PEARS Updates – FFY 2023

To align with changes to the national SNAP-Ed reporting system, a number of updates were made to PEARS for FFY 2023. This document highlights the new or modified data fields by module.

Program Activities Module

Most – but not all – of the updates were made to the Program Activities Module. A red asterisk * indicates a required question.

General Information Section

Method used to deliver this program *

For 2023, an updated list of three delivery method options is displayed with a series of checkboxes for: “In person”; “Virtual, live online”; and “Virtual, self-directed & interactive”. (Note: The EatFresh.org online is an example of “Virtual, self-directed & interactive.”)

Multiple options can be selected.

A new toggle to track which sessions are virtual has been added.

- If **virtual, live online** is the only delivery method selected, the virtual option will be toggled on (green) for all sessions by default.
- If **both in person** and **virtual, live online** are selected, the toggle can be used to indicate which sessions were virtual.

Language(s) used to deliver this program *

For 2023, a new field has been added to collect what languages were used to deliver this program activity. (Note: a similar new field has also been added to the Indirect Activities Module.)
Languages is a required field and will allow users to select multiple options.

- By default, “English” will be selected.
- If needed, “English” can be removed.
- Additional language(s) can be selected as needed.

The option Other is included to report any languages not included in the list. If “Other” is selected, an open text field will allow the other language to be specified.

**SNAP-Ed Custom Data Section**

**Project name** *

For 2023, a new field has been added for Project name. This is also a required data field, but for CalFresh Healthy Living, UC PEARs users there is just one option to select: CalFresh Healthy Living, UCCE.

This new Project name data field is also included in the PSE and Indirect Activities modules.
PEARS Updates – FFY 2023

Demographics Section

For 2023, a number of updates were made:

- All demographic tables include a Prefer not to respond and Unknown option
- Gender and age are now reported in separate tables
- The gender table includes a non-binary option
- Additional age subcategories

- **Youth**: For the 5 – 17 age group, additional optional subcategories have been added: 5 – 7 years, 8 – 10 years, 11 – 13 years, 14 – 17 years. These subcategories are not required for FFY 2023 but may be required next year.

- **Adults**: The 60 years or older category has been replaced with two additional response categories: 60 – 75 years and 76 years or older. These new older adult age categories are required for FFY 2023

- **NOTE**: New Adult Demographic cards are still being finalized to collect this additional gender and age demographic information. (as of 10/20/23)

- The State Office has made the FFY 2022 versions of adult demographic and adult evaluation surveys active in PEARS to assist with data collection for online adult education. These will be updated for FFY 2023 when the new questions are available.
PEARS Updates – FFY 2023

Auto-calculating demographic

**Adult demographics** | Since (as of 10/20/22) an updated Adult Demographic Form is not yet available, not all of the new fields will auto-calculate. Until the new FFY 2023 adult surveys are available, last year’s adult PEARS surveys can be used to auto-calculate the demographic tables.

One “glitch” has been identified for the age question when the option 60+ years is selected. Since the 60+ years age category has been divided into two new subcategories (60-75 years or 76 years or older), the auto-calculate will not function for these two age groups.

**Example:** Five adult demographic cards (FFY22 version) are entered and two respondents selected 60+ years. When auto-calculate is selected, the age table will display with “!” and an error message in red font.

The error can be resolved by adding the two respondents to the “Unknown” response option. All other tables will auto-calculate correctly.

*(Note: For UCCE programs intentionally reaching seniors, please let the State Office know if you would prefer to report these cases under the “60-75 years” option.)*

**Youth demographics** | As of 10/20/22, the FFY 2023 CDE school/site demographics has not been added to PEARS and **the auto-calculate functionality for youth is not yet active**. In the interim, the total number of unique participants can be added to the Total field with either:

- Demographic fields left empty and displaying errors until the auto-calculate is active, **or**
- Temporarily enter the total number of respondents to the “unknown” row in each of the gender, age, ethnicity, and race tables.

Once the CDE school/site demographics have been updated, please return to these program activities and auto-generate the demographics.
PEARS Updates – FFY 2023

PSE Site Activities Module

Project name *

Similar to the Program Activities module, a new field has been added for Project name with just one option to select – CalFresh Healthy Living, UCCE.

PSE Changes

Minor wording updates have been made to the PSE changes drop down list. For example, “initiated, improved or expanded” or “developed” has been removed from many of the individual PSE changes since a similar description is already part of the overall instructions.

Indirect Activities Module

Project name *

Similar to the Program Activities and PSE module, a new item Project name has been added with just one option to select – CalFresh Healthy Living, UCCE.

Languages *

Similar to Program Activities, a new required Languages field has been added that allow for multiple responses.