

SOUTHEAST Comprehensive Center

at American Institutes for Research

American Institutes for Research (AIR) operates 4 regional comprehensive centers serving 13 states. The **Southeast Comprehensive Center** (SECC), funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, provides technical assistance (TA) to the state education agencies (SEAs) of Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, and South Carolina. SECC services are focused on building SEA capacity to support districts and schools to ensure that all students graduate from high school ready for college or a career. SECC provides support across several reform areas, including school improvement, educator development and effectiveness, early childhood education, and standards and assessments. SECC brings experience and expertise to engage stakeholders in policy design and implementation, providing research and content expertise to inform initiatives and plan for high-quality implementation and sustainability.



Georgia

Promoting Equitable Access

SECC provides expertise in convening stakeholders to inform content, design, and implementation of policies and initiatives that promote equity. SECC has extensive experience in facilitating groups to achieve desired outcomes and synthesizing stakeholder input into clear, actionable recommendations.



Evidence-Based Technical Assistance

SECC provides expertise in identifying and compiling relevant and reliable evidence about what works in improving education outcomes. Extensive experience in applying evidence and research to inform decision-making and deep content knowledge allow SECC staff to provide strategic guidance in the development of policies and initiatives.



Implementation and Sustainability

SECC supports policy and initiative implementation through the development of a course of action. SECC has extensive experience with leading processes to assist state education agencies, districts, and schools in achieving specific tasks and outcomes outlined in the course of action, assessing progress, and documenting lessons learned to inform sustainability. SECC also provides support in developing guidance, training, tools, and other resources that are key to successful implementation and sustainability of initiatives.



Year 7 (October 2018–September 2019) Projects

PROJECT 1 | Georgia College and Career Pathways

Purpose | To assist the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) through technical expertise and support to Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education staff in the implementation of GaDOE's career pathways. SECC and the College & Career Readiness & Success Center continue to support implementation of employability skills and quality work-based learning opportunities for students.

Technical Assistance Approach | SECC assists GaDOE with the collection and analysis of data files from stakeholder reviews and shares strategies with educators across the state to guide providing opportunities for all Georgia students to develop the necessary academic, technical, and employability skills for success in postsecondary education and the workplace.

PROJECT 2 | Georgia ESSA Support

Purpose | To provide TA, facilitation, and training to support GaDOE regarding implementation of its Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) plan, with the goal of building the knowledge and skills of state staff to support implementation of strategies by local education agencies (LEAs).

Technical Assistance Approach | SECC serves as a thought partner in assisting GaDOE in identifying strategies to support effective use of the state's comprehensive needs assessment and equitable practices with LEAs to improve implementation of the ESSA plan.

PROJECT 3 | Georgia Strengthening District and School Support

Purpose | To support Georgia's Dougherty County School District (DCSD) and other school districts to address issues of teacher quality and induction support, as part of the Talent for Turnaround Leadership Academy (T4TLA), which focuses on identifying root causes for urgent teacher retention problems.

Technical Assistance Approach | SECC, in collaboration with the Center on Great Teachers and Leaders and the Center on School Turnaround, facilitates work with T4TLA to provide resources and guidance to help identify strategies and processes learned from assistance to DCSD that can be utilized with other districts to provide high-quality teachers and leaders for all students.

PROJECT 4 | Support for Implementing College- and Career-Ready Standards and Assessments

Purpose | To help SEAs strengthen their plans for implementing college- and career-ready standards (CCRS) and assessments.

Technical Assistance Approach | SECC supports SEAs in strengthening their plans for implementing CCRS and assessments via professional learning, facilitation, and provision of resources and learning opportunities through an online newsletter and webinars.

PROJECT 5 | Ensuring School Readiness Community of Practice

Purpose | To support SEAs and other agencies (birth to third grade) with early childhood (EC) initiatives and improvement efforts.

Technical Assistance Approach | SECC provides opportunities for cross-state collaboration, problem-solving, and networking via an interactive online site, online newsletter to deepen awareness of EC developments, and webinars in which states can participate in professional learning with experts in the field.

PROJECT 6 | Equity Dialogues: Increasing Opportunities to Improve Outcomes for Students

Purpose | To build the knowledge and skills of agency staff to support implementation of equity strategies by LEAs as the states implement their ESSA plans.

Technical Assistance Approach | SECC will facilitate one or more convenings of state and local leaders to share challenges and concerns in providing support to LEAs, share emails on topics of relevant interest, and provide a summary report of research-based strategies to address challenges faced by LEAs in implementing equitable educational opportunities across all student groups.

Contact Information



Beth Howard-Brown
Director
803-936-0752
bhoward-brown@air.org



Tammie Causey-Konaté
Deputy Director
504-828-1252
tcausey@air.org



Glenda Copeland
Georgia State Liaison
770-432-7675
gcopeland@air.org

Find more information at <https://southeast-cc.org/>