Partnering with REL offers states and districts a collaborative partner to:

- Conduct research that answers priority education questions
- Provide technical assistance related to data collection, analysis, and interpretation
- Share important findings with practitioners and policymakers and support use of evidence to improve teaching and learning.

SRI International leads the Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) for the Appalachia region. REL Appalachia works in partnership with school districts, state departments of education, and other education stakeholders in the region to develop high-quality research and to use and disseminate the research findings to improve student outcomes. These partnerships combine rigorous research with responsive training, coaching, and technical support and practitioner-focused information sharing to ensure that evidence informs practice in a timely manner to benefit students. See what that looks like in your state.

Kentucky

Our Rural College Readiness Partnership is working with district leaders in Clay, Jackson, Knox, and Owsley counties in eastern Kentucky to

- increase understanding about nonacademic supports and promote rural high school students’ successful college enrollment and completion, and
- help community leaders develop methods to understand how the diverse interventions and supports available to eastern Kentucky students and families affect students’ chances of graduating from high school prepared for success in postsecondary education, training, and careers.

Tennessee

Our Early Literacy Partnership is working with Tennessee Department of Education representatives to improve early literacy outcomes by

- supporting districts and schools in implementing the Tennessee Response to Instruction and Intervention (RTI2) framework and evaluating its effect on students’ literacy,
- supporting implementation of effective literacy practices in all Tennessee schools, and
- disseminating findings to influence and support regional practice and policy.
Virginia

Our **Student Success in Mathematics Partnership** works with leaders from Charlottesville, Harrisonburg, Staunton, Waynesboro, and Winchester, five small-city school divisions where the majority of students live in poverty. The partnership supports the community efforts to improve math instruction and student academic achievement by ensuring that

- all students master algebraic concepts no later than grade 9,
- teachers deliver effective mathematics instruction, and
- students who struggle in math receive evidence-based interventions.

The **Improving Postsecondary Transitions Partnership** works with representatives from the Virginia Department of Education, the Virginia Community College System, and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to promote the success of traditionally underserved students in postsecondary education and careers by

- identifying, developing, and supporting use of effective practices that strengthen high school graduates’ transition to college and careers and
- answering regionally relevant research questions about credentialing practices in local industries.

West Virginia

Our **Workforce Readiness Partnership** works with career and technical education leaders from the West Virginia Department of Education and secondary schools that are implementing Simulated Workplace programs to better prepare graduates for college and careers by

- assessing alignment of Simulated Workplace high school programs with postsecondary and workforce opportunities,
- supporting efforts to use data and evidence to enhance continuous improvement of workforce development instructional programs, and
- codeveloping materials to inform educators, parents, and policymakers about Simulated Workplace programs and their benefits to students and to West Virginia’s communities.

We are also forming a **Cross-state Communicating Data and Evidence Partnership** to bolster the capacity of leaders responsible for publishing research and data reports to present the information in ways that convey useful insights for action.