

External data requests that should be managed by Institutional Research & Planning

IRP serves as an information clearinghouse for the university,

- producing publicly accessible statistical summaries of the university, including the online Factbook,
- providing data about the university to governmental agencies,
- responding to external requests for information (e.g. from college guide publishers), and
- coordinating the university's participation in a variety of consortial data exchanges

External requests for information that are handled by IRP are those that:

- Seek to characterize the institution as a whole
- Are framed around information contained in institutional data systems to which IRP has direct access (e.g. student records, personnel records)
- Focus on topics that relate specifically to Cornell's educational mission (e.g. admission rates, graduation rates, student-faculty ratios)

IRP generally **does not** manage external requests for data that:

- Pertain only to specific units within the institution (e.g. the college of Engineering, or the field of Economics)
- Rely predominantly on sources of data to which IRP does not have access (e.g. facilities, research expenditures)
- Focus on topics that are primarily non-academic (e.g. finances, student life)

IRP can sometimes serve as a resource for other units who are responding to external requests for data. For example, a specific professional program might need to provide student headcounts or admissions information to a specialized accrediting agency. While IRP does not take on primary responsibility for managing that sort of program-specific information inquiry, IRP will collaborate with responsible entities in the units to provide requested information where possible.