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# Introduction

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This Primer has been written by the AACRAO SPEEDE Committee to address the most commonly asked questions regarding electronic data exchanges, including matters relating to both traditional EDI standards and contemporary XML data standards as shaped by the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC).

The AACRAO SPEEDE Committee has compiled EDX-related technology and contact information resources here, along with lists of Web site sources and state, provincial, and regional initiatives and mandates.

The AACRAO SPEEDE Committee is a standing committee of AACRAO that represents the interests of the AACRAO community in its standards-setting work with PESC. The mission of the AACRAO Committee for Standardization of Postsecondary Education Electronic Data Exchange (SPEEDE) is stated as follows:

SPEEDE coordinates and leads the development of national data exchange standards by representing postsecondary education in the appropriate standards setting bodies. These include the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council (PESC) and American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Accredited Standards Committee (ASC) X12.

SPEEDE assists with the implementation of standards for electronic data exchange for student transcripts, admission applications, and other educational records.

SPEEDE educates the AACRAO community on the availability and utilization of electronic data exchange standards. Presentations are regularly given at various AACRAO and PESC sponsored meetings and conferences. Both the AACRAO-SPEEDE Web site ([www.aacrao.org/speede](http://www.aacrao.org/speede)) and the PESC Web site ([www.pesc.org](http://www.pesc.org)) are excellent sources of information regarding Electronic Data Exchange in the higher education community.