
ESEA FLEXIBILITY: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE INITIATIVE

February 19, 2013

THEORY OF ACTION

- Collaborates across multiple ED offices to leverage technical assistance content, knowledge, and strategies.
- Coordinates and communicates with ED-funded centers to ensure State access to relevant resources.
- Help States build capacity to support districts & schools in implementing reforms.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: TARGET AREAS

**Transition to College-
and Career-Ready Standards**

**Supporting Whole-School and
Targeted Interventions**

**Developing and Implementing Teacher and
Principal Evaluation and Support Systems**

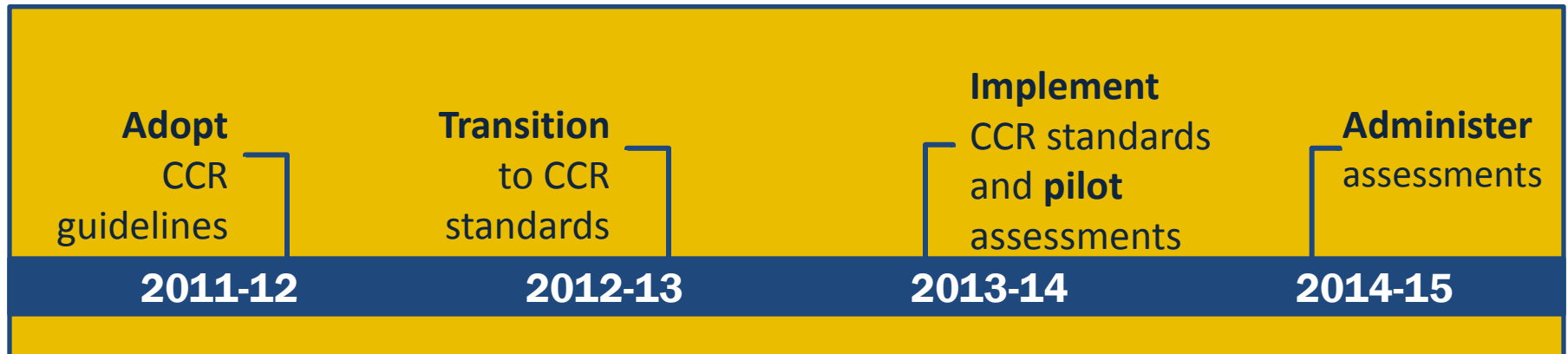
**Expanding Capacity of
Data Systems to Support Reforms**

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (TA): STRATEGIES

- Provide substantial and sustained support of State-led reforms.
- Identify and help States address implementation challenges.
- Support peer-to-peer and peer-to-expert learning.
- Implement feedback loop to continuously refine support to States.

ALIGN TA WITH KEY TIMELINES: COLLEGE- AND CAREER-READY STANDARDS

Timeline for college and career-ready standards under ESEA flexibility.



Tentative key topics:

- Transition for students with disabilities and English Learners
- Professional development models
- Developing and implementing curriculum and instruction aligned with college- and career-ready standards

ALIGN TA WITH KEY TIMELINES: NEW ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEMS

Timeline for implementing differentiated recognition, accountability & support systems.

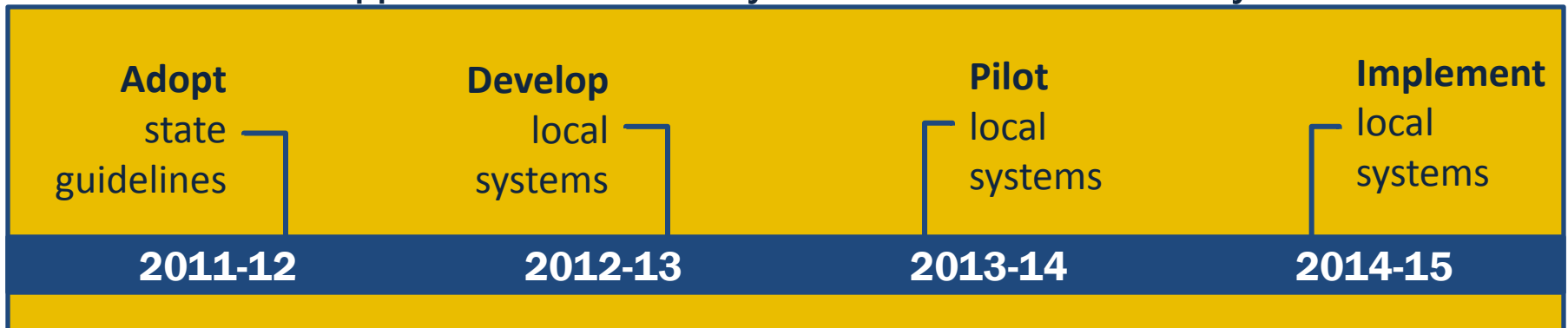


Tentative key topics:

- Priority and focus school interventions
- Interventions to target students with disabilities and English Learners
- Interventions to increase graduation rates
- Use of data for formative and summative evaluation

ALIGN TA WITH KEY TIMELINES: SUPPORTING TEACHERS AND LEADERS

Timeline for implementing new teacher and principal support and evaluation systems under ESEA flexibility.



Tentative key topics:

- Measuring growth in untested grades and subjects
- Measuring growth for teachers of students with disabilities & English Learners
- Aggregating system components into an overall rating
- Statewide approaches to growth

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: TWO PHASES

Phase 1: Identify and deploy existing, high-quality ED resources addressing the most pressing State needs.

Phase 2: Implement a longer-term technical assistance plan to proactively develop resources addressing needs based on key milestones of reforms within each target area.

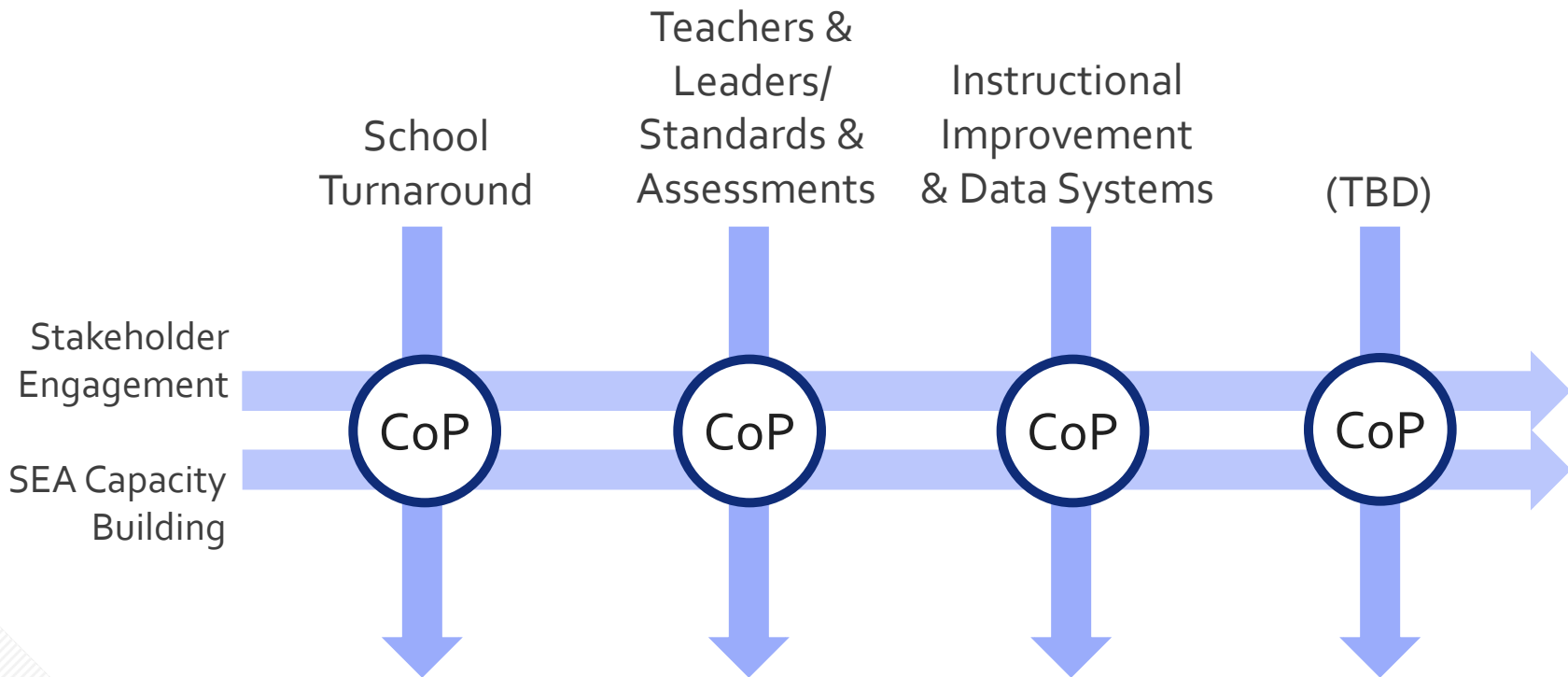
RACE TO THE TOP

IMPLEMENTATION AND SUPPORT UNIT
REFORM SUPPORT NETWORK
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



OVERVIEW OF THE ISU TA

RTT WORK STREAMS & CoPs



PRODUCTS & PRINT

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/implementation-support-unit/tech-assist/index.html>



COMPREHENSIVE CENTERS PROGRAM

The purpose of the Centers is to build the capacity of State Educational Agencies to support their districts and schools in implementing and sustaining reforms.

- 15 Regional Centers and
- 7 national Content Centers

COMPREHENSIVE CENTERS PROGRAM: REGIONAL CENTERS

Regional Centers provide their States with:

- Summaries of research on topics of interest;
- Information about how other States are implementing reforms;
- Opportunities for States in each region to talk together about issues of common interest and concern; and
- In-person technical assistance with conceptualizing, planning, facilitating, and implementing reform efforts.

COMPREHENSIVE CENTERS PROGRAM: CONTENT CENTERS

Content Centers focus on specific areas of needed expertise:

- Assessments and Accountability Implementation;
- Building State Capacity and Productivity;
- College and Career Readiness and Success;
- Early Learning;
- Great Teachers and Leaders;
- Innovations in Learning; and
- School Turnaround.

COMPREHENSIVE CENTERS PROGRAM: CONTENT CENTERS

Content Centers provide:

- Tailored responses to requests for research;
- Publications;
- Practical tools for dealing with complex issues; and
- Advice and access to national expertise.

CONTENT CENTERS

- **Center on Innovations in Learning:**
 - <http://www.centeril.org>
- **Center on Standards and Assessments Implementation**
 - <http://csai-online.org>
- **Center on School Turnaround**
 - <http://centeronschoolturnaround.org>
- **Center on Enhancing Early Learning Outcomes**
 - <http://nieer.org/about-nieer/ceelo-project-description>

CONTENT CENTERS

- **Center on College and Career Readiness and Success**
 - www.ccrscenter.org
- **Center on Building State Capacity and Productivity**
 - www.bsccpcenter.org
- **Center on Great Teachers and Leaders**
 - www.tqsource.org

COMPREHENSIVE CENTERS PROGRAM

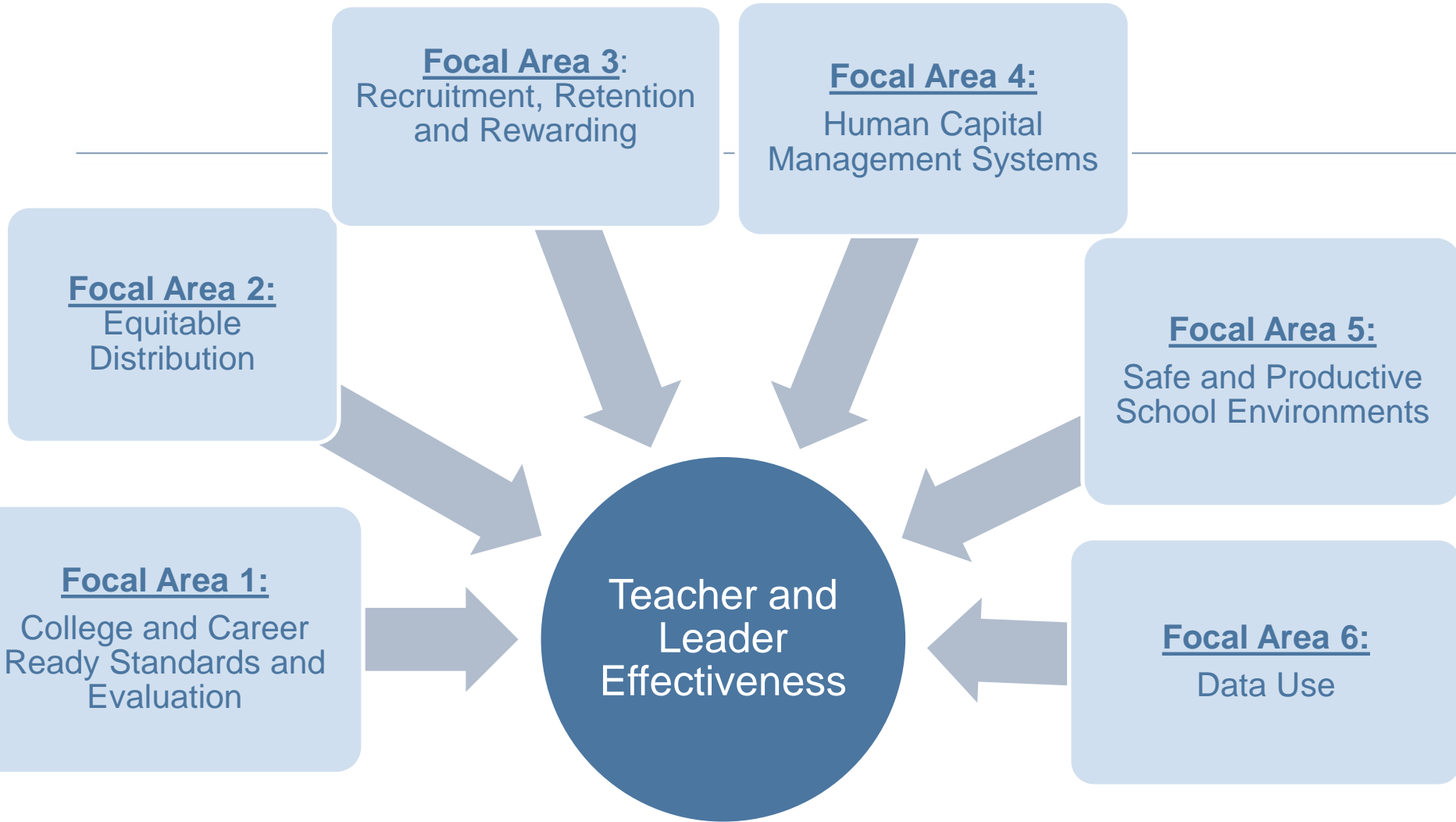
A list of the Comprehensive Centers, the States each of them serves, and their contact information can be found at:

<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/newccp/contacts.html>

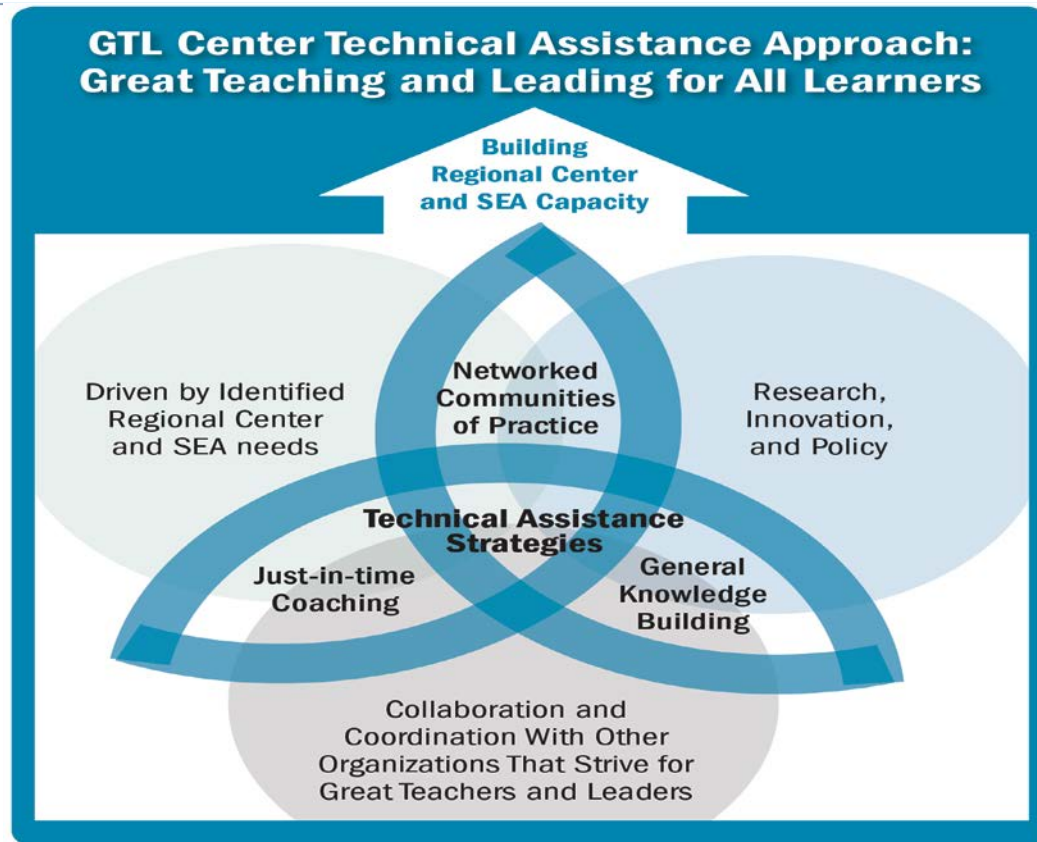
COMPREHENSIVE CENTERS PROGRAM

Center on Great Teachers and Leaders

Great Teachers and Leaders Focal Areas



GTL Technical Assistance Approach



Examples of GTL Resources and Support for Principle 3

- Designing Comprehensive Educator Evaluation Systems
 - <http://www.tqsource.org/practicalGuide/>
 - <http://www.tqsource.org/PracticalGuidePrincipals/>

- Educator Quality Resource Catalog
 - <http://www.tqsource.org/publications/TQ-EducatorQualityResourcesCatalog.pdf>

- TQ Center/SWCC Collaboration on Measuring Educator Effectiveness
 - http://www.swcompcenter.org/cs/swcc/print/htdocs/swcc/educator_effectiveness.htm

Upcoming GTL Products and Technical Assistance

- Updated and expanded practical guides on designing comprehensive educator evaluation systems
 - Special educators
 - ELL specialists
 - Early childhood educators
 - Assistant principals and deans
- Doing What Works professional learning modules for the practical guide to teacher evaluation
- Ask the Team TA responses
- Leader Evaluation System Models in Practice
- Essential Elements for Human Capital Data Systems

GTL Products and Technical Assistance

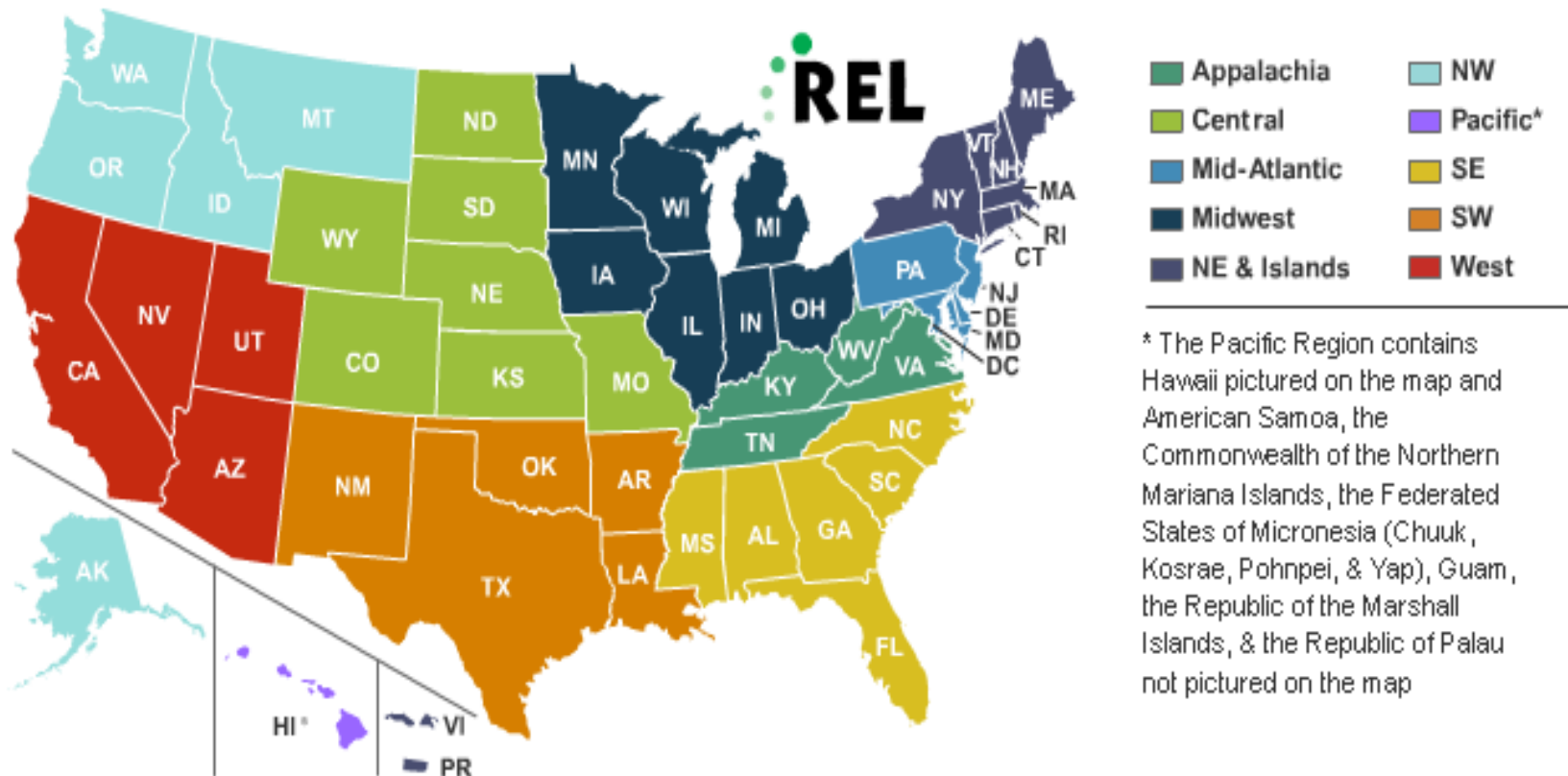
- What kinds of technical assistance are available?
 - Request for information and research
 - Direct TA (presentations, coaching, expert guidance)
 - Communities of practice
- How can I stay informed of upcoming products and events?
 - www.gtlcenter.org
 - GTL listserv
 - Email: aminnici@air.org
- How can I request technical assistance?
 - Email: aminnici@air.org
 - Phone: 877-322-8700

Regional Educational Laboratories

<http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/>

(click on “Labs” link
to find the Lab in your region)

Ten Regional Educational Laboratories



* The Pacific Region contains Hawaii pictured on the map and American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia (Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, & Yap), Guam, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, & the Republic of Palau not pictured on the map

What the RELs Do

- ❑ Conduct research and provide assistance to help stakeholders use data and evidence
- ❑ Answer questions about specific challenges in each region
- ❑ Work in partnership with research alliances

REL Focus Areas

- ❑ Early childhood education
- ❑ Identifying and retaining effective teachers and principals
- ❑ Implementing rigorous standards and assessments
- ❑ Increasing college readiness, access, and completion
- ❑ Improving low-performing schools

How can a REL help me?

If you have an education research question that:

- Starts with “**What do we know about....**,” your REL may be able to provide a list of quality references and brief synopses of existing research on your topic of interest (this is commonly known as the “Ask-A-REL” service and provides rapid responses).
- Is about **existing research and is of interest to a large number of people**, a REL might be able to organize what they call a “Bridge Event” in which they will bring experts together with education practitioners and policymakers (either in person or electronically) to talk about how to apply the best research to your question.
- Requires **analysis of data that has already been collected**, the REL can provide analytic assistance to help you use the best methods to analyze your data and find the answer to your question.
- Will require the **collection of new evidence**, your REL may be interested in partnering with you to develop a longer term research project.

REGIONAL RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAM

- Funded by Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).
- Six Regional Resource Centers.
- Assist State educational agencies (SEAs) & Lead agencies (LAs).
- Serves all 50 States and U.S. jurisdictions.

REGIONAL RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAM

Mountain Plains RRC

Carol Massanari,
Director

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Western RRC

John Inghish,
Director

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Northeast RRC

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Mid-South RRC

Michael Abell,
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859-257-4921



Southeast RRC

Betty Beale,
Director

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North Central RRC

Maureen Hawes,
Director

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612-624-9722

REGIONAL RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAM

The purpose of the RRCP is to promote academic achievement and to improve services and results for children and youth with disabilities by providing technical assistance (TA), disseminating useful information, and implementing activities that are supported by scientifically based research.

REGIONAL RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAM

- Assist States with implementation of the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requirements.
- Collaborate & communicate across RRCs, with other OSEP-funded TA&D Centers, and other centers funded by OESE (e.g., regional Comprehensive Centers and Equity Assistance Centers).
- Provide coordinated and research-based TA to SEAs and LAs.

REGIONAL RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAM

- Facilitate opportunities for regional meetings for States to talk together about issues of common interest and concern.
- State liaisons provide individual TA services to States.
- Develop State TA plans and activities with SEAs and LAs based on State needs.
- Information Research Services.
- Develop TA tools and products to support TA services.

REGIONAL RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAM

- Priority Areas include:
 - Early childhood transition
 - Graduation
 - Disproportionate representation
 - Performance on Statewide Assessments
 - Post-school transition
 - Early intervention services
 - Preschool outcomes
 - Timely provision of services
 - Fiscal requirements

REGIONAL RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAM

Information about the regions, products, tools and services offered by the RRCP can be found at:

www.rrcprogram.org

ESEA FLEXIBILITY: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE INITIATIVE



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