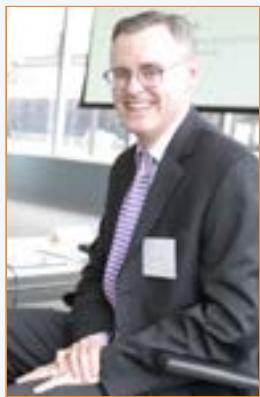




NEWSLETTER

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Latest News from the Director



As 2019 begins, we here at REL Mid-Atlantic are continuing to provide evidence-based supports to our stakeholders across the mid-Atlantic region. Many of the projects we highlight below involve our work on human capital, using research and analysis to support educator performance from early childhood through higher education among teachers and principals alike. Like everything REL Mid-Atlantic does, our work on educator effectiveness is done in collaboration with state and local stakeholders. Much of this work takes place under the umbrella of our research alliances on [training and supporting excellent educators](#) and [strengthening the early education continuum](#). In the segments that follow, you can find links that describe the differences in student growth measures used in educator evaluations, teachers' roles in the evaluation of principals, innovative programs to address teacher shortages, and ideas to improve qualifications and compensation among early childhood educators. And remember, you can take advantage of our resources any time through the contact link below or by sending us a query through our Ask A REL service. We hope to hear from you soon.

Highlights

Measuring Progress in the Classroom: How Do Different Student Growth Measures Compare?

A new [fact sheet](#) addresses the differences between commonly used student growth measures in educator evaluations, including student growth percentiles and educator impact models (also known as value-added models). Find out the pros and cons of using each measure.

Two New Infographics Provide Tools and Guidance to Improve Student Outcomes?



REL Mid-Atlantic rings in the new year with two new infographics. [The first](#) shares research-based strategies for leadership, talent development, instruction, and culture that can promote effective school turnaround. [The second](#) describes how input from teachers can be an important contributor to evaluating a principal's performance.

RELevant Blog Posts



New Resources Support Partnerships to Promote a Diverse and Effective Teaching Workforce

School districts in the region and across the country are unable to hire enough teachers to fill all the open positions. [In the 2017–2018 school year](#), 48 states reported teacher shortages in math, 46 in special education, and 43 in science. [This blog post](#) delves into this critical issue and describes innovative initiatives in the mid-Atlantic region to address the shortage of educators.

Advancing the Field: Improving Education and Compensation for Early Childhood Education Teachers

Experts agree that high quality early education can support positive child outcomes. But these positive impacts are dependent on providers who are both knowledgeable and adequately compensated. [This blog post maps out](#) disparities across the country in compensation and presents some ideas, including some from [a recent REL Mid-Atlantic webinar](#) on improving the qualifications and compensation of early childhood educators.

What's New, What's Next



New Video: Accountability in the ESSA Era Alliance

[Check out a new video](#) on our work with stakeholders to help schools support students' success and meet ESSA requirements. And learn about our partnership with the Maryland Department of Education to develop surveys on school climate to be used for both accountability and school improvement.



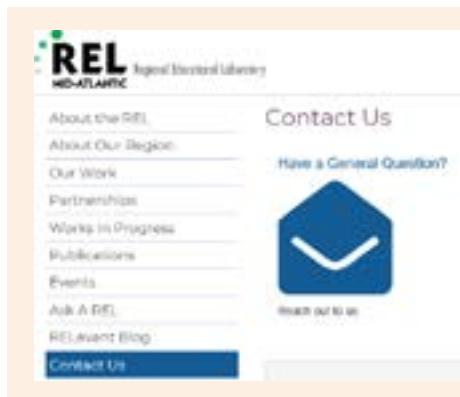
New Video: Strengthening the Early Education Research Alliance

[Learn how REL Mid-Atlantic is collaborating with regional stakeholders](#) to improve the quality of early childhood education. Delaware stakeholders discuss our partnership to improve early childhood education in their state by increasing qualifications and compensation of the workforce serving young children.

Ask A REL: We're Here to Answer Your Questions

Whether you're a teacher, administrator, state official, or other stakeholder, we know that you're constantly looking for the best ways to help students reach their full potential. To assist you, turn to [Ask A REL](#). [Submit your research-related questions](#) about education policies, programs, and practices to this free reference desk service. You'll get annotated references; links to free, relevant research articles; and referrals to answer your questions.

We Want to Hear from You!

A screenshot of the REL Mid-Atlantic website's contact page. At the top left is the REL logo. To its right is the text "Regional Educational Laboratory". Below the logo is a vertical menu with links: About the REL, About Our Region, Our Work, Partnerships, Work in Progress, Publications, Events, Ask A REL, RELevant Blog, and Contact Us. To the right of the menu is a "Contact Us" section with a "Have a General Question?" link and a large blue envelope icon with the text "Reach out to us".

Calling all educators and teachers! REL Mid-Atlantic wants to hear from you! [Contact us](#) with your thoughts on anything REL related, and let us know how we can better serve your needs.

Connect with Us on Social Media

A Twitter icon featuring a blue bird in flight. Next to it is the text "Tweet now!" and the handle "@RELMidAtlantic". Below the bird is the REL Mid-Atlantic logo.

Are you following us on Twitter? [@RELMidAtlantic](#) is where you can plug into not only our work, but also news from our 9 REL partners across the country and the latest research from the U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences. We built our Twitter feed to be helpful, informative, and fun to scroll through. In partnership with our alliances throughout the REL Mid-Atlantic states, we use it every day to bring you the news and information most relevant to educators in our region. That includes videos, blogs, event coverage, and a wide range of expert (and user-friendly) advice. Thanks for following us [@RELMidAtlantic!](#)



Interested in **joining us or learning more?** **Contact us.**

Please reach out anytime to RELMidatlantic@mathematica-mpr.com to share your ideas about important issues the REL Mid-Atlantic could address; request free training, coaching, or technical support; or ask questions about how we can help you in your work.

 Follow us on [Twitter](#) for the latest updates.