

Employment Goals and Employment Status

The setting of goals will be changing next year as we implement the latest NRS changes, so this email will only address how MABLE is currently working. When a student comes into your program and tells you he/she is unemployed, you should give him a goal of Enter Employment. If he has a job, you should give him a goal of Retain Employment. You will also enter his Employment Status into Mable on the Demographics page, but that field is in no way related to the goal you select in Mable. In other words, Mable doesn't cross-check to make sure the goal you entered is consistent with his employment status.

We do report from the employment status field in Table 6, so it's a good idea to update that field when students return for subsequent program years. That's the only thing we use that data for. The employment status field has no bearing to Mable on which goal you choose or whether the student has achieved that goal.

Measuring completion of goals is strictly done by looking at separated students who have the goal and matching their SSN with the Dept. of Labor records of who was employed in specific quarters. Mable does not refer back to the employment status field for data match or for calculating gains on Table 5.

For example, if a student had a 2011 goal of Enter Employment. When we do data match, Dept of Labor will let us know whether or not he was employed during the quarter after his separation quarter. If yes, he will be counted on Table 5; if no, he will not. If he returns and has a current employment status of Employed and has a 2012 goal of Retain Employment, it has absolutely nothing to do with whether or not he gets credit for meeting the goal in 2011.

If you change the student's employment status and then run last year's report, the report will show his current employment status – not the status he had last year. Mable does not save the history of employment status changes; it only saves the current employment status.