

# SERF

Apr 24, 2014



#### The SERF

- What is the SERF?
  - The State Education Research File
  - A file containing student level data for individual Districts / Charter schools
  - Distributed to Districts / Charters annually or as requested
  - Formatted as a Microsoft Access 2007 database (earlier formats available on request)
  - Contains highly sensitive, personally identifiable data
  - Should only be used by District / Charter personnel

### SERF Purpose

- To provide a mechanism for USOE to distribute a snapshot of the data that will be used to compute the state and federal accountability reports
- To assist the LEAs in auditing the information used to produce those reports

#### **Common Questions**

- Why would I need a SERF?
  - You are interested in detailed information about the students in your LEA
  - You need to make an informed decision about education in your LEA
  - You are interested in producing reports concerning education in your LEA

#### **Common Questions**

- When is the SERF available?
  - The end-of-year SERF is available as early as Aug or Sept of the next school year
- How do I get a SERF?
  - SERFs are made available via our Secure FTP site at: <a href="http://secure.schools.utah.gov">http://secure.schools.utah.gov</a>
  - Once produced, the SERF will be there for one year
- Who do I contact to request a SERF?
  - SERFs are produced at the beginning of the next school year. If you need an additional SERF for any reason, please send all requests to Paula Huber <a href="mailto:paula.huber@schools.utah.gov">paula.huber@schools.utah.gov</a>

#### **Common Questions**

- What is the difference between the Cohort SERF and the Regular SERF?
  - The Cohort SERF contains only the information about the Cohort used to compute the graduation and dropout rates

#### Main Queries Review

- Student
  - Combines a number of the main tables into a list of students and their tests (CRT / UAA )
- Student Old (replaced by Student query)
  - Combines a number of the main tables into a list of students and their tests (CRT / UAA) utilizing the raw test data
- Institution List
  - Provides a listing of the LEAs / Schools
- V\_student\_enrollment\_subgroups
  - Lists the subgroups associated with each enrollment record

#### Possible SERF Uses

- SIS data import
- Data quality audits
- Custom reports

## Questions

#### **Credits**

- Cover Image
  - <a href="http://w8themes.com/surfing-wallpapers/">http://w8themes.com/surfing-wallpapers/</a>
- Music
  - Surf Medley Junior brown