

How Northampton Community College Simplified Compliance Reporting with Automated Data Preparation

Northampton Community College, Bethlehem, PA

About: Northampton Community College is a public two-year college serving 20,000+ students across three campuses in Pennsylvania. 65% of their students are first-generation and 96% of recent graduates are employed or continuing their education.

Challenge: Northampton struggled to meet annual compliance reporting requirements due to an ineffective data management process. It took weeks to complete each reporting cycle, and they often missed deadlines and requirements.

Solution: In Summer 2022, Northampton partnered with Edify, EAB's education data and analytics solution, to automate their compliance reporting process by creating saved, repeatable workflows that mirrored both IPEDS and state report structures. Northampton's IE staff were then able to easily run their reports, check for errors, and submit them on time.

Impact: With ongoing support from EAB's professional services team, they saved hundreds of hours and expect to save even more in future cycles. With automated, repeatable workflows in place, they will be able to pull future reports, validate the data and submit both state and federal reports in less than a day. Automating a necessary process like compliance reporting has freed them up to focus on projects supporting their primary data goal: to create a culture of data confidence across the institution.

Impact Highlights

\$950K

State funding loss avoided in only one day thanks to Edify and support from the EAB data team

Hundreds

Of staff hours saved, now and in future reporting periods, freeing Northampton up to focus on broader data strategy and integration goals

Northampton's New Process with Edify Saves Valuable Staff Time

Edify Automates Data Preparation, Making It Easy to Hit Reporting Deadlines

Compliance Reporting Before Edify

- ✘ Process involved **multiple departments** pulling complex reports from **disparate systems**
- ✘ 1-2 staff responsible for reporting due to **staffing shortages**
- ✘ Reports were often **PDFs** that **couldn't be combined** and required **labor-intensive** analysis and aggregation
- ✘ Multiple interpretations of requirements created **confusion, redundancies**

After Edify

- ✔ EAB's Edify team brought Northampton's **SIS data** (Workday Student) into Edify in raw form, where it was **transformed, cleansed, and validated**.
- ✔ The Edify team partnered with Northampton to create **workflows** that **mirrored federal and state reporting requirements**.
- ✔ Northampton used the workflows to run needed reports, which were **ready for validation within hours**.
- ✔ Northampton's IE team could easily **identify and correct report errors** by using Edify's backend raw data view.
- ✔ Northampton's reports were **submitted on time**. The **reports were saved** for the next reporting period and will only need to be updated if there are requirement changes.

Quick and Quantifiable Wins with Edify

Success Is Built on a Strong Data Solution Paired with Ongoing Professional Support

Northampton saw tangible results with Edify in a matter of days—and in some cases as little as one day—saving them hundreds of staff hours and nearly a million dollars in potential state funding loss. But it was more than solid tech that helped them achieve their goals. With support from EAB’s professional services team, they were able to expand the capacity of their team and make meaningful progress in the first three months after deployment.

Early Successes with Edify and EAB Professional Service

Hundreds

of **staff hours saved**, now and in future reporting periods

\$950K

State **funding loss avoided** with Edify and support from EAB’s professional services team

On Time

Both state and IPEDS **reports submitted** in the first full reporting period with Edify (Fall 2022)

Under Budget

Edify deliverables provided **ahead of schedule**, saving money

Expanded Capacity

EAB’s professional services team helps Northampton staff **work more efficiently** amid staff shortages

What’s Next for Northampton with Edify

Northampton Has Time to Think Bigger Now That Compliance Reporting Challenges Are Solved

By automating the time-consuming compliance reporting process, Northampton has freed themselves up to set their sights on more strategic data management goals. They’ve already completed a data strategy alignment project with their EAB Strategic Leader and will now move into execution of much larger goals, ultimately helping them create an institution-wide culture of data confidence.

Integrate Starfish data into Edify and stand up Retention Scores tool

Purpose: Drive student success strategy and leverage underutilized retention tool

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Create a Culture of Data Confidence

Enable self-service access to data

Purpose: Empower users across campus to pull the data they need by creating customizable dashboards

Incorporate National Student Clearinghouse data into Edify

Purpose: Use data to understand Northampton transfer student trends and inflect change and growth

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Bring LMS and CRM data into Edify

Purpose: Unify all student data to better support and track the student experience

“It’s really about the partnership. It’s a whole team. A lot of companies have that standard customer success manager model, but EAB does it differently. Our strategic leader and technical project manager are always there asking, ‘Are we meeting your goals at a strategic level? Are we meeting what we promised we would do for you?’”

Brian Gardner, Chief Information Officer
Northampton Community College