatory** | Name of the school.<br><br>For CEDS compatibility, must be unique within the LEA after no more than 60 characters.<br><br>Optional: The name is more user-friendly if it's unique within the LEA after 20 characters. |

| Element | Usage Notes | Description |
|---|---|---|
| StateProvinceId | **Mandatory** | Must be the seven (7) digit state-issued identifier for the school, composed of three digits for the division and four for the school. Must include any leading zeros necessary to reach 7 digits.<br><br>This is more restrictive than the CEDS specification but compatible with it. |

# StudentPersonal

This object contains all the personal information related to the student. In addition to the mandatory elements from the SIF specification, Virginia makes other elements mandatory and/or mandates specific code sets.

▸ Click here to expand...

| Element | Usage Notes | Description |
|---|---|---|
| Name | **Mandatory**<br><br><br>**JSON Sample**<br>"Name": {<br>    "Type": "04",<br>    "LastName": "Cicero",<br>    "FirstName": "Marcus",<br><br>"MiddleName": "Tullius"<br>    }, | The <Name Type="04"> element must be present and contain at least the <LastName> and <FirstName> elements, at least one of which must be populated. The <MiddleName> element is optional but will be used by the SLF if present.<br><br>Other elements within <Name Type="04"> as well as any data in additionally typed <Name> elements or in <OtherName> will be ignored by the SLF. |
| StateProvinceId | **Mandatory**; may be blank (null) | The VA State Testing ID Number (STI) assigned by the VA EIMS program. |

| Element | Usage Notes | Description |
|---|---|---|
| Demographics/RaceList/Code | **Mandatory**<br><br>**JSON Sample**<br>"RaceList": {<br>   "Race": [<br>     {<br>       "Code": {<br>        "value":<br>"White"<br>       }<br>      }<br>   ]<br>  }, | The Demographics/RaceList/Code element must be present and contain an NCES 0849 race code. These are often referred to as the federal race codes and are the only acceptable values.<br><br>Other elements within <RaceList> such as <OtherCodeList> are optional and will be ignored by the SLF. |
| Demographics/HispanicLatino | **Mandatory**<br><br>**JSON Sample**<br>"HispanicLatino": {<br>   "value":<br>"Yes"<br>  }, | The Demographics/HispanicLatino element must be present and contain the value Yes or No. |
| Demographics/BirthDate | **Mandatory**<br><br>**JSON Sample**<br>"BirthDate":<br>"1990-09-26", | The Demographics/BirthDate element must be present and populated with a date that is before the current date. The format is yyyy-mm-dd. |
| Gender | **Mandatory**<br><br>**Virginia-specific values**<br><br>**JSON Sample**<br>"Gender": {<br>   "value":<br>"Female"<br>  }, | The Demographics/Gender element must be present and contain one of the values M (for males), F (for females), or A (for all persons who don't identify as male or female).<br><br>Other values previously used in Virginia's SIF profile are no longer accepted. |

| Element | Usage Notes | Description |
|---|---|---|
| MostRecent/SchoolLocalId | **Optional**<br><br>**JSON Sample**<br>"MostRecent": {<br>    {<br><br>"SchoolLocalId": {<br>      "value": "702"<br>    }<br>    }<br>    }, | The MostRecent/SchoolLocalId should be present. While optional, this element is very useful for troubleshooting.<br><br>Use the school's local number (typically 2 to 4 digits). This is the same as the last few digits of the school's StateProvinceId. |

# StudentSchoolEnrollment

This object defines information related to a student's enrollment. StudentSchoolEnrollment instances must not span multiple school years. The Pearson SLF software will only use student records with at least one current, active StudentSchoolEnrollment. In addition to the mandatory elements from the SIF specification, Virginia mandates specific code sets and adds SIF Extended Elements.

▶ Click here to expand...

| Element | Usage Notes | Description |
|---|---|---|
| EntryType | **Mandatory**<br><br>**Virginia-specific codes**<br><br>**JSON Sample**<br>"EntryType": {<br>    {<br>    "Code": {<br>      "value": "E119"<br>    }<br>    }<br>    }, | The Virginia-specific code must be used in the EntryType/Code element as shown.<br><br>Entry codes in OtherCode elements will be ignored by the Pearson SLF software. |

| Element | Usage Notes | Description |
|---|---|---|
| GradeLevel | **Mandatory**<br><br>**Virginia-specific codes**<br><br>**JSON Sample**<br>"GradeLevel": {<br>    {<br>     "Code": {<br>       "value": "05"<br>      }<br>    }<br>    }, | The Virginia-specific code must be used in the GradeLevel/Code element as shown.<br><br>Grade codes in OtherCode and OtherCodeList elements will be ignored by the Pearson SLF software. |
| ResponsibleSchool (SIF Extended) | **Mandatory**<br>Every StudentSchoolEnrollment object MUST contain this value in a SIF_ExtendedElement named ResponsibleSchool.<br><br>**Virginia-specific StateProvinceId value**<br><br>**JSON Sample**<br>"SIF_ExtendedElement": [<br>    {<br>     "Name": "ResponsibleSchool",<br>     "value": "0010702"<br>    }<br>    ] | StateProvinceId for the responsible school. See the SchoolInfo section for more on this number.<br><br>Must be 7 digits (including leading zeros if any). Other values will not be processed. |

| Element | Usage Notes | Description |
|---|---|---|
| ServingSchool (SIF Extended) | **Optional**<br>A StudentSchoolEnrollment object may have the "ServingSchool" SIF_ExtendedElement.<br><br>**Virginia-specific StateProvinceId value**<br><br>**JSON Sample**<br>"SIF_ExtendedElement": [<br>   {<br>     "Name": "ServingSchool",<br>     "value": "0010702"<br>   }<br>  ] | StateProvinceId for the serving school. See the SchoolInfo section for more on this number.<br><br>Must be 7 digits (including leading zeros if any). Other values will not be processed. |

# Additional SIF Unity Tools

The SIF Unity tools allow users to set up, manage, and maintain SIF data.

| SIF Unity Configuration | SIF Unity Tools |
|---|---|
| • SIF Unity Configuration | • Object Viewer<br>• Message History<br>• Record Deleter<br>• Person Object Viewer<br>• Certificates |