




Washington State Migrant Education Program
Migrant Student Data and Recruitment Office
"Touching the Lives of Migrant Families"

November 6, 2009



TO: Title I Migrant Federal Programs Directors
FROM:  Lionel G. Campos, MSDR Director
RE: The Binational Transfer Document

The Binational Transfer Document ensures the enrollment of binational migrant students returning to Mexico's **elementary (grades 1-6) and junior high (grades 7-9)** schools after the start of school in Mexico. No document is necessary for kindergarten students as the Mexican School System does not recognize kindergarten as part of their basic education. This document serves as an official record of the student's school history; a binational report card. This document should be accepted immediately by the receiving school according to the grade specified in the document.

This international document would contain the grades of the student for their last year, or partial year of studies. It is not legally necessary to bring this document, but it is our experience that it can speed up the validation process with the receiving Mexican school.

It is important to note that the Binational Transfer Document does not cover binational students in grades 10 through 12 because the transcripts for these grades need the authorization of an "Apostille". An "apostille" is a form of authentication issued to documents by the Office of the Secretary of State in Washington. You may access detailed process information for obtaining the apostille by contacting their website at: www.secstate.wa.gov/ and selecting "Apostilles" from their menu.

Facts about the Binational Transfer Document

- There is no fee to obtain the document
- Parents may request this document from the school before leaving for Mexico
- Online request is available via the MSDR website; a valid email and password are required
- The document is also distributed by the Mexican Consulate
- Each document has a unique number; you cannot print it out online or copy it
- The document is a blank form that must be filled out by the student's teacher/s and signed by the designated school representative
- A student need not qualify as a migrant to have one—**any** Mexican student can request one

We encourage the use of the Binational Transfer Document for all students withdrawing from your school and leaving for Mexico. The Binational Transfer Document is available online, or you may request hard copies of the document by calling the MSDR office.

If you or your staff have any questions about the Binational Transfer Document process, please do not hesitate to contact the MSDR office at 800-274-6084.

cc: Home Visitor
Records Clerk