FOR DISTRICTS

The Launchpad: student data overview and agreement

Template for district review · by The Finance Lab, a California 501(c)(3)

This document describes the student data The Launchpad handles and the terms under which The Finance Lab holds it. It is written so a district can attach it to its own agreement or adopt it as written. It is not legal advice; district counsel decides what the district signs.

Purpose

The Launchpad is a free personal finance course for grades 11 and 12, mapped to California Education Code section 51284.5. Student data exists for one reason: so a teacher can see and support their own students' learning. The Finance Lab uses de-identified, aggregate results to evaluate and report on the program.

Data elements

Collected	Not collected
First name and last initial	Email, phone, home address, birthdate
A class code and a student-chosen secret word (color plus animal)	Social Security or other government ID numbers
Module progress, quiz and activity answers, short written reflections	Student login credentials of their own
Confidence ratings before and after each module	Race, ethnicity, gender, immigration status, or family income
Two three-question financial literacy surveys (first day, last day)	Advertising identifiers or cross-site tracking
Time on task, a "stuck" signal, and whether The Launchpad is the window in front, for the teacher's live view	Anything a student is asked to purchase or open

Some activities ask about a student's own situation, such as a budget built on their own numbers or whether they have health coverage, so the lesson fits their life. Those answers are stored with the student's coursework under the same terms as everything else here. A student can pick an income range or immigration status to see college aid guidance that fits them; those two answers are not saved.

Teachers provide an email address, a display name, and their school and district. From Canvas, only the student's first name, last initial, and course title are stored.

Access and use

- The student sees their own work and can download a Finance Notebook, a PDF of their big ideas and their own words.
- The teacher sees their own classes only, enforced by database rules. Teachers can export class records, remove a single student, or delete a whole class.
- The Finance Lab staff access identifiable records only to support a teacher who asks for help, and see program results as de-identified aggregates.
- Identifiable student data is not sold, shared with third parties, used for advertising, or used to build profiles. It leaves the classroom only under a written agreement with the district.

Service providers and security

The Finance Lab uses these providers, each acting as a processor under its own terms:

Provider	Role, and what it receives
Supabase	Database and sign-in sessions: the records described above
Vercel	Hosts the application (United States)
GitHub	Encrypted nightly database backup (AES-256), kept 30 days
Resend	Account emails to teachers: teacher email addresses and display names, no student data
Sentry	Error reports, with names, emails, and class codes stripped before sending
Umami	Feature usage counts, with no cookies and no student content

Two optional features use the browser's own services: dictation (in Chrome, Google turns the audio into text) and Listen (when the browser offers Google's US English voice, Google processes the text being read). Students can always type and read instead.

Traffic is encrypted in transit, and data is encrypted at rest by the providers above. A student's in-progress answers are also kept in the browser on their device until the module is submitted.

If something goes wrong

If The Finance Lab confirms that student records were accessed or disclosed without authorization, it notifies the district within 72 hours of confirming the incident: what happened, which records were involved, and what is being done about it. The Finance Lab then works with the district to notify affected families, or notifies them directly at the district's request, and cooperates with any investigation. The design limits what any incident could involve: The Launchpad does not ask students for contact information, birthdates, government ID numbers, or passwords they use anywhere else, and students appear only by first name and last initial.

Retention and deletion

Teachers control retention. Archiving a class hides it; removing a student or deleting a class permanently deletes those student records, including names, answers, and progress. The Finance Lab keeps de-identified results (scores, confidence ratings, and survey answers, with no names attached) and short reflections only if a student chose to share them anonymously. Encrypted backups roll off within 30 days. On written request from a district, The Finance Lab deletes a district's student records within 30 days and confirms in writing. When The Finance Lab ends the program, records are deleted rather than transferred.

Research

The Finance Lab may publish de-identified, aggregate outcomes (for example, the share of a cohort answering all three survey questions correctly). A district may request its own aggregate results. Sharing of any record-level data with a researcher happens only under a separate written agreement with the district and applicable consent.

Legal framework

The Launchpad is designed to operate under the school-official exception of FERPA, with The Finance Lab acting at the direction of the school. The terms above are written to meet the operator obligations of California's SOPIPA (Business and Professions Code 22584) and AB 1584 (Education Code 49073.1); the district confirms which apply to its adoption. Where a district's own agreement is stricter, the stricter term governs.

Agreement

District: _____ Authorized signature: _____ Date: _____

The Finance Lab: Tyler Hensley, Executive Director Signature: _____ Date: _____

Contact: team@thefinancelab.co · thefinancelab.co/privacy