

Leveraging networked improvement communities to improve student outcomes

Wednesday, November 10, 2021

3:00–4:30 p.m. Central time

Webinar agenda

3:00–3:10 p.m. Welcome and overview

Dominique Bradley, PhD, researcher, Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Midwest

Dr. Bradley will provide an overview of the REL Program, REL Midwest, the Midwest Career Readiness Research Alliance, and the goals of the webinar.

3:10–3:30 p.m. Presentation on networked improvement communities

Alicia Espinoza, senior technical assistance consultant, American Institutes for Research (AIR)

Ms. Espinoza will discuss the four essential features of the networked improvement community (NIC) model and how practitioners can conduct Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) cycles to develop, test, and refine interventions to address a common problem of practice. Following the presentation, Dr. Bradley will facilitate a short question-and-answer session.

3:30–3:50 p.m. Presentation on REL Midwest’s NICs

Cortney Rowland, PhD, principal technical assistant consultant, and Dominique Bradley, PhD, researcher, REL Midwest

Dr. Bradley and Dr. Rowland will describe how REL Midwest partnered with area learning center (ALC) practitioners in Minnesota to facilitate two NICs. The presenters will describe how NIC participants applied improvement science methods to strengthen credit recovery and graduation rates for students in ALCs. Following the presentation, Dr. Bradley will facilitate a short question-and-answer session.

3:50–4:25 p.m. Panel discussion

Researchers and NIC participants

The webinar will conclude with a panel discussion moderated by Dr. Bradley. The panelists will include Ms. Espinoza, Dr. Rowland, and two participants in the REL Midwest virtual NIC, Bradley Jensen and Alyssa Prater, lead advisors of the Empower Learning Center in Hinckley-Finlayson Public Schools. Audience members will learn how they can use the NIC model to address student needs as they engage in in-person, hybrid, or remote learning this fall. Participants also will be able to ask the panelists questions.

4:25–4:30 p.m. Wrap-up and closing remarks

Dr. Bradley will thank participants for attending the event and provide links to relevant REL Midwest and Institute of Education Sciences resources.

4:30 p.m. Adjourn