

The “What Works” Clearinghouse⁶

Purpose of the Initiative

The purpose of the Clearinghouse, a new initiative at the Department of Education, is to provide educators and policymakers with an easily accessible web-based database of information on what works in educating students. The Clearinghouse would evaluate the effectiveness of educational products, practices, and programs that are intended to enhance student results.

Highlights

- Educators will be able to access information on effective curricula products, educational software, and professional training modules addressing a variety of important topics, including subject matter instruction, dropout prevention, and character development.
- Programs will be evaluated through research that adheres to rigorous scientific standards and criteria. Educators will also be able to see the magnitude of effects of the interventions evaluated.
- The Clearinghouse will link educators with relevant manuals, instructions, training materials, and other resources needed to adopt the products and programs evaluated in the Clearinghouse.

⁶ *Office of Educational Research and Improvement*