Building Partnerships to Improve Education
Through Research and Technical Support

Now more than ever, states, school districts, and schools are using data and evidence to inform policy and practice and address pressing education issues. The Mid-Atlantic Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) is one of 10 research centers funded by the U.S. Department of Education’s Institute of Education Sciences to partner with these stakeholders in using evidence to improve teaching, learning, and school leadership. We provide training, coaching, and technical support to help apply high-quality evidence to education improvement initiatives. The lab also conducts, applies, and disseminates research and research-based technical assistance in collaboration with stakeholders in the region to promote continuous improvement of educational practice.

Regional needs drive the focus of our work. To learn what topics are important to stakeholders like you, the Mid-Atlantic REL, directed by Mathematica Policy Research, conducts needs assessments. Recent conversations have surfaced several priorities in the region:

- Family engagement
- Personalized learning
- Readiness for career entry and success
- School support and improvement
- Strengthening the early education continuum
- Training and supporting excellent educators
- Accountability in the ESSA era

We want to hear from you! Please contact us if your state or district has a need not represented here.
How the REL Helps You Improve Decisionmaking

Research alliances and partnerships build on the following principles:

- Focus on priority issues that can inform policy or practice
- Commit to working closely together on projects, studies, and technical assistance
- Build strategies to increase capacity for accessing, producing, interpreting, and applying evidence
- Develop actionable analyses, tools, trainings, reports, events, and instruments tailored to the needs of alliance/partnership members

We collaborate with our research partnerships and alliances to make real improvements in teaching, learning, and school leadership by:

- Working to plan a short- and long-term research agenda that has practical implications for problems of practice
- Engaging in technical assistance and/or research
- Communicating according to a mutually agreed upon and regular schedule

For more information, please contact the lab’s director Brian Gill, bgill@mathematica-mpr.com, https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/regions/midatlantic/index.asp

This work was funded by the U.S. Department of Education’s Institute of Education Sciences (IES) under contract ED-IES-17-C-0006, with REL Mid-Atlantic, administered by Mathematica Policy Research. The content does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of IES or the U.S. Department of Education, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. government.