Creating A More Evidence-Based Education System Using Collaborative Research Partnerships

Researchers and educators across the U.S. are forming collaborative research partnerships to address educational challenges faced by today’s state education agencies, school and district leaders, teachers, and students.

Collaborative research partnerships create an environment in which researchers and educators can:

- **Use Data** to understand a systemic challenge.
- **Use Research** to identify evidence-based potential solutions.
- **Co-Design** ways to test whether the evidence-based solutions will work in the local contexts.
- **Use the results** to inform policy and practice.
The U.S. Department of Education’s Institute of Education Sciences (IES) is making significant investments in collaborative research partnerships through its Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) program.

Through the program, researchers and educators from school districts, state education agencies, and other organizations across the country have formed 95 collaborative research partnerships. These partnerships are working to improve outcomes for students and teachers across the country.

The RELs are charged with:

- Conducting applied research that seeks to solve practical problems and advances understandings of education challenges and processes.
- Sharing up-to-date research evidence and engaging with researchers, educators, and policymakers in understanding that evidence.
- Providing training and coaching related to the application and use of data and high-quality research.

To learn more about the network of 10 RELs and partnerships, visit our website: https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/

Note: This document was developed May 2019 and may not reflect all partnership activities to date.

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