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Regional Educational Laboratory Program

A Program of the National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance at IES



The Regional Educational Laboratories (RELs) partner with educators and policymakers to increase the use of research and evidence, enhance education programs, and ultimately, improve student performance. For more than 50 years, the RELs have collaborated with school districts, state departments of education, and other education stakeholders to help them put research into action.



Training, Coaching, and Technical Support for Using Evidence

REL projects aim to increase individual and organizational capacity to create, access, interpret, and apply research evidence and improve student outcomes. Activities can involve extensive, ongoing, and customized support. For example, RELs provide training to outline the evidence on a high-priority issue and discuss how that evidence can be applied in schools. They also collaborate with education leaders as thought partners to consider how to incorporate evidence into decision-making. REL technical support can help with designing an analysis, developing new data collection tools, or implementing the Every Student Succeeds Act.



Building Evidence for Improvement

RELs collaborate with partners to conduct studies that address high-priority needs, help stakeholders understand problems, assess implementation progress, and learn what is working. RELs produce publicly available reports that are relevant, clearly written, objective, and peer-reviewed to ensure technical soundness.



Sharing the Latest Evidence

RELs communicate research evidence to help stakeholders learn about implementing evidence-based strategies. Workshops, conference presentations, and webinars review the practical applications of research findings, and fact sheets, infographics, and multimedia make research easily accessible.

Selected Research and Technical Support Topics

- Children and Youth with Disabilities
- College and Career Readiness
- Early Childhood
- Educator Excellence and School Leadership
- English Learners
- Literacy
- Postsecondary and Adult Education
- Remote Learning
- Resources for Educators and Researchers
- School Choice
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
- Social and Emotional Learning and Behavior

Visit the REL Website

Go to ies.ed.gov/rels to

- Browse a calendar of in-person and online events taking place in your region
- Use the “Ask A REL” service to submit an education question to your REL to obtain research references, referrals, or other assistance
- Access more than 350 study reports, tools, videos, infographics, and more, to help address and understand pressing education concerns
- Learn about the work currently underway in your region by exploring your REL’s website

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