



## Program for International Student Assessment

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### *Information for Teachers*

#### **What is PISA?**

The Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) is an international assessment of 15-year-old students, conducted every three years, that measures how well students apply their knowledge and skills in science, reading, and mathematics to solve problems in real-life contexts. In 2015, students from more than 70 countries and education systems, including the United States, will participate. PISA is coordinated by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and managed in the United States by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) within the U.S. Department of Education.

PISA provides a unique opportunity for the United States to understand its educational standing in comparison to other nations. Through participating in PISA, schools, teachers, and students contribute to the improvement of education. PISA can help us identify U.S. students' strengths and weaknesses in these subjects and help us learn about successful policies and practices in other countries.

#### **What role do teachers have in PISA?**

Beginning with PISA 2015, teachers are asked to complete an online questionnaire. This gives you an opportunity to provide information that is critical to understanding student performance as well as to voice your perspectives on teaching and learning at your school. The teacher questionnaire asks about your background and teaching experience, the student body, and your views on school policies and evaluation.

#### **How was I selected to take the PISA teacher questionnaire?**

The PISA school coordinator in your school (the person designated by your school principal to communicate with PISA staff) provided a list of all teachers eligible to teach 10th grade students in your school. You are one of about 25 teachers from your school who were selected to participate. Your participation in PISA is vital to reaching a high response rate.

#### **How long will it take to complete the PISA teacher questionnaire?**

The teacher questionnaire will take approximately 30 minutes to complete online, and you do not have to complete it all in a single session. The online software automatically saves your responses to each question as you navigate through the questionnaire so that if you wish to complete the questionnaire later, you may pick up right where you left off.

PISA 2015



PISA 2015

## How can I access the PISA teacher questionnaire?

To access the teacher questionnaire (<https://www.mypisausa.com/teacherquestionnaire>), you will need to have an internet connection, a suitable internet browser (see list below), and your login credentials. You will be emailed a unique hyperlink that you can click on to access the questionnaire directly. The PISA staff are ready to work with you to make access and completion of the teacher questionnaire as easy and efficient as possible.

The following browsers are supported by PISA and can be downloaded for free if you do not already have them installed on the computer:

- *Firefox*: Version 19 and above
- *Internet Explorer*: Version 8 and above
- *Google Chrome*: Version 25 and above
- *Safari (Mac version)*: versions 6 and above

## What is done with the information you collect from me?

Your responses to the PISA teacher questionnaire will be combined with those from other participating teachers across the United States to produce summary statistics and reports. By law, data provided by schools, staff, and students may be used only for statistical purposes and may not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose except as required by law [Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (ESRA 2002), 20 U.S. Code, Section 9573]. The U.S. Office of Management and Budget has approved this data collection under OMB # 1850-0755. Reports of the findings will not identify participating districts, students, or individual staff. For a recent example of how PISA data are reported, please visit <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2014/2014024rev.pdf>.

## Where can I go for help or technical support?

If you have any questions or experience any difficulties, please contact the PISA U.S. home office at 1-888-638-2597 or email [PISAHelp@westat.com](mailto:PISAHelp@westat.com).

For more information on PISA, including results from previous data collections, please visit <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/pisa>.

