

STudent Achievement in Reading (STAR): Enhancing States' Capacity to Provide High Quality Evidence-based Reading Instruction

Background

For millions of low-skilled, less literate adults, evidence-based reading instruction (EBRI) offers an essential opportunity to attain the reading skills that will allow them to participate more fully in society, through improved education and employment prospects. EBRI assists adult educators in selecting teaching and learning methods that provide the greatest opportunities for such struggling adult readers' success. Yet, comprehensive training and technical assistance are needed to help States scale up evidence-based reading practices effectively. Ultimately, continuous improvement in teaching and learning hinges on the dissemination and fidelity in the implementation of high quality evidence-based professional development.

Overview

The STudent Achievement in Reading (STAR) Project is a comprehensive training and professional development package to help Adult Basic Education (ABE) instructors use evidence-based reading instruction in the classroom, with intermediate-level learners. STAR is a partnership with States to translate and disseminate evidence-based reading practices. Each State selects several teachers and administrators to receive intensive training on reading strategies, and the implementation of a data-driven change model.

The National STAR Training Network encompasses national and State experts in reading instruction, State and federal policymakers, and practitioners. All are working in partnership with the U.S. Department of Education to use evidence-based reading instruction and the STAR model to improve adult reading. The project period runs from June 2011 to June 2014.

Project Milestones

- Community of Practice supporting STAR certified trainers.
- STARGAZER newsletter.
- Online resource bank for STAR partners.
- Recertification plan for STAR trainers.

Outcomes and Products

- Comprehensive training and technical assistance for partner States.
- STAR training resources, tool kit, newsletters, help desk for partner States.

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