

The National High School Center is committed to delivering meaningful technical assistance to the Regional Comprehensive Centers and the states they support. We collaborate with the RCCs to address specific requests for assistance from states within the served regions, and we support their capacity to respond to similar issues in the future.

About the National High School Center

The National High School Center is part of a national network of Comprehensive Centers funded by the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE) and the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) at the U.S. Department of Education. As one of five national content centers, our main objective is to help the Regional Comprehensive Centers (RCCs) build the capacity of states across the nation to effectively implement the provisions and goals of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) that directly affect high school improvement.

The National High School Center is housed at the American Institutes for Research (AIR) and benefits greatly from the work of our partners: Learning Point Associates, MDRC, the National Center for Education Accountability (NCEA), the National Dropout Prevention Center/Network (NDPC/N) and the National Dropout Prevention Center for Students with Disabilities (NDPC-SD) at Clemson University, and WestEd.

For more information, please contact:
National High School Center
American Institutes for Research
1000 Thomas Jefferson St., NW
Washington, DC 20007
Phone: 1-800-634-0503
Fax: 202-403-5875
TTY: 1-800-634-0752
Email: helpfor@betterhighschools.org

To most effectively serve the RCCs, our technical assistance:

- develops customized technical assistance plans based on the needs of the individual RCCs;
- matches each RCC with trained and experienced technical assistance liaisons who help with identifying specific needs, planning, and ongoing problem solving; and
- forms partnerships that will assist the RCCs as they increase their capacity to help states develop and implement effective high school reform practices.



Linking Research and Resources for
Better High Schools

National High School Center

The National High School Center serves as a central source of information and expertise on high school improvement for the Regional Comprehensive Centers (RCCs). In doing so, we assist the RCCs in building the capacity of states across the nation to execute the goals of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB). We identify effective programs and tools, offer user-friendly products, and provide high-quality technical assistance to support the use of research-based decisions as they relate to high schools.

Through our work with the RCCs, we aim to ensure that all students perform to their fullest potential and become adequately prepared for college, work, and life. In particular, we focus on identifying successful strategies that have an effective track record for students with disabilities and English Language Learners.

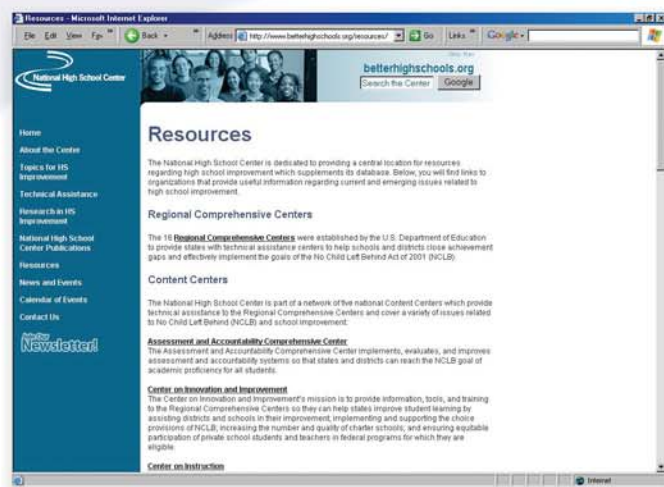
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Bridging Research to Practice

The National High School Center provides access to the latest research and tools associated with educational interventions (programs, products, practices, and policies) that help improve U.S. high schools.

To help the Regional Comprehensive Centers make well-informed decisions, the National High School Center conducts a thorough search of the current literature base of recognized, critical high school issues. Studies are gathered through an extensive literature search process and are systematically screened to identify research findings from the last 20 years. Relevant studies that meet prescreening criteria are comprehensively reviewed and summarized, and the information that is most pertinent to high schools is highlighted.

Users will have access to the latest research findings through our Web site, which supplies user-friendly reports that synthesize key issues relevant to the Regional Comprehensive Centers' needs. On an ongoing and timely basis, new and emerging studies will be gathered, screened, and posted to the National High School Center's Web site. In the upcoming months, viewers will have access to information on target populations (for example, special needs students, English Language Learners); gender; geographic settings (for example, urban, rural, suburban); and school settings (for example, traditional school setting, charter school, small learning communities).



Pressing Issues in High School Improvement

The National High School Center is dedicated to providing in-depth analyses of and knowledge about pressing issues in high school improvement with an emphasis on students with disabilities and English Language Learners. Currently, we are reviewing literature on the following topics:

- Drop Out Prevention
- High School Transition (Transition from middle school to the ninth grade and from high school to college and/or the workforce)
- Restructuring High Schools
- Adolescent Literacy
- High School Curriculum and Instruction
- High School Assessment, Accountability, and Data Systems

Building Capacity Through Technical Assistance

To disseminate information about research-supported practices, the National High School Center transforms high-quality resources into user-friendly products and tools. Tools such as fact sheets, case studies, Webinars, and policy briefs guide our users to make informed decisions about high school improvement. Our tools and products help bridge research to practice by showing educators how to successfully apply resources to drive teaching and learning.

Map of Regional Comprehensive Centers

The Interactive map below, available on our Web site, outlines the Regional Comprehensive Centers and provides contact details for the Centers.



Featured Interactive Resources

In addition to providing research and outreach on high school programs, products, practices, and policies to the RCCs, the National High School Center facilitates:

Webinars

Our Webinars provide instruction on a variety of topics related to effective practices in high schools. They also include interactive discussions that allow participants to share information. Webinar transcripts and materials will be made available on our Web site.

Summer Institutes

The National High School Center hosts annual Summer Institutes that offer a collaborative venue for RCC personnel, policymakers, practitioners, and experts to interact around a common agenda specifically focused on the needs of high schools and the RCCs.

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