Dr. Mark Schneider is the director of the Institute of Education Sciences. Before joining IES, Dr. Schneider was a vice president and an institute fellow at American Institutes for Research (AIR) and president of College Measures.

Prior to joining AIR, Dr. Schneider served as commissioner of the National Center for Education Statistics from 2005 to 2008. In 2013, the Chronicle of Higher Education selected him as one of the 10 people who had the most impact on higher education policy that year.

In addition, Dr. Schneider is the author of numerous articles and books on education policy, including his most recent book, *The University Next Door*, published by Teachers College Press, Columbia University.

Dr. Schneider was a visiting scholar at the American Enterprise Institute and distinguished professor emeritus of political science at the State University of New York, Stony Brook.
Dr. Joan McLaughlin is the commissioner of the Institute of Education Sciences National Center for Special Education Research (NCSER). As commissioner, Dr. McLaughlin has focused her work on strengthening the center’s research grant and research training activities and efforts to disseminate the results of funded projects. She has initiated competitions in special education, research-practitioner partnerships to address issues of importance to states and local education agencies, systematic replication research, and analyses of National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) process data to improve the administration of digital learning assessments and help identify needed enhancements to instruction.

Prior to becoming commissioner, Dr. McLaughlin served as deputy commissioner of NCSER, as well as program officer for the Early Intervention and Early Learning in Special Education grant program. Prior to joining IES, Dr. McLaughlin spent 16 years working in the education and family services area of Abt Associates Inc., where she led numerous evaluations of federal education, food assistance, and early childhood programs.

Dr. McLaughlin received her bachelor’s degree in psychology from the University of Notre Dame and her master’s and doctoral degrees in developmental psychology from Cornell University.
Dr. Elizabeth Albro is the commissioner of the Institute of Education Sciences National Center for Education Research (NCER). Since joining IES as a policy fellow in 2002, she has sought to integrate basic and applied research in education. In her prior position as associate commissioner of teaching and learning, she played a pivotal role in launching several research efforts, including the National Research and Development Centers on Cognition and Science Instruction, and on Cognition and Math Instruction, as well as the Reading for Understanding Research Initiative.

Dr. Albro is a principal author of the U.S. Department of Education's Plan and Policy Development Guidance for Public Access: Improving Access to Results of Federally Funded Scientific Research and is a member of the Subcommittee on Open Science.

Prior to joining IES, Dr. Albro was a faculty member at Whittier College and subsequently at Wheaton College (Norton, MA), where she was responsible for preparing students who intended to be PK-12 teachers.
Dr. Peggy Carr is the commissioner of the Institute of Education Sciences National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). Dr. Carr formerly served as associate commissioner of the Assessment Division for NCES, a role she held for nearly 20 years. In that role, she was responsible for national and international assessments, most notably managing the administration of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

Prior to her role at NCES, Dr. Carr served as the chief statistician for the Office for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Education.

Dr. Carr is a published researcher in the field of student achievement and equity, and has over a decade of experience teaching graduate-level courses in statistics and research methodology. She holds a bachelor’s degree from North Carolina Central University and master’s and doctoral degrees from Howard University. She has received the American Educational Research Association’s Distinguished Public Service Award, the Secretary’s Golden Apple Award for exceptional service, and the Presidential Meritorious Executive Rank Award.
Matthew Soldner  
*NCEE Commissioner*

Dr. Matthew Soldner serves as commissioner of the Institute of Education Sciences National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance (NCEE). In addition to his role as commissioner, Dr. Soldner is the U.S. Department of Education’s chief evaluation officer.

Dr. Soldner’s expertise includes the design and implementation of complex, mixed-methods evaluations; innovative practices designed to improve student outcomes after high school; postsecondary competency-based education; federal financial aid; and federal statistical policy and practice.

His master’s and doctoral degrees are from the University of Maryland’s College of Education.
Anne Ricciuti  
*Deputy Director for Science*

Dr. Anne Ricciuti serves as the Deputy Director for Science of the Institute of Education Sciences. Drawing on her broad experience in research and the evaluation of federal programs, Dr. Ricciuti provides guidance and leadership to the scientific quality of IES activities.

Since 2007, as Deputy Director for Science Dr. Ricciuti has led the Standards and Review team and overseen the scientific peer review activities of IES. Additionally, she served as a co-chair of the National Science and Technology Council’s Scientific Integrity Fast-Track Action Committee, which issued a report in January 2022 on Protecting the Integrity of Government Science. Dr. Ricciuti also served as a co-chair of the subsequent Scientific Integrity Framework Interagency Working Group, which was tasked with producing a framework for implementing and assessing federal agency scientific integrity policies.

Prior to joining IES, Dr. Ricciuti worked for 11 years in the Education and Family Services area of Abt Associates Inc., a research and consulting firm. While there, she had senior technical and leadership roles in the evaluations of a variety of federal programs focused on children and families.

She received her bachelor’s degree in psychology from Cornell University, and her master’s and doctoral degrees in developmental psychology from the University of Virginia.