



Learning Innovations

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Learning Innovations (LI) conducts research and development and provides services focused on creating supportive environments that foster high-quality teaching and learning. Program staff work with schools, districts, and state departments of education to build their capacity to promote improvement.

Learning Innovations' expertise informs policy and practice in nine northeastern states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands through two Comprehensive Centers for New England and New York, the Northeast Regional Resource Center (focusing on special education), the Regional Educational Laboratory Northeast and Islands, and the Region II Equity Assistance Center.

Learning Innovations operates the Regional Educational Laboratory Northeast and Islands contract with EDC. This project helps preK–16 educators at the state, district, and school levels increase their use of scientifically based evidence to make decisions that lead to improved student achievement and reduce performance gaps among student groups.

In addition, Learning Innovations serves as the major partner on the Northeast Regional Comprehensive Center.

Selected Highlights

- Awarded the Regional Educational Laboratory Northeast and Islands contract with EDC. Work includes initiating and implementing four of the eight Regional Research Alliances, and leading a successful Bridge Event on measuring educator effectiveness in collaboration with the New England Comprehensive Center and the National Comprehensive Center on Teacher Quality.
- Significantly expanded district service initiatives to include formative assessment, Common Core State Standards, and educator evaluation.
- Continued conducting year-long leadership institutes for school districts in Massachusetts, at the request of the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. These institutes have reached over two thirds of the school districts in Massachusetts, and represent a substantial body of work that forwards Learning Innovations' goal of demonstrating collaboration between general and special education to improve results for all students.
- Led two national RRC Program Priority Teams: The Student Performance and Accountability Priority Team produced two Spotlight Briefs highlighting state initiatives that led to improved student results; and the Fiscal Priority Team developed a new

national model for providing technical assistance to states in the area of fiscal monitoring under IDEA.

- Produced a report on the Kansas Multi-Tiered System of Supports Statewide Implementation Evaluation Project. The report led to positive change in Response-to-Intervention professional development and technical assistance to schools.
- Awarded the Northeast Regional Comprehensive Center with RMC Research as prime and Learning Innovations as the major partner.

Selected Success Stories

WestEd Team Co-Authors First-of-Its-Kind Review of School Enrollment Strategies in Developing Nations

Anthony Petrosino, Claire Morgan, and Trevor Fronius wrote a new, systematic review of methods used in developing nations to improve school enrollment.

Education is a gateway to economic development and social welfare in developing countries. Given education's critical role, many developing nations have tried various methods to encourage widespread and equal enrollment.

Until now, no one has conducted a systematic review of those methods. Having a single report that collects and analyzes many different approaches can spur innovation and funding in improvement enrollment.

WestEd Criminology Expert Joins Team to Help Reduce Violence Worldwide

Anthony Petrosino of WestEd was named to the planning committee for the National Academies Institute of Medicine's Forum on Global Violence.

Like other public health concerns, violence can be prevented. The Forum on Global Violence aims to facilitate dialogue and exchange by connecting experts from all areas of violence prevention, including policymakers, academics, social service providers, economists, legal experts, journalists, philanthropists, and faith-based organizations.

Petrosino and his planning committee team members presented a workshop in Washington, D.C., on violence prevention across the lifespan and around the world.

Selected Services

Collaborative Evaluation of School-Based or District-Based Initiatives

Teams of school- and district-based educators convene for a two-day institute focused on planning and conducting ongoing evaluation of your local education initiatives.

Mentoring and Coaching New Teachers: A Comprehensive Approach to New Teacher Induction

Participants learn the best approaches for developing effective, high-quality teachers.

Selected Resources

Designing Professional Development for Teachers of Science and Mathematics (3rd Edition)

Comprehensive Mentoring Programs for New Teachers: Models of Induction and Support, Second Edition

Interventions in Developing Nations for Improving Primary and Secondary School Enrollment of Children: A Systematic Review

'Policing Schools' Strategies: A Systematic Search for Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Studies

The Characteristics and Experiences of Beginning Teachers in Seven Northeast and Islands Region States and Nationally

Selected Research & Evaluation Studies

Do States Have Certification Requirements for Preparing General Education Teachers to Teach Students with Disabilities? Experience in the Northeast and Islands Region

This study on teacher certification requirements in the Northeast and Islands Region found that eight of the nine jurisdictions require some coursework in teaching students with disabilities for initial licensure of general education teachers.

Formal System Processing of Juveniles: Effects on Delinquency

This study found that system processing did not reduce delinquency and often increased crime when compared to providing a diversion program or "doing nothing."

Selected Projects

Northeast Regional Comprehensive Center

The Northeast Regional Comprehensive Center helps increase state capacity to assist districts and schools in meeting student achievement goals.

Regional Educational Laboratory Northeast and Islands (REL-NEI)

REL-NEI helps preK–16 educators at the state, district, and school levels increase their use of scientifically based evidence to make decisions that lead to improved student achievement and reduce performance gaps among student groups.